

Catapult Learning

Collaborative Quality Analysis



Approved for Title II Funding *under ESSA!*

A Comprehensive Diagnostic Process to Guide School Transformation

The first step in effecting change within a school is to identify both strengths and areas for potential growth. The Collaborative Quality Analysis (CQA) provides a prescriptive lens through which school leadership, working in partnership with the Catapult Learning Alliance team, can identify a series of actions that will move the school forward. Based on this comprehensive needs assessment, we measure strengths and weakness across our research-based five strands framework for school improvement. This multi-day, collaborative process results in a summary report and recommended next steps, forming the basis of an implementation plan designed to prompt a change journey towards excellence.



The five strands of our framework and their respective attributes serve as the foundation of our CQA process and describe behaviors intended to increase and successfully maintain student achievement.

Five essential questions guide school evaluation and transformation

1. How well is the school set for leading and managing change?
2. How good are opportunities for learning and developing learners?
3. How well does the school use assessment, data, and feedback to promote learning?
4. How well does the school promote and foster environments that support learning and motivation?
5. How well does the school use its internal and external resources to meet the spectrum of need for learners?

The COA process at-a-glance:

- Combines observation data, stakeholder perception feedback, and documented evidence in order to assess the quality of a school
- Benchmarks these findings against best practices utilizing the Catapult Learning School Development Rubric
- Identifies underlying beliefs, attitudes, values, and expectations that drive decisions and behaviors
- Yields a comprehensive report that describes a school's strengths, areas for growth, and next steps

Alliance School Development Rubric

The five strands, their respective attributes, and the developmental continuum describing the related core competencies form the basis of our School Development Rubric (SDR).

The following audit activities build the evidence base for a school's evaluation using the SDR:

At the heart of the COA process lies a series of audit activities that serve to build an evidence base upon which the Alliance team evaluates the school using the Alliance School Development Rubric. The COA summary is comprised of both quantitative and qualitative data, painting a comprehensive picture of where the school is, and offering suggestions for where it may want to go next.

A **School Document Review** identifies the processes, structures, and procedures that allow for the school to effectively lead and manage change.

The **Climate Walk** assesses how well the school promotes and fosters environments that support learning and motivation.

A **Lesson Plan Review** determines to what extent teachers are using a consistent, structured lesson-planning framework that deliberately plans to meet the needs of all learners.

Lesson Observations help the team gather evidence that informs an evaluation of the quality of teaching and learning.

A **Student Work Review** informs how student learning represented over time; the ways that teacher feedback promotes learning and prompts next steps in the learning process.

The **Students At-Risk Record Review and Discussion** identifies the documents and procedures that are in place to determine the effectiveness of the school's systems for supporting all learners.

Stakeholder Focus Groups solicit the perceptions of the main strengths and challenges within the school.