



# Quality Schooling Framework Elements

When effectively addressed in a coordinated way, these 10 elements can serve as leverage points for creating and sustaining quality schools. The framework is not intended as the basis for a set of mandates or a checklist of do's and don'ts. Instead, it is intended to serve as a lens educators can use to examine their schools systemically to gauge what is most likely to support student success.

1. **Curriculum** is rigorous and culturally relevant, allowing time and opportunities for students to learn 21<sup>st</sup> -century content and skills.
2. **Instruction** should meet each student where he or she is so that learning activities are relevant, differentiated, and applicable to his or her concrete experiences.
3. **Assessment** is an ongoing process of gathering evidence to determine what each student actually knows, understands, and can do, with results used to improve instruction and program design.
4. **Leaders** set expectations for high performance, attract and retain high-quality teachers, ensure equity and a supportive climate, and build community support.
5. **Teachers** possess and communicate a command of content knowledge, have an understanding of how children learn at different stages and in different ways, and are able to build and adapt the curriculum to address the needs of all students.
6. **Resource alignment** is the thoughtful allocation of budgets and other resources to support what is most necessary to achieve desired education outcomes for students.
7. **Culture and climate** interact to create a positive school setting in which all students experience equally supportive learning environments and opportunities that help them learn and thrive.
8. **Equity** includes equitable outcomes, access and inclusion, treatment, opportunities to learn, resource distribution, and shared outcomes for all students, with an emphasis on addressing achievement gaps.
9. **Professional learning** focuses on a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities, including self reflection, peer support, on-the-job practice, experimentation, and instructional modification.
10. **Family and community engagement** results from an intentional, systemic, and integrated partnership of educators, families, and community members.