

# Introduction to T.E.A.M.S.:

## A System for School and Team Success



Welcome to the T.E.A.M.S. system, a streamlined framework created to help **school leadership teams** and **teacher teams** work collaboratively toward improved teaching, learning, and student success. The T.E.A.M.S. system breaks down complex processes into manageable, actionable steps that can be adapted for the unique needs of both leadership and teacher teams, ensuring that everyone is working toward common goals in alignment with school and district priorities. T.E.A.M.S. stands for:

- **T: Target Teaching and Learning Priorities**
- **E: Execute and Engage with Goals**
- **A: Assess Progress**
- **M: Motivate Effective Teams**
- **S: Support Team Successes**

Each section of T.E.A.M.S. provides clear steps that help your team take intentional actions to create measurable results, fostering continuous improvement in both teaching and learning.

# How to Use This System



The T.E.A.M.S. system is organized into three main components, all tailored to support both **leadership teams and teacher teams**:

- 1. One-Pagers for Each Section:** Each of the five sections (T.E.A.M.S.) has a dedicated one-pager that outlines the key actions your team needs to take. These one-pagers are designed specifically for:
  - **Leadership Teams:** The one-pagers for leadership teams focus on setting school-wide goals, aligning with district priorities, and ensuring that teaching and learning outcomes improve across the entire school.
  - **Teacher Teams:** The one-pagers for teacher teams focus on identifying classroom-level instructional priorities, collaborating with colleagues to improve practices, and aligning teaching strategies with broader school goals.
- 2. Each one-pager details:**
  - **Why** the section is important.
  - **What** your team should prioritize.
  - **How** to implement the strategies.
  - **When** to take action.
  - **What success looks like** for both teams and students.
- 3. Choose Your Own Adventure Scenarios:** To help guide your team's unique starting point, we've created "**choose your own adventure**" scenarios for both leadership and teacher teams. These scenarios offer tailored pathways depending on your team's current situation:
  - **Leadership Teams:** Whether your leadership team is new, experienced but realigning, or facing data overload, these scenarios will help you find the right path to start targeting your school's teaching and learning priorities.
  - **Teacher Teams:** If your teacher team is setting classroom-specific goals, working to improve instructional collaboration, or addressing specific student needs, the scenarios will guide you to the most relevant starting point for focusing your instructional priorities.
- 4. These scenarios allow you to easily identify the best pathway, ensuring your efforts are focused on the areas that matter most for your current team dynamics and school needs.**

# How to Use This System



5. **Resources:** To support each team’s progress, you’ll find curated resources throughout the system, differentiated for:
  - **Leadership Teams:** These resources will help leadership teams dig deeper into data analysis, goal setting, and school-wide instructional strategies. The resources are designed to support strategic decision-making and aligning school goals with district priorities.
  - **Teacher Teams:** The resources for teacher teams focus on actionable instructional strategies, collaboration tools, and data-driven practices that improve classroom instruction and student outcomes.
6. Whether using STRIVE’s guiding principles, gap analysis tools, or your school’s existing improvement resources, your team can select the right tools to match your goals.

## Differentiation for Leadership Teams and Teacher Teams

While both leadership and teacher teams share the same overarching goal—improving student outcomes—each group has unique roles and responsibilities. The T.E.A.M.S. system reflects this distinction:

- **Leadership Teams** are responsible for broader, school-wide priorities, including aligning with district initiatives, setting strategic goals, and ensuring that the entire school works toward common objectives.
- **Teacher Teams** focus more on classroom-specific instructional strategies, collaborative lesson planning, and aligning their teaching with the priorities set by the leadership team.

By providing separate pathways and resources for leadership teams and teacher teams, the T.E.A.M.S. system ensures that each group can focus on its unique contribution to the overall success of the school.

# How to Use This System



## Making It Simple for Schools and Teams

To make the T.E.A.M.S. system easy to use:

- **Indicators for Leadership and Teacher Teams:** Both leadership and teacher teams will use the indicators embedded in each section to assess progress and target areas for improvement. These principles provide a clear framework for self-assessment, goal-setting, and continuous improvement.
- **Flexible Pathways:** Each team has the flexibility to choose its own pathway based on current needs. Whether using STRIVE's resources, your own school improvement tools, or a combination of both, the system is adaptable to your team's unique goals.
- **Step-by-Step Structure:** The one-pagers and scenarios break down each section of T.E.A.M.S. into clear, actionable steps. This allows schools and teams to move through the system confidently, knowing what to do next and how to measure success.

## Why T.E.A.M.S. Works

Grounded in both educational and organizational leadership research, the T.E.A.M.S. system offers a flexible, results-oriented approach to improving student outcomes. By clearly defining the roles of leadership and teacher teams, T.E.A.M.S. ensures alignment and collaboration at every level, from school-wide goals to classroom instruction.

Let's begin with **T: Target Teaching and Learning Priorities**, and take the first step toward building a stronger, more focused pathway to success for your school and students.

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This introduction clearly distinguishes between leadership teams and teacher teams, while maintaining a unified structure that emphasizes their shared goal of improving student outcomes. It simplifies the process and makes the system easy to navigate for both groups.