



Spring Continuous School Improvement and Strategy Map Information

Please forward this information to all Cognia (formerly AdvancED/Measured Progress) team members, especially those responsible for your school's Continuous Improvement Plan and Strategy Map.

*Note - There is important special education information within this correspondence including special education guidance, information regarding updating the strategy map, future training opportunities, and general guidance.

Spring 2020 Training - Spots Still Available!

There are still several spots open for the spring Continuous School Improvement/Strategy Map workshops across the state, titled "*Fostering Strategic Thinking and Improvement Planning*."

The attendance at each workshop will be limited to about 75 people per site, with the exception of Dickinson, which is limited to 50 due to venue size. It is recommended that larger districts follow the train-the-trainer model and send a core group at the district level to bring the information back to their schools. Each workshop is scheduled from 8:30 to 3:30. Lunch, refreshments, and snacks will be provided.

Feb. 25

Dickinson
Find event summary and registration [here](#).

Feb. 26

Mandan
Find event summary and registration [here](#).

Feb. 27

Fargo
Find event summary and registration [here](#).

Mar. 24

Grand Forks

Find event summary and registration [here](#).

Mar. 25

Minot

Find event summary and registration [here](#).

Mar. 26

Mandan

Find event summary and registration [here](#).

Special Education Reporting Information

For the May 1, 2020 submission of schools' continuous improvement plans, special education units will partner with the districts they support to embed their annual goals. As a result, the special education unit information will appear together on the publicly reported Strategy Map on the Insights Dashboard. It is very important, should it not be already occurring, that communication between school districts and special education unit leadership begin taking place to prepare for this alignment.

As educational leaders across North Dakota partner to improve outcomes for all students, individuals responsible for communicating and sharing pertinent information should take note of and share the information below as appropriate:

Recent Support

- January 22: Special Education Units worked with Betsy Deal, Cognia's Director for North Dakota. During this session, special education unit directors learned how to align their unit's continuous improvement process with a strategy map from at least one building for a district they support.
- February 13: Cognia facilitated a webinar: Strategic Thinking and Planning for Special Education Directors. The webinar was recorded and remains available on-demand at <http://bit.ly/2SLhAKZ>.
- *February 14: Special Education Units received a template to assist in facilitating the collection of the required information to document and provide to the school districts for inclusion in the continuous improvement plan.

Upcoming Support

- February 25-27 and March 24-26: District personnel and Special Education Directors are encouraged to attend at least one regional professional development session as a team. Find dates, locations, and registration [online](#).
- January through April: Districts and Special Education Units work together to embed the special education information into Continuous Improvement Plans within their corresponding districts.

- May 1: Special Education Unit current state systemic improvement plan goals will be submitted within their districts' Continuous Improvement Plan.
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IMPORTANT - Continuous Improvement Plans/Strategy Map Naming Convention & Start Date

In order for the correct plans to be exported from each school's accounts for updating and reporting on the Dashboard, schools are to use the naming convention "Year of Plan Full School Name Including Level Continuous Improvement Plan." For example:

- Kenmare Elementary School's Plan would be titled, "2020-2021 Kenmare Elementary School Continuous Improvement Plan."
- Mandan High School's Plan would be titled, "2020-2021 Mandan High School Continuous Improvement Plan."

Additionally, the start date for the plan should read 05/01/2020. This can be updated from 'My Plans' screen and clicking the three dots to the right hand side. Click 'Edit,' and enter or choose 05/01/2020 in the first rectangular area under 'Select Target Dates.'

*Note - **Do not** create a plan in the District profile. For example:

- A Continuous Improvement Plan in the Cavalier School District will not appear on the Insights Dashboard. Individual plans for Cavalier Elementary School and Cavalier High Schools will appear on the Dashboard. If the District has worked to create one K-12 continuous improvement plan it will need to be replicated such that it is in both accounts. The plan should also clearly exemplify K-12 articulation between the schools.
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General Guidance and Contact Information

For more guidance on the Continuous Improvement Process and Strategy Maps, please visit our [website](#).

In addition, Cognia has created a Partnership Page in collaboration with the NDDPI. This page has a multitude of resources that school personnel can access on Continuous Improvement, Accreditation, and Student Engagement. You can access the website [here](#).

If you have questions regarding the Continuous Improvement Process or Strategy Maps, please contact [Joe Kolosky](#) at (701) 328-2755.

If you have questions regarding the Cognia Strategies Program, please contact [Cognia](#) at 1 (888) 413-3669.

