

nwea School Improvement

Create and sustain the most
essential conditions for learning



Ideal conditions for teaching and learning do not happen by accident

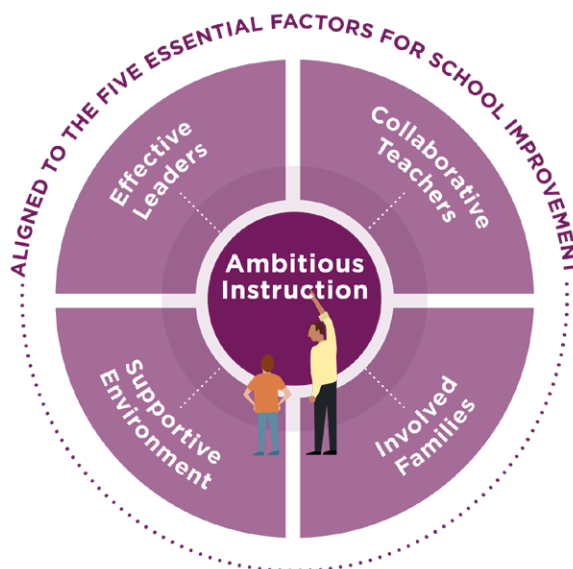
School improvement is not something that can be left to luck, chance, or a one-size-fits-all checklist. Creating equitable, high-performing schools requires an intentional, evidence-based approach, guided by experienced educators.

Driven by our mission to help all kids learn, NWEA® School Improvement utilizes the proven 5Essentials® Framework from UChicago Impact across the essential areas for school improvement—a practice proven to promote a school or district's long-term success.

The 5Essentials: Leading the way with a proven approach

Our approach to school improvement is grounded in the nationally renowned 5Essentials Framework from UChicago Impact. This research-based approach focuses on the five essential organizational conditions that drive improved student outcomes.

Research shows schools that are strong on at least three of the five essentials—Effective Leaders, Collaborative Teachers, Involved Families, Supportive Environment, and Ambitious Instruction—are **10 times more likely** to show substantial gains in student learning.



The 5Essentials wordmark is a registered trademark owned by The University of Chicago.

“How we organize schools is critical for student achievement. Improving schools entails coherent, orchestrated action across all five essential supports. Put simply, there is no one silver bullet.”

Anthony Bryk

*Organizing Schools for Improvement:
Lessons from Chicago*



Supercharge school leader practice through school improvement leadership coaching

Research shows that the effectiveness of a school's principal is a top factor for student achievement.

Aligned with needs uncovered by the NWEA Needs Assessment and the 5Essentials Survey, school leaders receive shoulder-to-shoulder personalized coaching, systems advising, and professional learning from NWEA coaches—enhancing their ability to serve as agents of change who develop and implement sustainable structures and behaviors critical to student growth.

“Principals really matter. Indeed, it is difficult to envision an investment with a higher ceiling on its potential return than a successful effort to improve principal leadership.”

*How Principals Affect Students and Schools:
A Systematic Synthesis of Two Decades of Research*



Professional learning that activates your school improvement plan

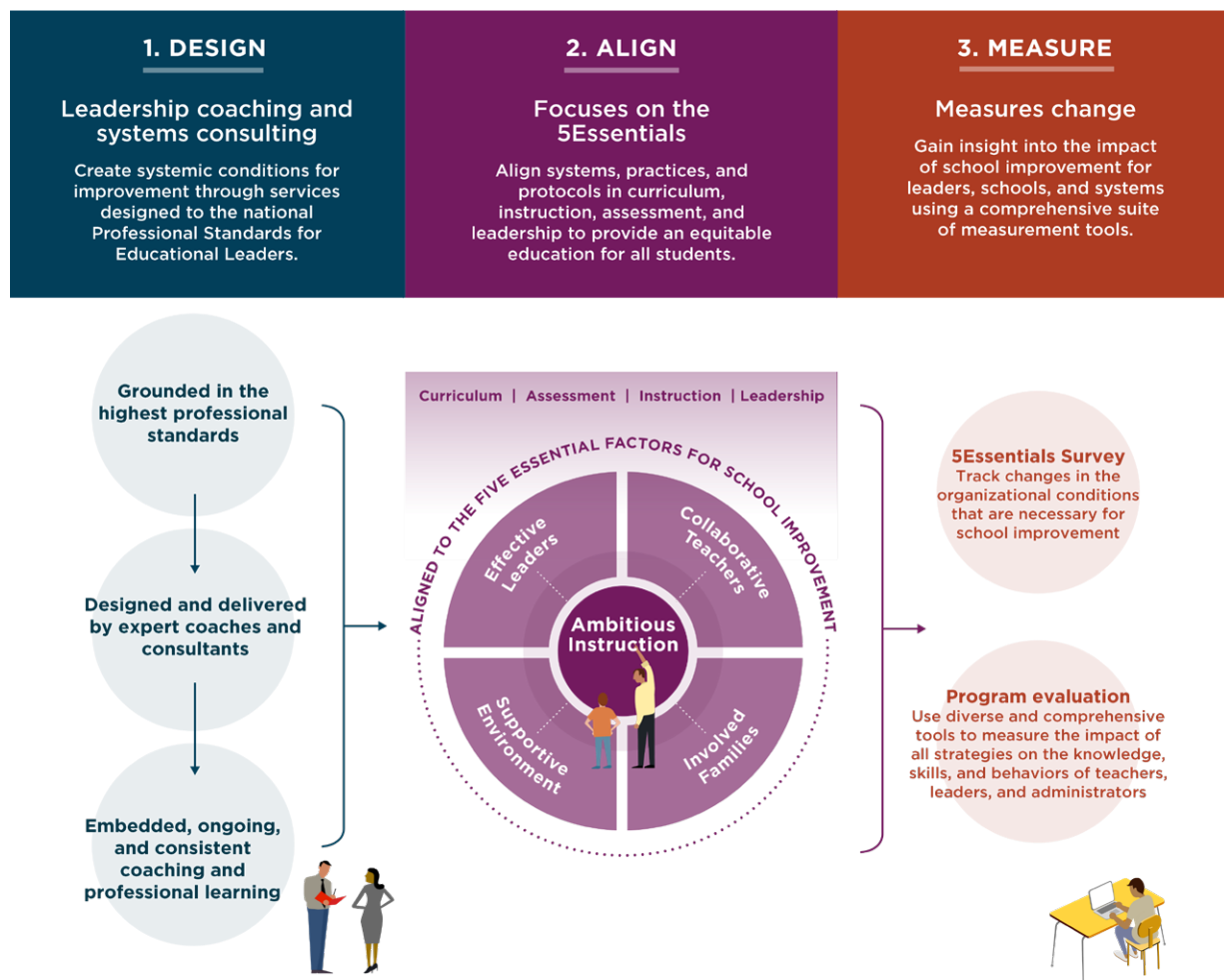
NWEA offers a robust, holistic slate of professional learning experiences to strengthen leader and teacher practices that drive positive outcomes.

