



## School Improvement Plan Summary

### Introduction and Purpose

The School Improvement (SI) Plan answers the question, “How are we going to get to where we want to be?” It is different from typical, annual plans that are written to close a gap or achieve a couple goals. The SI Plan is written to achieve the vision of the school and is about keeping the entire system together and moving forward. The SI Plan should be support and align to the World’s Best Workforce Plan, the North Star Excellence and Equity System, and/or the Minnesota Department of Human Rights Agreement and Plan to reduce suspensions and expulsions.

The primary purpose of the plan is to identify the strategies, practices, or programs (referred to collectively as “strategies” in this document) based on the root-cause analysis, the system can implement with the highest likelihood of success. Schools should select strategies that are informed by research as having a desired impact in addressing the root causes for the intended student population.

Under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Duluth Public Schools—in partnership with stakeholders (including principals and other school leaders, teachers and parents)—must locally develop and implement a school improvement plan for the school to improve student outcomes.

### Outcome

The SI Plan identifies what will be done, how it will be done, when it will be done, why it will be done, and who will do it is at the heart of an action plan. Aligned with the existing strengths and resources within a district/school, and their readiness, the action plan will have a high likelihood of success.

School Information	School Phone, Fax, Email
School Name, Number and Grade Span: <b>Denfeld High School</b> , #215, Grades 9-12	Phone: (218) 336-8830
School Address: 401 N. 44th Ave. West, Duluth, MN 55806	Fax: (218) 336-8844
Principal: Laurie Knapp, Interim Principal	Email: laurie.knapp@isd709.org

### School Improvement Strategy(ies)--Summary

Strategy #1	Click here x if the strategy is an Evidence-Based Practice (EBP)
The <b>Strategy</b> we are going to implement is...	BARR is an early warning system designed to help schools identify and provide relevant and just-in-time responses to meet individual student needs to stay on track for graduation.
...to address this <b>Root-Cause(s)</b>	Lack of early identification and early intervention for students at risk. (attendance, behavior, course completion, graduation, engagement)
Which will help us meet this student outcome <b>Goal*</b>	<p><b>GOAL: Increase the three year average percentage of graduating students as measured by the Minnesota North Star Accountability System FROM:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>46% Special Education in 2017 to 85% in 2020,</b></li> <li>● <b>64% Free and Reduced Lunch in 2017 to 85% in 2020,</b></li> <li>● <b>75.9% Overall Student Population in 2017 to 90% in 2020.</b></li> </ul>
Explain how this strategy aligns to the World's Best Workforce Plan, North Star Excellence and Equity System, and/or the MDHR Agreement and Plan to reduce suspensions and expulsions	Building Assets, Reducing Risks (BARR) is a school model that addresses the needs of the whole student learner. It allows teachers to focus on building relationships with students to help them be successful in the classroom and life. It incorporates eight different strategies of its own; focus on the whole student, provide professional development for teachers, counselors and administrators,, use BARR's I-Time curriculum to foster a climate for learning, create cohorts of students, hold regular meetings of the cohort teachers, conduct risk review meetings, engage families in student learning, and engage administrators to ensure the success of students towards graduation beginning in the 9th grade. It builds the foundation for graduation which aligns with the World's Best Workforce bill as well as the North Star Excellence and Equity System.

#2	Click here <input type="checkbox"/> if the strategy is an Evidence-Based Practice (EBP)
The <b>Strategy</b> we are going to implement is	PBIS is an implementation framework for maximizing the selection and use of evidence-based prevention and intervention practices along a multi-tiered continuum that supports the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral competence of all students.
to address the <b>Root Cause</b>	Ineffective classroom strategies for engaging students and establishing, fostering and maintaining positive relationships.
Which will help us meet this student outcome <b>Goal*</b>	<p><b>GOAL: Increase the three year average percentage of graduating students as measured by the Minnesota North Star Accountability System FROM:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>46% Special Education in 2017 to 85% in 2020,</b></li> <li>● <b>64% Free and Reduced Lunch in 2017 to 85% in 2020,</b></li> <li>● <b>75.9% Overall Student Population in 2017 to 90% in 2020.</b></li> </ul>
Explain how this strategy aligns to the World’s Best Workforce Plan, North Star Excellence and Equity System, and/or the MDHR Agreement and Plan to reduce suspensions and expulsions	Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is comprised of evidence-based behavioral interventions and practices that are aligned with the World’s Best Workforce to help ensure that all students graduate from high school, it helps provide for an equitable education for all Minnesota children through the North Star Excellence and Equity System so that all children have access to the opportunity to learn. It aligns with the MDHR Agreement to reduce suspensions and expulsions by providing a positive school climate based on research, and the use of data, to build and sustain a continuum of behavior supports to help students be successful in school, and reduce suspensions and expulsions by using positive behavior reinforcements and by building relationships among students and staff to promote a climate of caring and support.

#3	Click here x if the strategy is an Evidence-Based Practice (EBP)
The <b>Strategy</b> we are going to implement is	Check & Connect is an intervention used with K-12 students who show warning signs of disengagement with school and who are at risk of dropping out of school.
to address the <b>Root Cause</b>	Disengagement and dropping out of school
Which will help us meet this student outcome <b>Goal*</b>	<p><b>GOAL: Increase the three year average percentage of graduating students as measured by the Minnesota North Star Accountability System FROM:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>46% Special Education in 2017 to 85% in 2020,</b></li> <li>● <b>64% Free and Reduced Lunch in 2017 to 85% in 2020,</b></li> <li>● <b>75.9% Overall Student Population in 2017 to 90% in 2020.</b></li> </ul>
Explain how this strategy aligns to the World’s Best Workforce Plan, North Star Excellence and Equity System, and/or the MDHR Agreement and Plan to reduce suspensions and expulsions	The intervention strategy of Check & Connect attempts to re-engage students in their academics and connection to school. The program works to increase student attendance, increases their resilience and persistence in school, encourages them in their coursework to accrue credits towards graduation, and achieve the end result of a high school diploma. The Check & Connect program also works to eliminate or reduce truancy rates, tardiness to class, behavioral referrals, suspensions and expulsions, and drop out rates. This program aligns directly with the World’s Best Workforce Plan, North Star Excellence and Equity System, and the MDHR Agreement and Plan to reduce suspensions and expulsions.