

GROWN LOCALLY



GROWN LOCALLY TOOL KIT

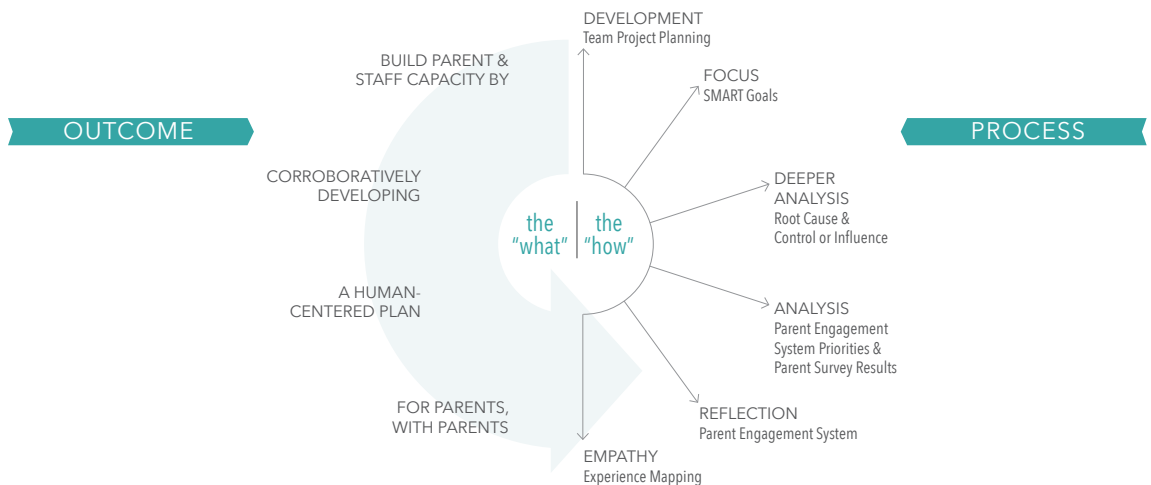
WHAT IS GROWN LOCALLY?

In an age when learners have greater needs and states have higher standards and fewer resources, the scale and complexity of sustained school improvement is too massive a challenge for schools alone. Schools need active and involved parents.

Grown Locally is a one-day, hands-on, professional development workshop designed to improve the systems and processes that foster parent advocacy and support for teaching and learning. Based on a human-centered design approach, school administrators and staff collaborate with a dedicated team of parents to:

- » Understand the parent experience,
- » Analyze school-specific data,
- » Identify the school's greatest needs, and
- » Develop a plan that is relevant to the parent experience and ready for implementation.

The Grown Locally workshop is available through your local Educational Service Center (ESC) and can be implemented virtually or face-to-face based on the school's schedules and needs.



SAMPLE PAGES

GROWN LOCALLY TOOL KIT

DATA COLLECTION

AT MY SCHOOL, WE HAVE...	WE DO THIS WELL	WE DO THIS, BUT NEED TO IMPROVE	WE COULD DO THIS EASIER	WE COULD DO THIS, BUT IT WOULD BE HARD
Conferences with every parent at least once a year				
Translators available to assist families when needed				
Regularly scheduled newsletters, emails, and other communications				
A parent handbook with clear information on all school policies, programs, and assessments				
Regular informal conversations with parents and the administration				
An "open door" policy toward parent/community by the principal				

9

DATA COLLECTION

School teams review parent survey data to identify and prioritize opportunities for improvement.

- » Participants familiarize themselves with the school's parent survey data.
- » Teams identify common themes and problems needing to be addressed.

GROWN LOCALLY TOOL KIT

SETTING "SMART" GOALS

SMART GOAL EXAMPLES

PROBLEM	CAUSE(S)	SMART GOAL
Poor attendance at Family Fun Night (only 10% of parents attended this school year). Too many students receive progress reports after the first or second week of school.	Fifty percent of parents who did not come reported they were tired of the event and did not recall seeing an announcement. The biggest problems are in sixth and seventh grades. Data show that many of the students with bad grades were not turning in homework.	Increase attendance at Family Fun Night by 30% this coming school year. Reduce the number of sixth and seventh graders receiving progress reports by 50% in the coming school year.

MY TEAM'S SMART GOALS

WATCH OUT
Your team will be tempted to take on multiple goals in the coming school year. Beware! There is a danger in doing so much that nothing gets done well. Focus on a few things and accomplish your goals.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
Consider how the goals fit in with the Experience Map. Are there opportunities to engage parents in the project or communicate with them about your project?

21

GOAL SETTING

School teams create SMART goals for school's urgent needs.

- » Teams review SMART goal samples and identify the "SMART" element in each.
- » Teams create their own SMART goals using the template provided.

GROWN LOCALLY TOOL KIT

PROJECT PLANNING

PROJECT PLANNING TEMPLATE

ACTION ITEM	LEAD	TIME LINE	SUPPORT/ RESOURCES REQUIRED	RESULT/ EVALUATION	STATUS
					ON TRACK OFF TRACK NOT STARTED
					ON TRACK OFF TRACK NOT STARTED
					ON TRACK OFF TRACK NOT STARTED

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
This is a framework for how you might structure your project plan. If you need additional details to meet district or state requirements, please add them.

22

ACTION PLANNING

Participants create action plans based on the school's identified root causes and needs analysis.

- » Teams create strategies in implementing their SMART goals.
- » Teams build plans around each identified need.

Texas Center for District and School Support

www.tcdss.net

Education Service Center, Region