3 categories of professional learning experiences are available:

- **5Essentials Professional Learning developed by UChicago Impact** to help leaders leverage 5Essentials Survey results to promote school improvement
- **NWEA School Improvement Professional Learning** features paired teacher and leader workshops around topics designed specifically to support the 5Essentials areas in school improvement plans
- **Any other NWEA Professional Learning** sessions can also be incorporated into school improvement plans to support specific needs and goals

A trusted partner with the tools and support you need

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE



Purpose-built and personalized

Begin with a detailed needs assessment and a thorough evaluation of your data and experience to develop a plan tailored to your needs and goals.

Systems-based to propel change

Work closely with an NWEA School Improvement leadership coach to establish system-wide structures and behaviors to support the organizational conditions that promote an equitable education for all students.

Evidence- and experience-based strategies

We work with school leaders to build and implement practices that improve instruction, bolster teacher collaboration, and strengthen student outcomes.

Measure, reflect, and improve

Research-validated survey instruments, quarterly observations, and leader dialogues inspire ongoing, collaborative reflection and continuous improvement.

What's included in the standard NWEA School Improvement solution package?



NWEA Needs Assessment

Pinpoint strengths and identify opportunities with our research-backed approach.



UChicago Impact 5Essentials Survey and professional learning

Equip leaders with the data, tools, and training they need to facilitate and sustain meaningful improvement.



Leadership coaching

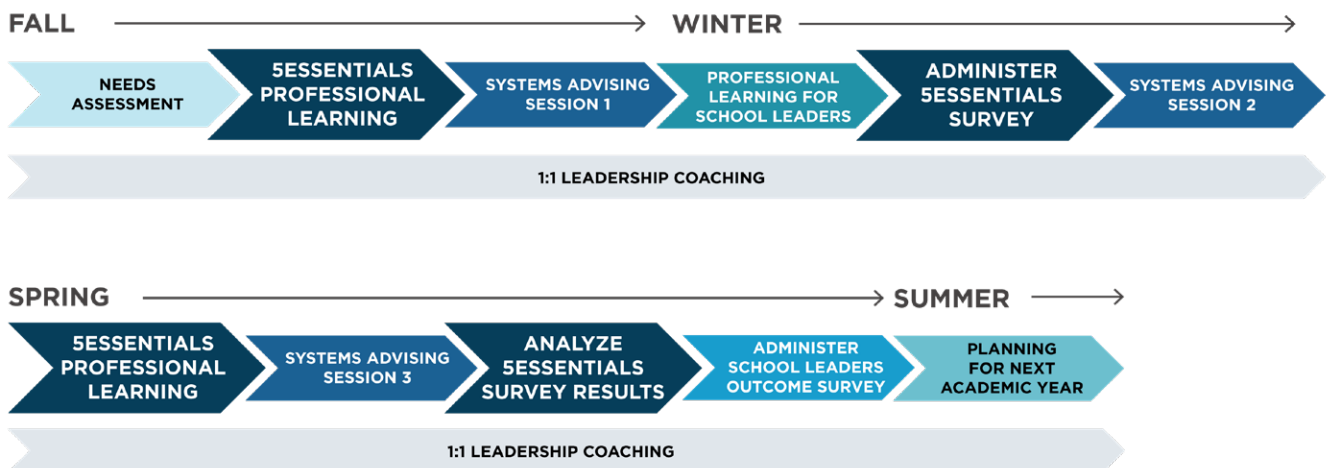
Get shoulder-to-shoulder support and quarterly progress reporting from an educator well-versed in school improvement.



Systems advising sessions

We partner with your district leaders to develop structures and behaviors to support your improvement goals.

Sample year one implementation



Take the first step toward lasting, meaningful change

Partner with us for evidence-based,
holistic school improvement services.

Begin your journey at
[NWEA.org/School-Improvement](https://nwea.org/School-Improvement)

Citations

Bryk, A.S., Sebring, P.B., Allensworth, E., Luppescu, S., & Easton, J.Q. (2010). *Organizing schools for improvement: Lessons from Chicago*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

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NWEA is a not-for-profit organization that supports students and educators worldwide by providing assessment solutions, insightful reports, professional learning offerings, and research services. Visit [NWEA.org](https://nwea.org) to find out how NWEA can partner with you to help all kids learn.

UChicago Impact is a not-for-profit organization that provides educators with research-based supports that position them to use research and actionable data to improve practices that promote positive student outcomes. Visit uchicagoimpact.org to learn more about UChicago Impact and its work.

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