

What is Continuous Improvement?

- It is a mindset, a process to get better at what we do on a daily basis.
- All teachers use it every day. It permeates our thinking but not always our actions.
- The key is to get it from the inner mind to the outer consciousness.
- That which is written and shared is more likely to be accomplished.
- What does it look like?

What we call continuous improvement is really the “scientific method.”

It has been around for a long time.

There are many ways to illustrate it, but the best way in my opinion is the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) cycle.

PLAN – Identify the issue. What needs to be improved? What does the data tell us? Do we need additional data to clarify the issue? What approach will we need to use to get the desired outcome? What resources will we need to accomplish the SMART goal? What is the SMART goal?

DO – What specific strategies will we use to accomplish the SMART goal? Who is responsible for each action step? What is the timeline for implementation and review? (Deployment plans)

STUDY – What does the new round of data show? Did the strategies work?

ACT – If the strategies worked, continue on the current path. If not, what can we do differently to impact the results? Repeat cycle until desired results are achieved.

The School Improvement Plans approved by the Board in September were PDSA’s that will be reviewed quarterly.

The same process can be used for district (and classroom) gaps.

Page Street is piloting the classroom PDSA this year.