COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND TITLE I

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Implementing a Schoolwide Program

There are three components of a schoolwide program that are essential to effective implementation:

- Conducting a **comprehensive needs assessment** of the entire school,
- Preparing a comprehensive schoolwide plan; and
- Annually reviewing the schoolwide plan.

What is a Comprehensive Needs Assessment and why is it so important?

A Comprehensive Needs Assessment is...

- the *first step* in developing a schoolwide or school improvement plan.

- a process to help school teams learn about their areas of strengths and challenges.

- more than just scores. It's an opportunity to determine the root causes of student achievement or lack thereof.

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Why Is a Comprehensive Needs Assessment Necessary?

- It is legislated by **Every Student Succeeds Act**.

  A schoolwide program shall be based on a comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school that takes into account information on the academic achievement of children in relation to the challenging State academic standards, particularly the needs of those children who are failing, or are at-risk of failing, to meet the challenging State academic standards and any other factors as determined by the local educational agency.
  ESSA Section 1114(b)(6)

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Why Is a Comprehensive Needs Assessment Necessary?

- It is good practice.

  - Causal factors are identified.

  - Better strategies for improvement can be proposed and implemented.

  - Districts and schools are able to determine the effectiveness of educational programs for each subgroup of students served.
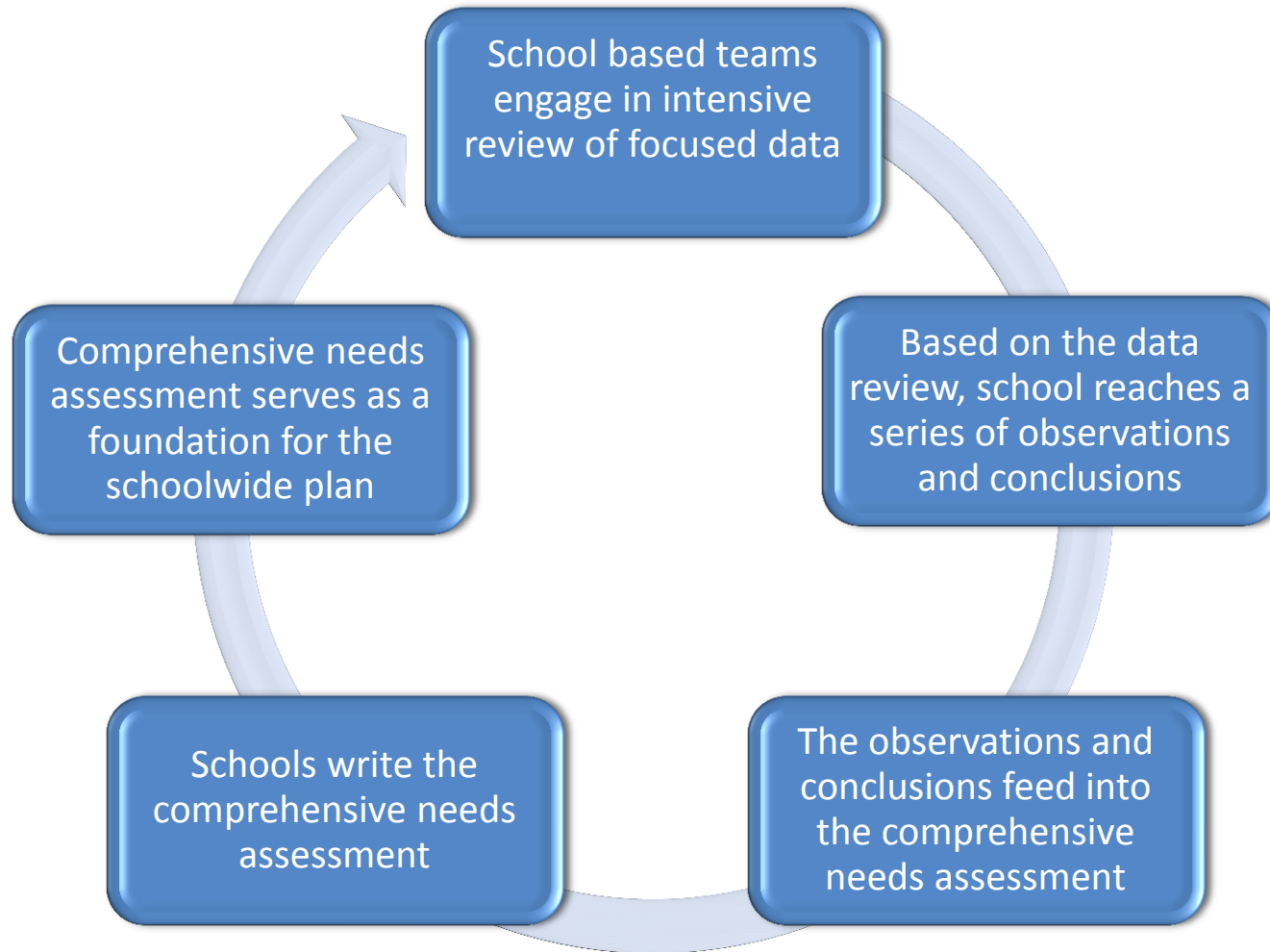
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Needs Assessment...The First Step in the Planning Process

