

School Quality Factors

AdvancED's deep experiential base combined with 21st century perspective on effective schools, led to the identification of seven research-based school quality factors that are the keys to driving improvement. These seven factors are foundational to the School Quality Factors Diagnostic, a tool that can be used by institutions for self-evaluation along their improvement journey.

Each of these seven factors has an explicit definition of quality as described here:

Clear Direction

The capacity to define and clearly communicate to stakeholders the direction, mission, and goals that the institution is committed to achieving.

Healthy Culture

The shared values, beliefs, written and unwritten rules, assumptions and behavior of stakeholders within the school community that shape the school's social norms and create opportunities for everyone to be successful.

High Expectations

An institution's stated commitment to expectations for all stakeholders, including student learning outcomes, teacher quality, leadership effectiveness, community engagement and parent involvement.

Impact of Instruction

The capacity of every teacher to purposefully and intentionally create an environment that empowers all learners to be successful and reach expected levels of achievement, including readiness to transition to the next level of learning or career pathway.

Resource Management

The ability of an institution to plan, secure, and allocate its resources (human, material, and fiscal) to meet the needs of every learner.

Efficacy of Engagement

The capacity to engage learners and other stakeholders in an effective manner to improve learning outcomes.

Implementation Capacity

The ability of an institution to consistently execute actions designed to improve organizational and instructional effectiveness.