HANDOUT 1

Leadership Teams							
Concept	Not Evident	Emerging	Operational	Exemplary			
1. Comprised of the right people and represents the school community	No leadership team exists. The principal and/or the administrative team primarily make(s) decisions that impact the school community.	A school leadership team exists but is composed only of a limited number of administrators and/or instructional staff without intentional selection of the team members to reflect representation of the school community.	Team members are purposefully and intentionally identified and selected based on a set of criteria for an interdisciplinary and inclusive team that represents a variety of experiences, responsibilities, and the school community.	Team members are purposefully and intentionally identified and selected based on a set of criteria for an interdisciplinary and inclusive team that represents a variety of experiences, responsibilities, and the school community. The right people are in the right role. Duties and responsibilities change as tasks evolve. Team members clearly understand the role of the team. When appropriate, the team involves a wider range of stakeholders for relevant issues.			
2. Meets regularly	The leadership team does not meet.	The leadership team meets as needed. Meetings are rarely scheduled in advance.	The leadership team develops a year-long schedule and meets regularly (once or twice per month).	The leadership team develops a year-long schedule and meets regularly (a minimum of twice per month). The leadership team meetings are a valued part of the school's culture and take place with or without the principal serving as the facilitator.			
3. Establishes processes and protocols for team collaboration	A clear protocol for conducting business and processes for collaborative decision making do not exist.	School decisions are centrally controlled and distributed to the team with minimal evidence of collaborative decision making. Attempts are made to implement a protocol for conducting business and an organized framework to guide the work of the leadership team.	The leadership team has a clearly defined process for shared decision making and problem solving. There is some evidence of collaborative decision making. A protocol for conducting business and an organized framework exist to guide the work of the team.	The leadership team has flexible but clearly defined processes for shared decision making and problem solving. There is strong evidence that decisions are made collaboratively. Protocols and an organized framework for conducting business are consistently implemented. These processes keep the work of the leadership team focused and maximize the talents of the team members involved.			

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4. Is data-driven	There is little or no evidence of the use of data to guide and inform decision-making and problem-solving tasks. Data is rarely used to develop, implement, and monitor school improvement processes.	The school leadership team gathers some data to make decisions and solve problems, but it tends to be summative and is not necessarily timely.	The school leadership team gathers and analyzes a variety of data in a timely manner to make decisions, solve problems, and implement the school improvement process. The team uses diagnostic, process, and formative assessment data in addition to summative data.	The school leadership team is highly data- driven; acquiring, analyzing, and displaying useful and current data and identifying relevant data patterns to make decisions and solve problems. The team understands that being data driven is a cyclical process that leads to new ideas, questions, and possibly the need for more data.
5. Is engaged in the right work	Topics relate to management only with no clear purpose or vision for the team's work. Discussions focus on issues and concerns in random fashion with the principal fielding these and attempting to address them rather than engaging the team in collaborative problem solving.	The team understands the vision and purpose of the leadership team. Topics extend beyond management issues to include student achievement, but tend to be unsystematic and without a clear focus.	The work of the leadership team aligns with its established purpose and vision. School leadership team meetings are centered on student achievement and continuous school improvement issues or initiatives.	The leadership team systematically focuses their work within the established purpose and vision. Members play an active role in implementing, supporting, and monitoring school improvement initiatives that support student and staff achievement. The team frequently reflects on their actions to ensure alignment to the purpose and vision and to ensure effective strategies and processes are in place. The team is open to modify actions, strategies, and processes as circumstances change.
6. Ensures a process of continuous improvement	There is little or no evidence of a systematic process for continuous improvement.	There is some evidence that improvement processes exist, but these processes are random and do not intentionally target issues directly impacting student achievement or instructional practices.	 Evidence supports that systematic improvement processes are in place that deliberately target issues within the school. The leadership team continuously addresses the questions: Where are we now? Where are we going? How will we get there? These questions serve as a means to monitor the implementation of initiatives and evaluate their impact on student achievement and instructional effectiveness. 	 Evidence supports that systematic improvement processes are in place that deliberately target issues within the school. The leadership team continuously addresses the questions: Where are we now? Where are we going? How will we get there? The school improvement cycle includes a fully operational school improvement plan, monitoring the implementation of initiatives, and using data to evaluate the impact of interventions. This cycle ensures a direct impact on student achievement, instructional practices, and organizational effectiveness.



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7. Communication is effective and consistent	A system to ensure the flow of information and exchange of ideas does not exist.	A method for communication exists that allows for information to be effectively distributed out to stakeholders, but a process for two-way communication is not effectively implemented.	A process is in place that ensures communication is two way. Information and ideas reach classroom teachers. Likewise, teachers not on the leadership team engage in a process that allows for the exchange of ideas and input regarding important decisions.	The school community is aware of and engages in a process to exchange ideas and provide input to the leadership team. The leadership team actively seeks input and encourages multiple perspectives. The leadership team reviews and takes into account the input before relevant decisions are made. This two-way communication process supports a shared vision in the school and cultivates an environment of trust and collaboration.
8. Develops the leadership skills of team members and builds leadership capacity	Team members rarely receive professional learning to build leadership skills or enhance personal growth. Efforts to build leadership capacity, within the school, do not exist.	Team members sporadically receive training to develop leadership skills, but topics are often isolated and not embedded in the work of the team. Leadership team members attempt to form a variety of schoolwide teams with limited professional learning to support implementation.	Team members are provided with and pursue professional learning opportunities to enhance their personal growth as a team member. Professional learning is ongoing and embedded in the work of the team. Leadership team members ensure the formation and training of a variety of schoolwide teams whose members perform essential tasks linked to the school vision and goals.	The leadership team exhibits a sense of collective responsibility and has the mindset of empowering all personnel in the school to lead where they operate. The leadership team involves and encourages all personnel to lend themselves to meaningful work tied to the school vision and goals. The principal builds the capacity of the leadership team through ongoing professional learning and consequential tasks embedded in the work. The leadership team members in turn provide professional learning to support the function of a variety of schoolwide teams and build the leadership capacity of staff members.