GOALS

Random Acts
No Needs Assessment

Aligned Acts
Needs Assessment Completed

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Needs Assessment at a Glance

School based teams engage in intensive review of focused data

Based on the data review, school reaches a series of observations and conclusions

The observations and conclusions feed into the comprehensive needs assessment

Schools write the comprehensive needs assessment

Comprehensive needs assessment serves as a foundation for the schoolwide plan

Who should participate in the needs assessment process?

Faculty and Staff

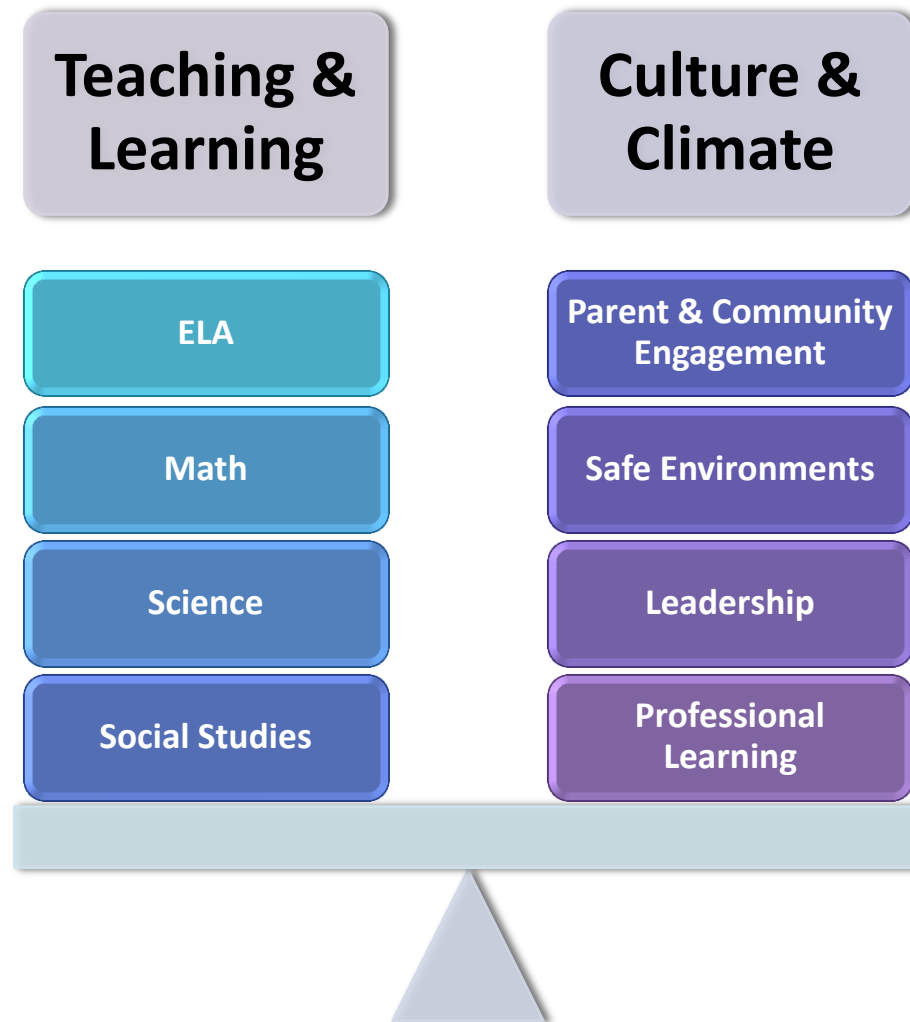Parents and
