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The College Readiness Indicator Systems Initiative

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction

- Initiative Background

- CRIS Framework

- Implementation Lessons

- Looking Ahead

- Q & A

CRIS Institutional Partners

Annenberg Institute for School Reform
AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

UCHICAGOCCSR
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CONSORTIUM ON CHICAGO
SCHOOL RESEARCH

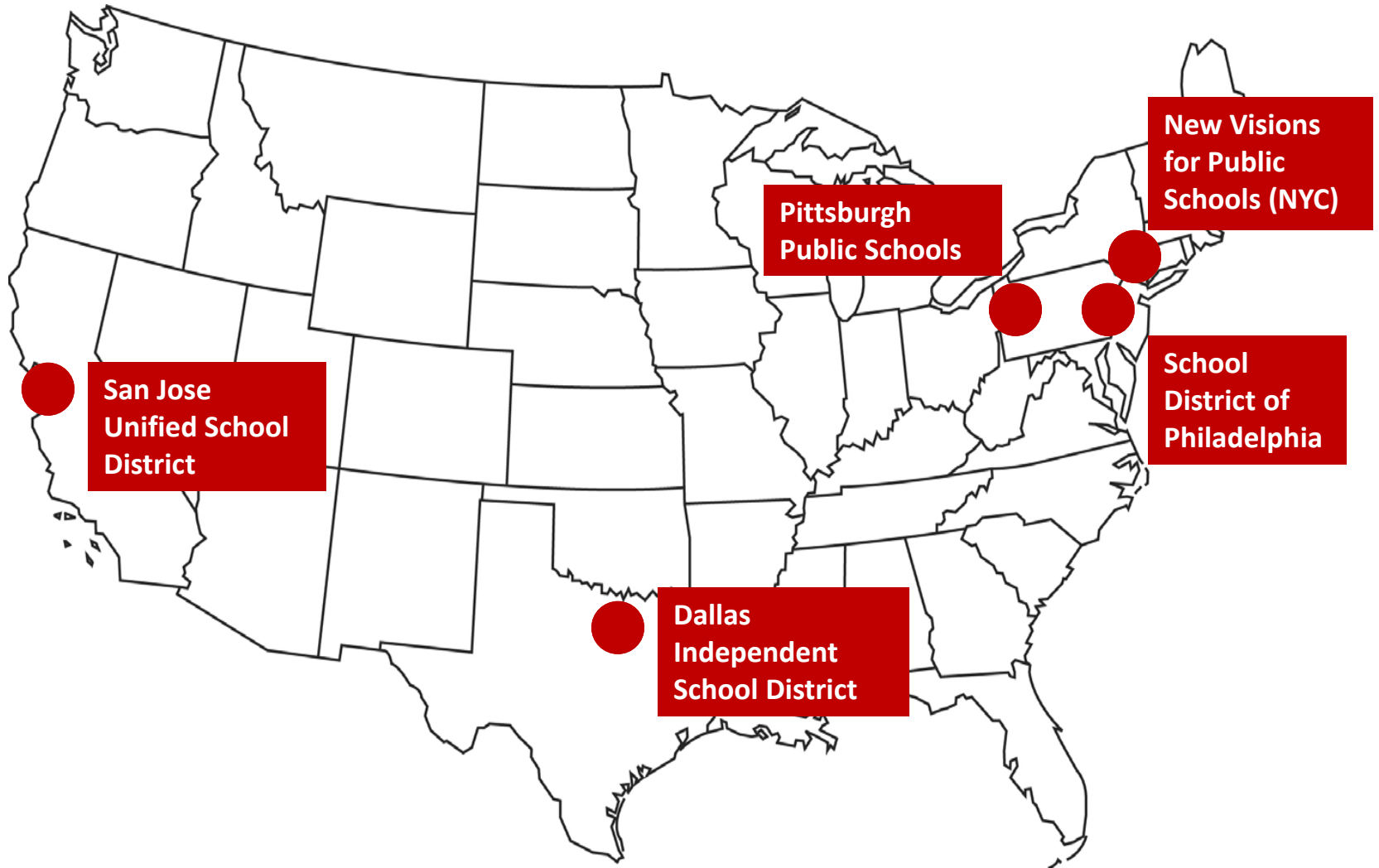john w. gardner center for youth and their communities

What is College Readiness?

"The level of preparation a student needs in order to enroll and succeed without remediation—in a credit bearing general education course at a post–secondary institution." (Conley, 2007)

What is a CRIS?

