

KEY PRINCIPLES OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

1. *Improvement initiatives are most likely to take off when their goals, capacity demands, and values fit the common needs, existing capabilities, and prevailing conditions in the schools and communities they're supposed to help.*
2. *The more complicated and demanding the changes are, the more difficult the initiatives will be to put in place.*
3. *When problems are widely shared among the stakeholders involved, initiatives that address those problems are more likely to be seen as worth pursuing.*
4. *The demands and pressures of conventional schooling make it easier to transform learning experiences in niches rather than across entire school systems.*
5. *The more radical the changes are, the less likely they are to spread and take hold across large numbers of schools.*
6. *Large-scale improvements in the practices and structures of schooling depend on building capacity throughout the educational system.*
7. *Educational systems and the efforts to improve them reflect the social, cultural, geographic, political, and economic conditions in which those improvement efforts take place.*
8. *The structures and practices of conventional schools are most likely to change in concert with changes in other aspects of society.*