Family Members

School and District
Administrators

Students (at Secondary Level)

Community Partners

ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Domains for Study

Teaching & Learning	Culture & Climate
ELA	Parent & Community Engagement
Math	Safe Environments
Science	Leadership
Social Studies	Professional Learning

Identify and Gather Data

Different Types of Data

- Student demographics
- School culture and climate
- Academic achievement
- College and career readiness
- Instructional data
- Family and community engagement
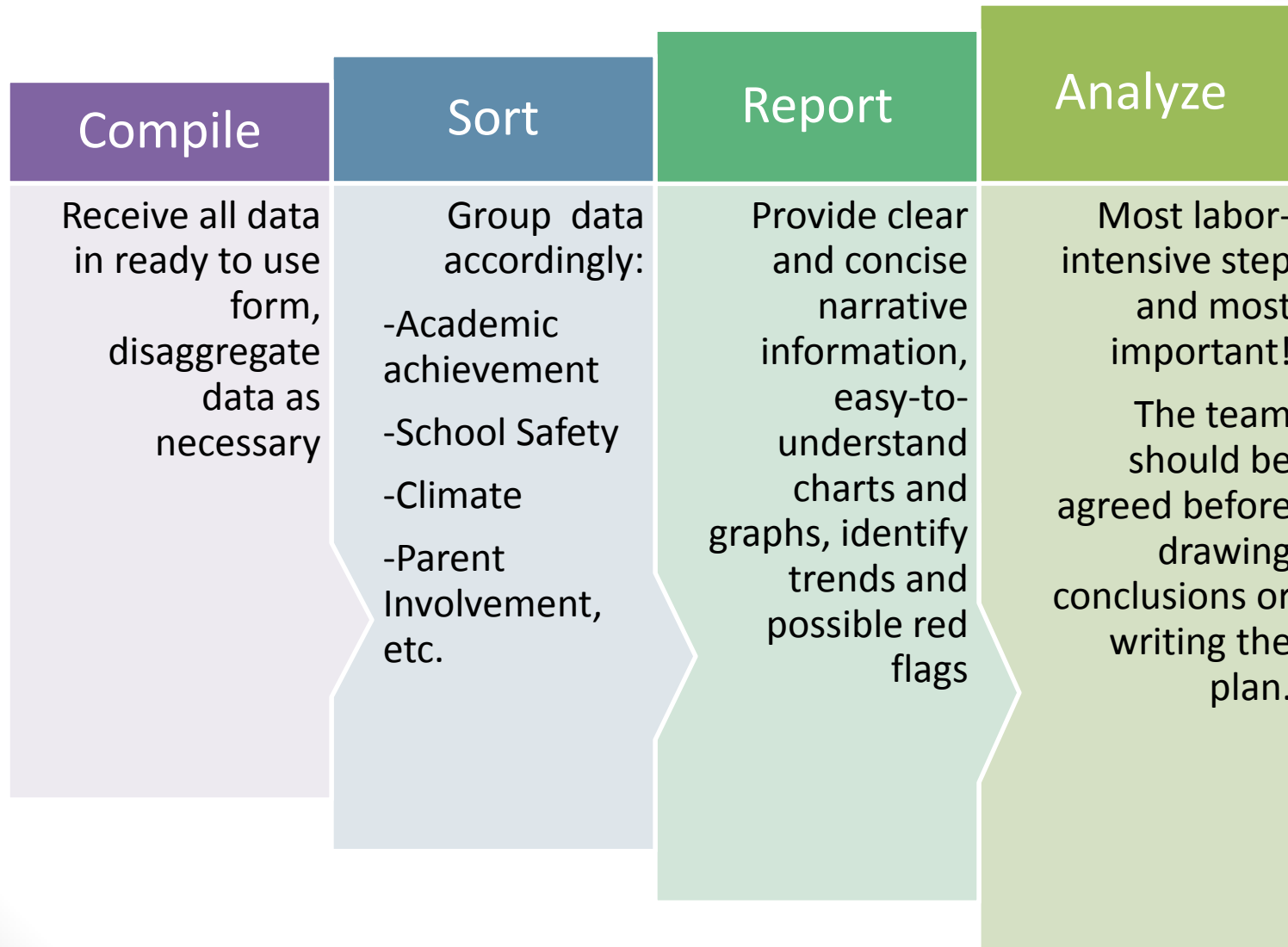- School operations and management