A system of indicators that:

- Measures distinct dimensions of college readiness: academic preparedness, college knowledge, and academic tenacity

- Allows for early identification of students in need of added supports to finish high school college ready

- Points to action at 3 levels: individual, setting, and system

CRIS Implementation Sites

New Visions for Public Schools (NYC)

Pittsburgh Public Schools

School District of Philadelphia

San Jose Unified School District

Dallas Independent School District

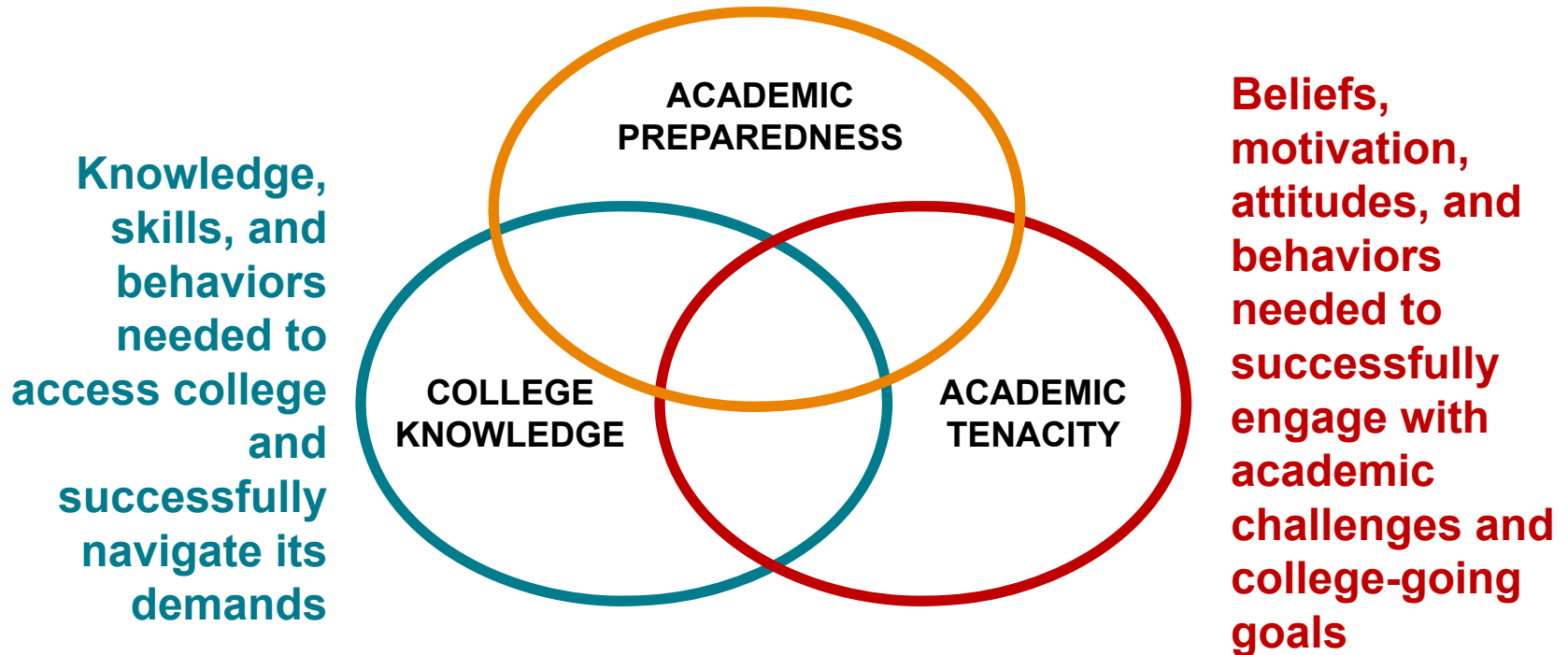john w. gardner center for youth and their communities

Four Main Components

1. Three core and interrelated dimensions of college readiness

2. A tri-level system of indicators

3. A menu of indicators

4. A Cycle of Inquiry tool that links indicators with supports and actions

An Expanded View of College Readiness

Coursework, skills, and achievements needed to succeed at college-level work

Knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to access college and successfully navigate its demands

Beliefs, motivation, attitudes, and behaviors needed to successfully engage with academic challenges and college-going goals

ACADEMIC PREPAREDNESS

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

ACADEMIC TENACITY

Three Levels of College Readiness

- Individual (student)

- Setting (school)

