



2023-2024 Phase Two: The Needs Assessment for  
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2023-2024 Phase Two: The Needs Assessment for Schools

**Grant County High School**  
**Todd Moody**  
715 Warsaw Road  
Dry Ridge, Kentucky, 41035  
United States of America

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## **2023-24 Phase Two: The Needs Assessment for Schools**

### **Understanding Continuous Improvement: The Needs Assessment for Schools**

The Needs Assessment Diagnostic will facilitate the use of multiple sources of data to determine the current reality and establish a foundation for decision-making around school goals and strategies. Once completed, the diagnostic will lead to priorities to be addressed in the comprehensive school improvement plan to build staff capacity and increase student achievement. The needs assessment is to be conducted annually as an essential part of the continuous improvement process and precedes the development of strategic goals (i.e. desired state).

While the focus of continuous improvement is student performance, the work must be guided by the aspects of teaching and learning that affect performance. An effective improvement process should address the contributing factors creating the learning environment (inputs) and the performance data (outcomes).

The needs assessment provides the framework for all schools to clearly and honestly identify their most critical areas for improvement that will be addressed later in the planning process through the development of goals, objectives, strategies and activities. 703 KAR 2:225 requires, as part of continuous improvement planning for schools, each school to complete the needs assessment between October 1 and November 1 of each year and include: (1) a description of the data reviewed and the process used to develop the needs assessment; (2) a review of the previous plan and its implementation to inform development of the new plan; and, (3) perception data gathered from the administration of a valid and reliable measure of teaching and learning conditions.

#### **Protocol**

1. Clearly detail the process used for reviewing, analyzing and applying data results to determine the priorities from this year's needs assessment. Include names of school councils, leadership teams and stakeholder groups involved, a timeline of the process, the specific data reviewed, and how the meetings are documented.

The Principal meets every other week with Curriculum Specialists and Director of Secondary Education to review student test data. The Principal reports monthly to SBDM Council and provides written report to the Board of Education. The Principal also meets with role groups within building. Data is also reviewed at weekly Admin Team meeting that includes Assistant Principals, Counselors, YSC Director, and Curriculum Specialists. RTI meetings occur monthly with Counselors, Curriculum Specialists, School Psychologist and Director of Secondary Education.

All Meetings are documented with agendas that are stored on GCHS Leadership Drive.

#### **Review of Previous Plan**

2. Summarize the implementation of the goals, objectives, strategies and activities from the previous year's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). What was successful? How does it inform this year's plan?

Last year's CSIP included a focus on Literacy, Instructional Protocol, early adoption of PLC process, curriculum review, targeted support for seniors, and a focus on College and Career Readiness. The Plan had successful components. Writing and editing and mechanics benefited from a strong collaborative process. Graduation and Readiness also improved with an intentional focus.

This year we will continue to refine and implement the collaborative process and begin to zero in on priority standards.

### Trends

3. Analyzing data trends from the previous two academic years, which academic, cultural and behavioral measures remain significant areas for improvement?

### Example of Trends

- The number of behavior referrals increased from 204 in 2021-22 to 288 in 2022-23.
- From 2021 to 2023, the school saw an 11% increase in novice scores in reading among students in the achievement gap.

State Assessment for Reading and Mathematics dropped from a 52 to a 45.4. In Science, Social Studies and Writing the score increased from a 42.9 to a 47.3.

Quality of School Climate and Safety dipped from a 55.1 to a 54.4. Post-Secondary Readiness increased from 78.4 to 85.8. The Graduation Rate improved from 90.4 to 93.5

### Current State

4. Plainly state the current condition of the school using precise numbers and percentages as revealed by multiple sources of outcome data. Cite the source of data used.

### Example of Current Academic State:

- Thirty-four percent (34%) of students in the achievement gap scored proficient on Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) in reading.
- Fifty-four percent (54%) of our students scored proficient in math compared to the state average of 57%.

### Example of Non-Academic Current State:

- Teacher attendance rate was 84% for the 2022-23 academic year.

- Survey results and perception data indicated 62% of the school's teachers received adequate professional development.

Current Reading proficiency is 30%. Current Math Proficiency is 26%. Current Social Studies is 28%. Current Writing is 51%.

#### Priorities/Concerns

5. Clearly and concisely identify the greatest areas of weakness using precise numbers and percentages.

**NOTE:** These priorities will be thoroughly addressed in the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) diagnostic and template.

**Example:** Sixty-eight percent (68%) of students in the achievement gap scored below proficiency on the Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) in reading as opposed to just 12% of non-gap learners.

The Drop in Reading (30%) and Math (26%) are a serious concern.

#### Strengths/Leverages

6. Plainly state, using precise numbers and percentages revealed by current data, the strengths and leverages of the school. Explain how they may be utilized to improve areas of concern listed above.

**Example:** Reading achievement has increased from 37% proficient to its current rate of 58%. The systems of support we implemented for reading can be adapted to address our low performance in math.

Increase in Writing to 51% Proficiency.

Increase in Readiness to indicator of 85.8.

#### Evaluate the Teaching and Learning Environment

7. Consider the processes, practices and conditions evident in the teaching and learning environment as identified in the six Key Core Work Processes outlined below:

[KCWP 1: Design and Deploy Standards](#)

[KCWP 2: Design and Deliver Instruction](#)

[KCWP 3: Design and Deliver Assessment Literacy](#)

[KCWP 4: Review, Analyze and Apply Data Results](#)

[KCWP 5: Design, Align and Deliver Support](#)

[KCWP 6: Establish Learning Environment and Culture](#)

Utilizing implementation data, perception data, and current policies and practices:


a. Complete the [Key Elements Template](#).

- **b. Upload your completed template in the attachment area directly below.**

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment Name**

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 GCHS Key Elements


8. After analyzing the Key Elements of your teaching and learning environment, which processes, practices or conditions will the school focus its resources and efforts upon in order to produce the desired changes?

Note that all processes, practices and conditions can be linked to the six Key Core Work Processes.

**NOTE:** These elements will be thoroughly addressed in the Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CSIP) diagnostic and template.

Heavy focus on PLC process

# Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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