Different Sources of Data

- Surveys
- Focus groups
- State and local assessments
- Lesson plans and student work
- Curriculum and assessment materials
- Observations reports

Data

- Multi-year trends
- Graduation rates
- Report card grades
- Semester exams
- Promotion/ retention rates
- SAT/ACT Data
- District Policies
- Homeless Students
- Mobility Rates
- Foster Care Students
- Community Demographics

- Standardized Tests
- Discipline Referrals
- Expulsion/Suspension Records
- IOI Staff (formerly HQ Status)
- Teacher Retention
- Survey and Interviews of Students/ Staff / Parents
- Business/ Community Feedback
- Maintenance Records
- Safe Schools Reports

What Do We Do With The Data?

Compile	Sort	Report	Analyze
Receive all data in ready to use form, disaggregate data as necessary	Group data accordingly: -Academic achievement -School Safety -Climate -Parent Involvement, etc.	Provide clear and concise narrative information, easy-to-understand charts and graphs, identify trends and possible red flags	Most labor-intensive step and most important! The team should be agreed before drawing conclusions or writing the plan.

Questions to Consider

- What do we know about the needs of all of the subgroups we serve?

- Do we have clearly established goals and measurable objectives to address our students' needs?

- What are the school's strengths and how can we build on them to improve the school?

- What are the areas of concern? What can be done to improve these areas?

- What are the priorities according to the data?

- Do we need to gather more information? If so, what are the next steps?

- Are we using our resources to the best of our abilities?

- Do we need to acquire new resources?

Making the Connection

- The schoolwide activities must tie back to the comprehensive needs assessment.

- Do not include an activity or expenditure if the school cannot demonstrate a need for it in the comprehensive needs assessment.

Use of Funds Examples
Based on Needs Assessment

✓ Increased learning time

✓ High-quality preschool or full-day kindergarten

✓ Evidence-based strategies to accelerate the acquisition of content knowledge for English Language Learners

✓ Equipment, materials, and training needed to compile and analyze data to monitor progress, alert the school to struggling students, and drive decision making

✓ Devices and software for students to access digital learning materials and collaborate with peers, and related training for educators

✓ School climate interventions

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Comprehensive Needs Assessment Data
Camden Elementary School of the Creative Arts (2801015) - 2016

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Federal Accountability System
http://www.ed.sc.gov/data/esea/2015/district.cfm?SID=2801

South Carolina District / School Report Cards
http://www.ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/2015/district.cfm?ID=2801

Please provide a brief narrative that describes the characteristics of the school. Include data trends regarding student achievement, teacher and administrative quality, and parent involvement. Highlight the school's strengths and areas of concern. *(Schools may use narratives from the School Renewal Plans.)*

Submit

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Remember:

The ultimate goal of the comprehensive needs assessment is increased student performance.

Questions