- System (district and partners)
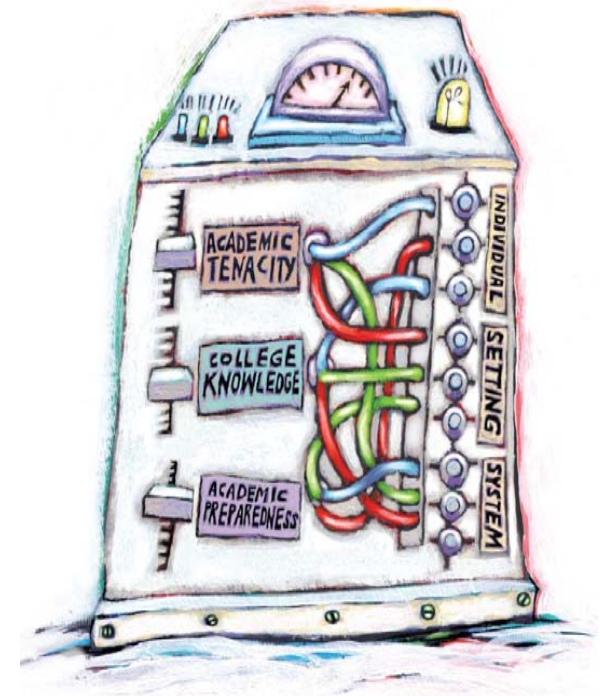
**GOAL:** Generate actionable knowledge at all three levels.

Sample Menu of Indicators

|	INDIVIDUAL-LEVEL INDICATORS	SETTING-LEVEL INDICATORS	SYSTEM-LEVEL INDICATORS
ACADEMIC PREPAREDNESS	• GPA • Participation in Advanced Placement/IB/Honors classes	• Consistent grading policy • Availability of Advanced Placement/IB/Honors classes	• Alignment of HS and college entrance requirements • Resources allocated to efforts at promoting Academic Preparedness
COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE	• Knowledge of financial requirements for college • Submission of application to colleges that constitute a good match	• HS college climate • College match	• Policies that target the development of early college awareness • Resources allocated to efforts at promoting College Knowledge
ACADEMIC TENACITY	• Attendance • Self-discipline	• Perceived safety of school • Support for student autonomy	• Trends in college attendance rates across schools • Resources allocated to efforts at promoting Academic Tenacity

Cycle of Inquiry
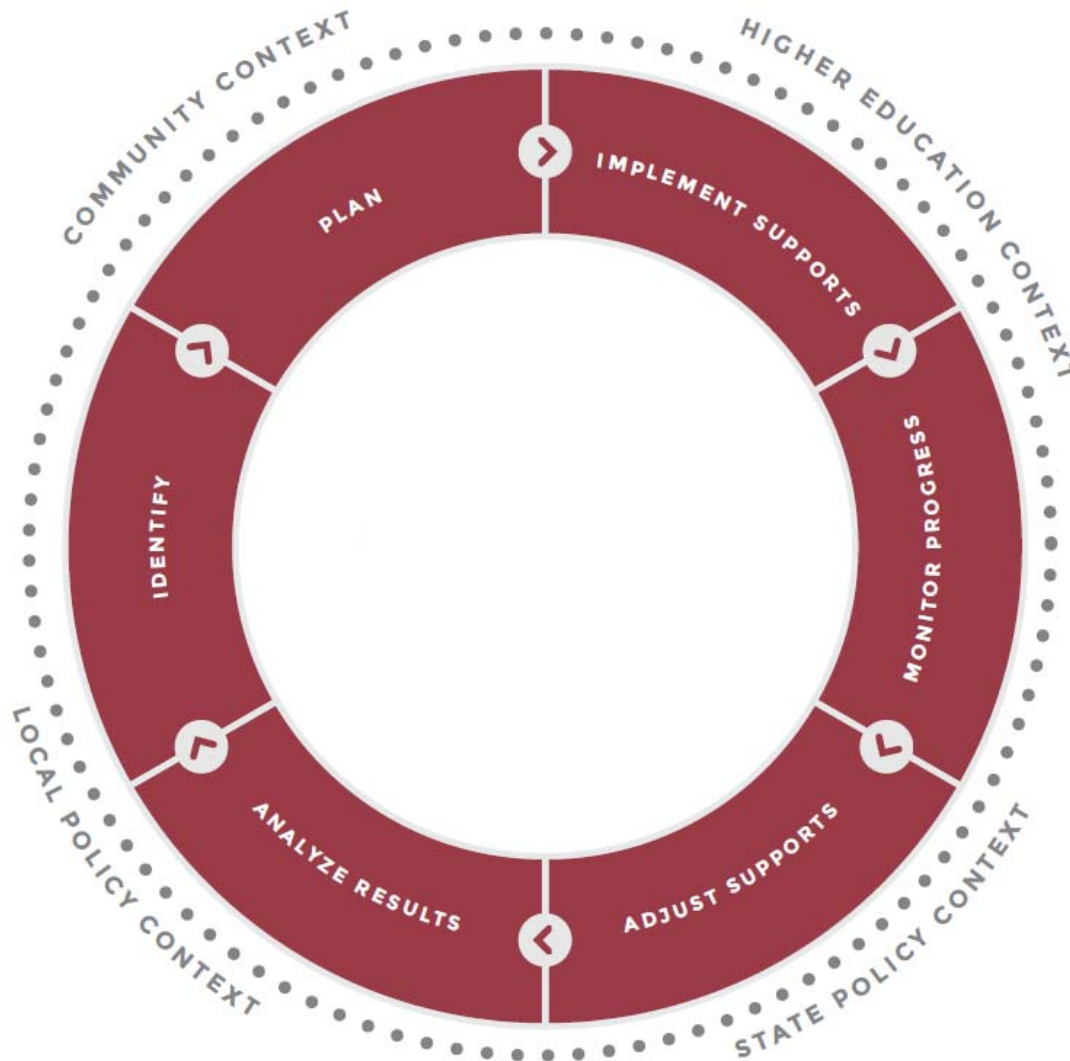
The Cycle of Inquiry ties indicators to supports and actions

