

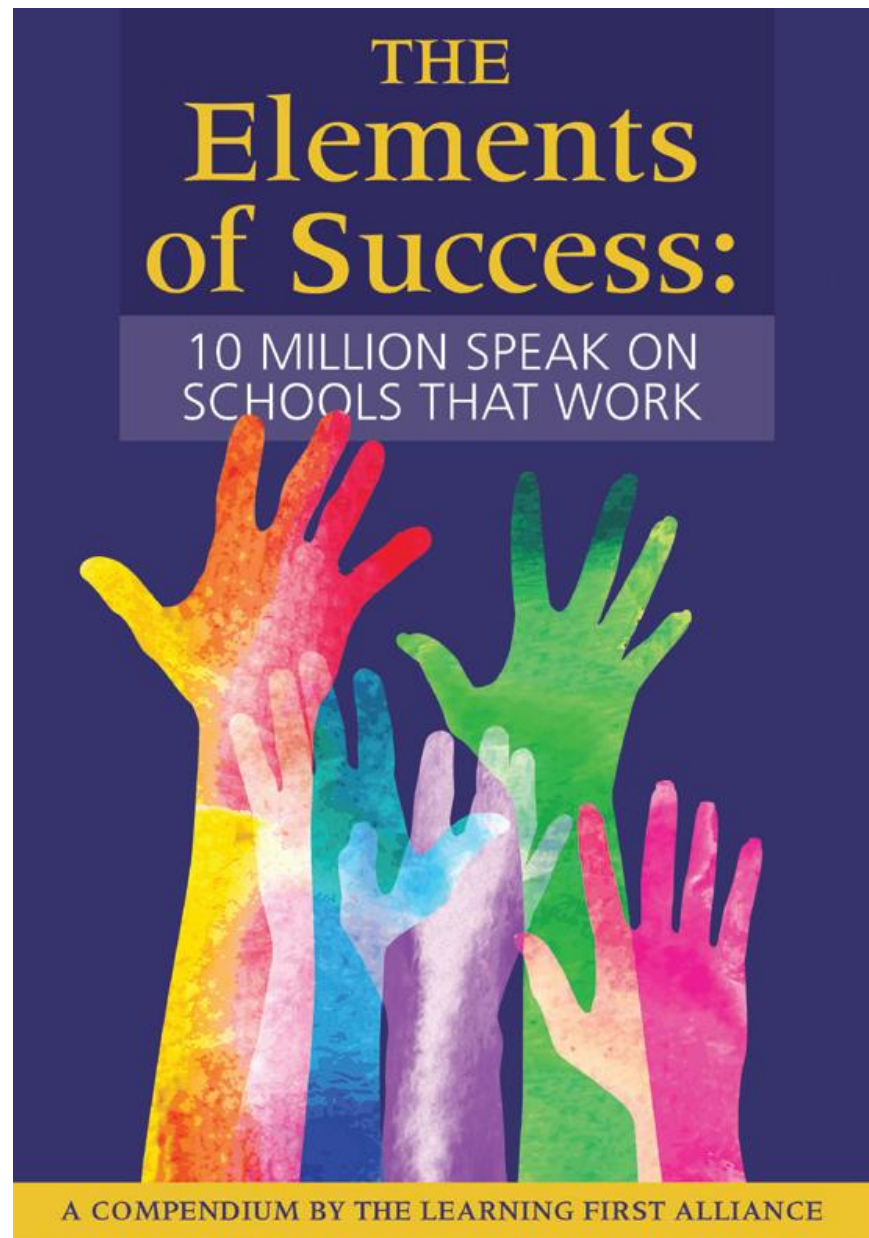


# Elements of Success – and beyond

And how you can use these ideas to promote  
professional learning

## Why EoS?

To read summaries or full report go to:  
<https://learningfirst.org/elementsofsuccess>



# The Elements of Success

Focus on the Total Child

Commitment to Equity and Access

Family and Community Engagement

Distributed Leadership

Strong, Supported Teaching Force  
and Staff

Relationship-Oriented School Climate

# What's New

These elements have been explored in other papers

Two things make this piece unique:

- **Consensus** of all the various public- school stakeholders, who agree these are the elements needed for a school to perform at a high level
- **Interactions** as a critical element— recognition that not just the presence but interaction in a specific context of each of these elements is necessary

# What We Found

- ▶ General agreement that:
  - ▶ The “solution” in school improvement isn’t the same for every school
  - ▶ Schools are working where educators, parents and local communities have developed programs to meet their specific goals and challenges
  - ▶ There are common elements around which all successful schools are organized (formally or informally)
  - ▶ How these elements are implemented and integrated depends greatly on context—they don’t look the same in every school



# COMMUNITY IN EDUCATION: BRINGING BUSINESSES AND SCHOOLS TOGETHER

Accountability, for example, has a profound impact on how well students will be ready for work when they graduate. We realize that, beyond academics, students must be prepared to work in groups, solve problems, communicate and adapt to the ever-changing world.

Educators and businesses need to present to the public clear messages around priorities, needs and emerging issues.

- Elevate the teaching profession and give ongoing support to school professionals.
- Develop early childhood programs.
- Enhance the communications and programs for the business-school connection.



# What is the policy community saying?

## For immediate action :

- Identify and disseminate the models of teacher preparation and professional development that are supported by evidence;
- More support and funding for student instruction;
- Support for personnel who can bridge the six elements;
- Address school climate issues defined by equity;
- Break down school silos and allowing parents to share power with educators.

## For long term development

- Elevate education as a profession and diversify the workforce to reflect student demographics;
- Allow all students to earn a postsecondary credential in addition to a high school diploma;
- Address gaps in what is known about effective teacher preparation and professional development models, then develop and test new models;
- Help the U.S. understand the important role education plays in a democracy;
- Conduct better research on schools and school systems;
- Effectively assess professional development programs;
- Alter perspective/role of school boards and call them "community boards."

# How to use this to change your school to a learning community

- ▶ Assume
  - ▶ Everyone is already busy
  - ▶ Every school is engaged in some type of school 'reform'
  
- ▶ Changes become habits with:
  - ▶ Collaboration
  - ▶ Mutual goal setting – what do 'we' want to achieve?
  - ▶ Setting short-term achievable goals



# So how is this useful to you?

- Tell people that we have consensus
- Structure your own program:
  - One size does not fit all.
  - Every community is unique.
  - Share your success stories.
- Develop an active partnership with business
- Getting to YES.... Start with what you have in common

# More information

- Learning First Alliance
  - [www.learningfirst.org](http://www.learningfirst.org)
  
- Richard Long
  - [longr@learning.first.org](mailto:longr@learning.first.org)