School Improvement Grant 1003(g) FFY13
Food for Thought

The BSI Theory of Action

If we increase the automaticity and efficacy with which districts and schools problem solve around barriers to improved student achievement, then outcomes for all Florida students will improve.

SIG Competition

93% of schools currently planning for possible turnaround under DA Rule are eligible for SIG.

Areas of Focus

(1) MTSS
(2) Standards-Based Instruction
(3) Data-Driven Differentiated Instruction
(4) Increased Learning Time
(5) Professional Development

Effective Team Sizes

Five to 10 participants is ideal for Steps 1 - 4 of the 8SPPS process, but the large group can become a hindrance to completing Steps 5 - 7. Think about allowing those with an in-depth knowledge of the selected strategy to do some small-group planning, then report back to the whole group.

SIG Goals

Your SIG goals may be different than your DIAP goals. Your DIAP goals may broadly impact all focus and priority schools, but for SIG purposes, targets and, ultimately, action steps with budgets, will need to be specific to each SIG-targeted school. Please consider whether to add new goals or tweak your current ones.

Turnaround Lead

The Turnaround Lead is entered in the DIAP, which will prepopulate the Turnaround Lead fields in the SIG Phase 1 survey.

Scoring for SIG-Targeted Schools

Although a district completes the SIG proposal in its entirety once, each SIG-targeted school will receive its own score; therefore, it is possible, and likely, that not all SIG-targeted schools in a district will be awarded a SIG.

SIP Online Terms

SIP Online - more than just the SIP! Includes multiple surveys and produces multiple reports

Survey - repository within the *SIP Online* to collect information for a specific plan (e.g., SIP, DIAP, SIG Phase 1, TOP-2)

Source Survey - the survey where information is originally entered

Prepopulation - information automatically generated into a survey from imported data (such as AMOs) or from a source survey when tagged to that location

Tagged - one location is associated with another location so that information may be shared between the two

Pushing - information entered into a source survey can be copied to an associated survey (e.g., DIAP to SIP); original content may only be edited at the source and can only be copied in one direction

Export - output document created from the information entered into a survey (e.g., budget summary, PD plan, printable SIP)

Grayed Out - the field is shaded gray and the user cannot edit the information; occurs when "read only" status is turned on, or when information is prepopulated or pushed from a source survey

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Making Connections

Goals (Steps 1a, 1b, and 8) = Creating and testing a "theory of action"

Resources and barriers (Steps 2 and 3) = Analyzing root causes

Strategies and action steps (Steps 4 and 5) = Planning to "do"

Strategy monitoring plans (Steps 6 and 7) = Monitoring fidelity and effectiveness

Self-Correct!

If, after implementing the plan, the progress monitoring data does not show movement toward the targets, the goal may not be supportive of the selected data targets, or the identified barrier was not the right one. In this case, the team should revisit Steps 1 and 2. There is the ability to self-correct! A good Step 8 will include protocols for when and how this reassessment will occur.

Brainstorming Resources

When brainstorming resources in Step 2, do not form a "wish list," but think of resources you currently have, whether material, fiscal, human (think skill-sets, areas of expertise), or cultural.

Brainstorming Barriers

Teams should evaluate each barrier as alterable or unalterable; keep in mind, some barriers are not within our control (e.g., students coming from low social economic conditions).

Action Items

There should be more than one action item in Step 5; if moving from non-implementation to implementation took only one step, you'd probably already have done it!

Action Plans

Action plans will form much of the implementation timeline, schedule of deliverables and budget for the SIG application. If the implementation timeline and deliverables schedule prepopulated by the SIG content does not look logical or feasible, adjust your proposal details before submitting it to the FDOE.

Evidence of Completion

The evidence identified for each step should be meaningful to the team. Keep it simple! Do not create paperwork solely for documentation.

Monitoring Fidelity

Each strategy could be termed a "project" and the person identified in Step 6 could be considered the "project manager." While there may be different individuals responsible for each step in the action plan, the person responsible in Step 6 both supports and monitors the project (i.e., strategy) as a whole. This person will have access rights in the *SIP Online* to check deliverables, record implementation status (not started, in progress, complete). If the responsible parties in Step 5 are having trouble with deadlines or deliverables, it is the project manager's responsibility to help them. The project manager is held accountable for this step.

Monitoring Effectiveness

Step 7 is how we know a well-supported and executed strategy is actually reducing the identified barrier bucket. If it is not reducing the barrier, it may be the wrong strategy!