

School Improvement Support Services Across Hawai‘i

Evidence-Based Technical Assistance for Sustainable School Improvement

Child Trends is a national nonprofit research organization with over 40 years of experience driving transformative change in education through data-driven research, technical assistance, and policy support. Now an approved vendor with the Hawai‘i Department of Education, Child Trends offers direct support to schools and complex areas to strengthen the planning and implementation of school improvement initiatives.

A Comprehensive, Aligned Approach to Systems Change

Our support is grounded in Child Trends’ **Six Guiding Principles for Education Systems Change**—a framework designed to help education leaders achieve meaningful, lasting improvements by:

- Driving change across classrooms, schools, complex areas, and central office
- Building staff capacity at all levels
- Using data for reflection, feedback, and strategy adjustment
- Promoting collaboration with educators, families, and community partners
- Aligning goals and reducing initiative overload
- Sustaining improvements through ongoing support and embedded practices

We tailor all services to your local context, supporting school improvement in five core areas.

Comprehensive Needs Assessments

We employ systemic, multi-source approaches that include:

- Structured reviews of academic performance, school climate, and leadership effectiveness
- Stakeholder engagement through surveys, interviews, and focus groups
- Root cause analyses to identify underlying issues impacting student outcomes
- Customized, actionable improvement plans grounded in evidence and local context

Examples of previously developed evidence-based resources include Local Education Agency Needs Assessment Tool, Stakeholder Engagement Templates, Communications Planning Toolkit, and Continuous Improvement Self-Assessment.

Leadership Training and Capacity Building

Our leadership training strengthens inclusive decision-making, equitable practices, and data-informed school leadership through:

- Job-embedded coaching and mentoring for administrators and leadership teams
- Professional learning communities (PLCs) focused on inclusive school cultures and systemic improvement
- Facilitated retreats and strategic planning sessions to align leadership vision with school improvement goals

Coaching and Instructional Support

We enhance teaching and learning through ongoing, customized coaching:

- Training educators in the use of data to refine instructional strategies
- Implementing peer coaching models to promote best practices and professional growth
- Developing robust multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) that address both academic and social-emotional learning (SEL)
- Embedding trauma-informed practices and SEL into daily instruction

Specialized Student Support

We focus on targeted interventions and support structures for historically underserved student populations by:

- Training educators in differentiation, culturally responsive teaching, and universal design for learning (UDL)
- Assisting schools in developing effective Response to Intervention (RTI) frameworks
- Enhancing supports for English language learners (ELL), special education students, and economically disadvantaged students

Family, School, and Community Partnerships

We guide schools in developing sustainable partnerships integral to comprehensive school improvement through:

- Professional development on effective family and community engagement strategies
- Co-development of action plans and structures for meaningful family-school-community collaboration
- Facilitating dialogues and shared decision-making processes to ensure inclusive community participation

Service Pricing and Delivery

All services are tailored based on readiness, goals, and existing capacity. Schools and complex areas can combine service formats based on need and budget.

Delivery options include: workshops (in-person or virtual), live coaching sessions, customized technical assistance plans, and ongoing implementation support.

Why Partner with Child Trends?

Child Trends' services are informed by extensive experience in school improvement initiatives across diverse educational environments. Our evidence-based approach has consistently driven measurable improvements in student outcomes, including significant gains in proficiency rates, graduation rates, and student engagement indicators.

- Demonstrated history of successful systemic school improvement partnerships
- Robust expertise in evidence-based instructional and leadership practices
- Commitment to collaborative, inclusive, and sustainable educational improvement
- Flexible, tailored technical assistance that meets local contexts and capacities

Let's Collaborate for Lasting Impact

For more information or to initiate a partnership:

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