# Improve Low-Performing Schools
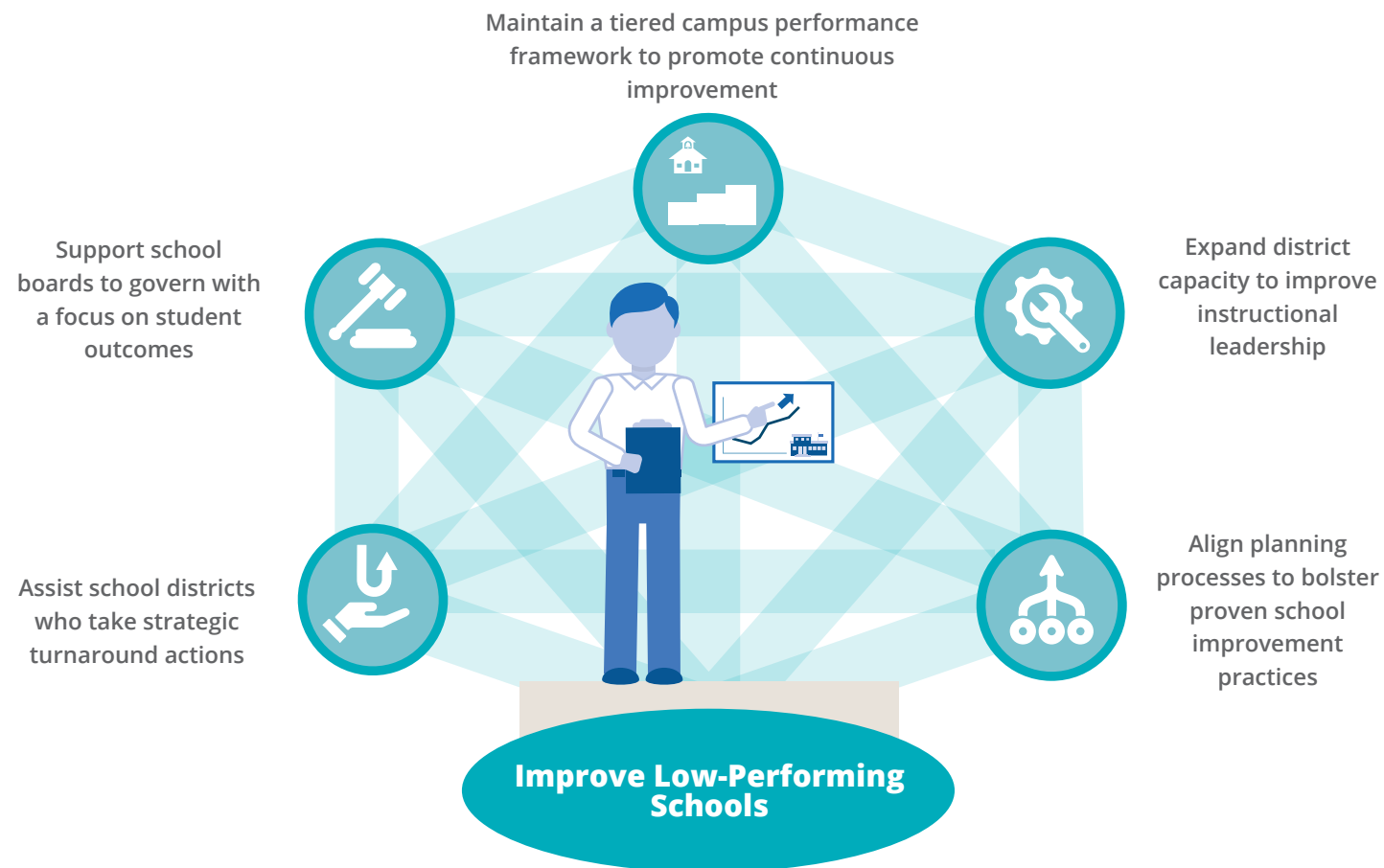

*Effective Schools Framework Kickoff*

## WHY THIS MATTERS

**579**

Since the 2016-17 school year, Texas has transitioned to an A-F rating system to provide clear, fair, and differentiated performance information for all our schools. The results are not strongly correlated to student poverty. In fact, there were 296 high-poverty schools in Texas that earned an A in 2018-19[21]. Perhaps more importantly, the system is showing strong results. There were **579** fewer D and F campuses in 2018-19 than there would have been in 2016-17.[22] Our strategic plan calls for an integrated set of actions to rapidly improve low-performing schools.

## OUR THEORY OF ACTION

Maintain a tiered campus performance framework to promote continuous improvement

Support school boards to govern with a focus on student outcomes

Expand district capacity to improve instructional leadership

Assist school districts who take strategic turnaround actions

Align planning processes to bolster proven school improvement practices

**Improve Low-Performing Schools**

## SUPPORTING SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Most of the 8,845 schools in Texas offer their students tremendous educational opportunities. Occasionally, though, results fail to meet acceptable levels of performance. When this happens, local school system leaders work aggressively to improve results, and TEA provides assistance with grants, training, and a framework to help guide action planning based on practices found in the most effective schools in the state. For the overwhelming majority of the 427 low-performing schools in the 2017-18 school year, there were significant improvements within a year.

### RAPID GAINS FOR MOST LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS



A: **3**
B: **40**
C: **118**
D: **126**
F: **120**

< 60: **427**

2017-18        2018-19

## A PROVEN SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT MODEL

TEXAS LEGISLATURE HB 4205 86th Legislative Session

If a school isn't reaching acceptable performance, turning it around is some of the hardest work in public education. A number of districts across the state have seen strong results from a comprehensive turnaround model pioneered in North Texas: the Accelerating Campus Excellence (ACE) initiative.[23] Given these results, the Texas Legislature recently designated ACE as pre-approved if pursued as a turnaround plan at low-performing campuses.

### ACE SCHOOLS



A: **4%**
B: **46%**
C: **31%**
D: **11%**
F: **8%**

70-79: **24%**
60-69: **31%**
< 60: **45%**

Before Implementation        After Implementation

Before implementation, only **24%** of ACE campuses were a **C or higher**.

After implementation, **81%** of ACE campuses were a **C or higher**.