

School Improvement Institute • Testimony

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INDIANA EDUCATORS

- “By providing a structured process which engages staff, SI2 has proven to be **extremely beneficial in helping us meet the expectations of Public Law 221**. The participants in [our school district] have found the process manageable and meaningful. The ASAI staff act as partners, and are flexible and responsive to the needs of the school district.”
-- Indiana Superintendent
- “The SI2 process has given us a tool to **look at education through data**. We no longer make decisions based on ‘what feels good,’ or what we ‘think’ is working. We have been given a **tangible way to measure results**.”
-- Indiana Principal
- “Through the *Vision-to-Action* process we **have improved our ISTEP test scores**. SI2 helped us to be **less isolated**.”
-- Indiana Principal
- “As an administrator, SI2 helped me work collaboratively with counselors, teachers, and parents, and provided a **structure for institutional change**.”
-- Indiana Assistant Principal
- “I am so **fired up** that I feel my team can change the world! This has been one of the most **uplifting, invigorating** educational experiences I have ever had.”
-- Indiana high school teacher
- “What I have most enjoyed is seeing the process become the ownership of this group. It becomes less about the name of the process or who presents it, and is **focused instead on the students** in our school.”
-- Indiana high school teacher
- “I feel **I am a better person** for having finally something **important enough for me to lead**. I will need to remember to ‘embrace the resistance, value every person, not take it personally, not “need the credit, and “trust the process.”’
-- Indiana high school counselor
- “I feel **empowered** to really improve our school! So many times I’ve wished I could make a positive difference or a real change, but I felt powerless to do so. Now, I believe this **strong support system** will enable me to make our school a wonderful place for students to learn and teachers to teach.”
-- Indiana middle school teacher
- “I have come to realize the **importance of data**. I have always been the one to avoid or just not want to deal with it. After this, I realize that **data is my friend**.”
-- Indiana elementary teacher
- “SI2 helped me understand the **power that a community can have** in making positive change in our educational goals for the child.”
-- Indiana business member

OTHERS

- “I am fascinated by SI2 . . . Tell others in your district to join SI2.”
Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels during his opening keynote at ASAI’s Indiana Conference on Learning
- One of eight improvement programs highlighted in the **Council of Chief State School Officers** (Washington DC) *School Improvement Policy Brief*.
- Cited in *Connecting Schools, Families and Communities*, **Annie E. Casey Foundation** (Baltimore), for helping schools “increase the alignment between the work of community partners and the school’s core instructional program.”
- Cited in the **Indiana Education Roundtable** (Indianapolis) Newsletter for making “remarkable progress” in Indiana schools.
- Feature article about Vision-to-Action the **Indiana Principal Leadership Academy Special Edition on School Improvement**, “How to Implement Positive Change in Schools.”
- Recognized by **Pathways to College Network** (Boston) for using “research-based effective practices to improve college access and success.”

About ASAI

The American Student Achievement Institute (ASAI) is a non-profit, tax exempt organization that was founded by Indiana educators in 1996 with significant mentoring from national educational thought and business leaders having expertise in data-driven improvement. Located in Bloomington, Indiana, the organization has supported over 400 leadership teams in school improvement.

Mission: ASAI’s mission is to enable all students to master a rigorous curriculum in grades K-12, succeed in postsecondary education, and become productive members of a global economy.

Approach: ASAI advances its mission by helping local leadership teams implement a vision-based and data-driven improvement process that involves a variety of stakeholder groups (teachers, students, parents, community). Local stakeholders participate in a series of key discussions resulting in targeted, high-leverage, and systemic interventions that lead to increases in student achievement and close achievement gaps.

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- Learn More Indiana
- State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana
- Butler University
- Indiana School Districts