

Support for Advanced Goal Setting/Data Driven Cycles in Collaborative Teams

The most advanced collaborative teams set goals and then measure their progress against those goals in a cycle that includes defining the key actions they will take to achieve their goals, tracking the action steps they take (called input measures), tracking the effect of the those action steps (called outputs), and ultimately how these inputs and outputs move them closer to their goals. Each team cycle should include:

- **Plan:** Teachers plan for the academic year so that their students will be able to learn all the required standards. They plan what each instructional unit will look like as well as those for the week and each day. In addition, they plan what types of assessments they should give and when they should give them. The plans that teachers develop are informed by what they have learned from their work in previous years as well as what happened that day in class.
- **Implement the Plan:** In the teacher’s world, implementation is teaching. Teachers follow their short and long-term plans throughout the year, adjusting as needed based on their students’ needs.
- **Collect Data:** To evaluate how their students are progressing, teachers assess their students continually. They collect information from question and answer sessions, during cooperative group work, through exit tickets, in analyzing homework, on unit tests and quizzes, and in many other ways. These forms of assessment all provide evidence that lets teams know whether their plans are resulting in the desired outcomes for her students.
- **Analyze Data:** In teams, teachers analyze the data they collect from their students to find patterns that can help inform and improve their instruction and various supports they provide their students. When appropriate this analysis may lead to changes in the plan of how and what the teacher teaches, completing the cycle.

The Collaborative Team Cycle:

