

Principal magazine presents

LEADING LESSONS

USE THIS GUIDE WITH YOUR STAFF

Empowered Partners in Learning

An illustration of a person with dark skin and short black hair, wearing a pink t-shirt and dark blue pants, sitting on a large, 3D-rendered book. The person is holding a laptop. The book is pink and blue. The background is a light blue grid pattern with white clouds and a thought bubble.

Using data to improve
student personalized learning

For all children to be ready for college and their careers, they need a learning experience tailored to their unique needs, skills, and interests. Data is a critical tool that makes this personalized learning possible. When students, parents, and teachers are empowered with access to timely, useful, safeguarded data, there are so many ways to support students on their path to success.

Support Effective Data Use

In order to ensure that those closest to students, and students themselves, have the data they need and can use to support student learning, administrators must establish supportive school practices and policies.



REFLECTION: What improvements must be made to current practice to improve data access, privacy, training, and communication? Who needs to play a role?

Data Access. Students, parents, and teachers have timely access to appropriate data in a format that makes sense to them.

Who should play a role?

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What improvements should be made?

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Time, Tools, and Training to Use Data. Teachers have the time, tools, and training to collect, analyze, and use student data in an ethical way to make instructional decisions.

Who should play a role?

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What improvements should be made?

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Data Privacy and Security. Policies and practices protect the privacy and confidentiality of student data in secure systems.

Who should play a role?

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What improvements should be made?

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Communications About Data. Clearly communicate to parents and students how student data is used to support student learning.

Who should play a role?

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What improvements should be made?

Whatever the strategy, data is a critical tool for supporting all students on their path to success. When students, parents, teachers, and leaders are empowered with the data they need when they need it, there are so many ways to personalize learning. 

This article is adapted from Data Quality Campaign's "You Need Data to Personalize Learning," "What Is Student Data," and "Data Can Help Every Student Excel." **Learn more at dataqualitycampaign.org.**