Context Matters
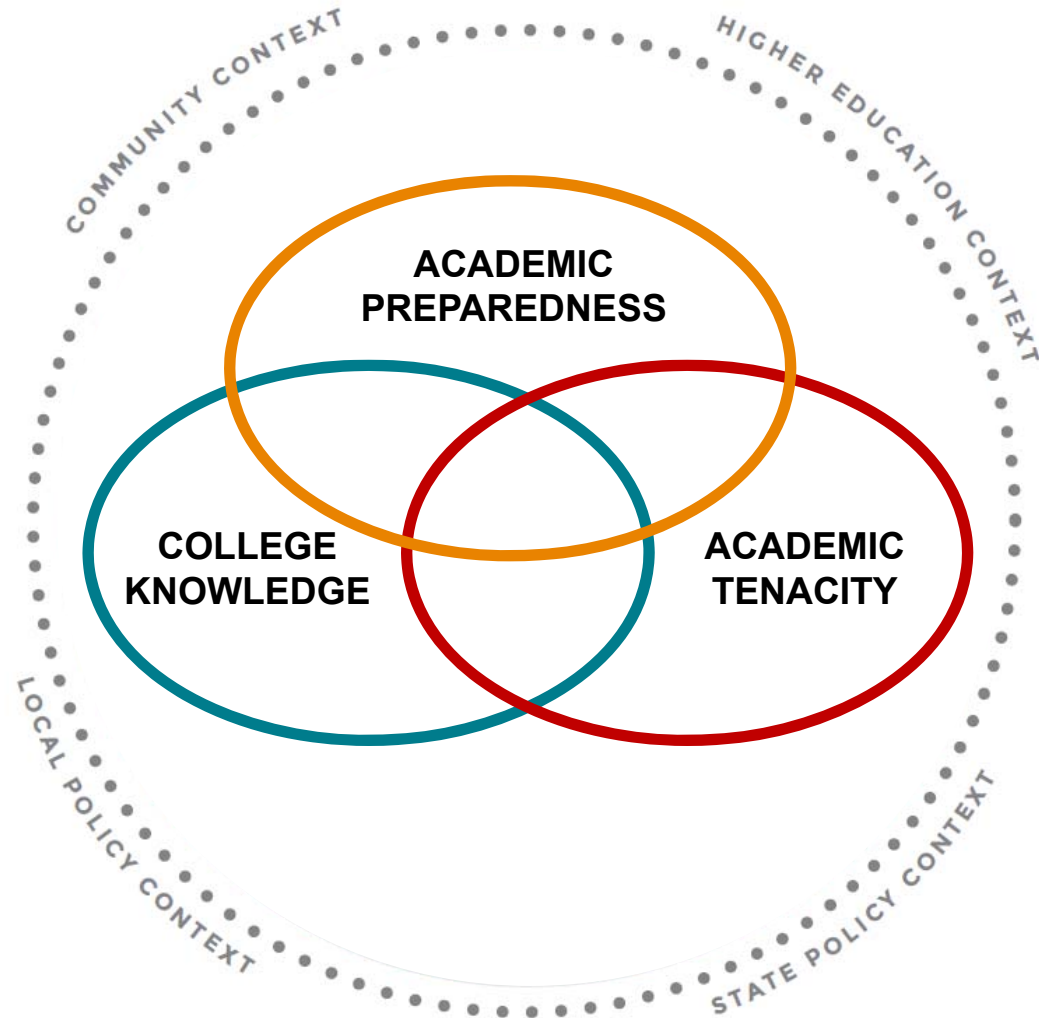
The CRIS Framework
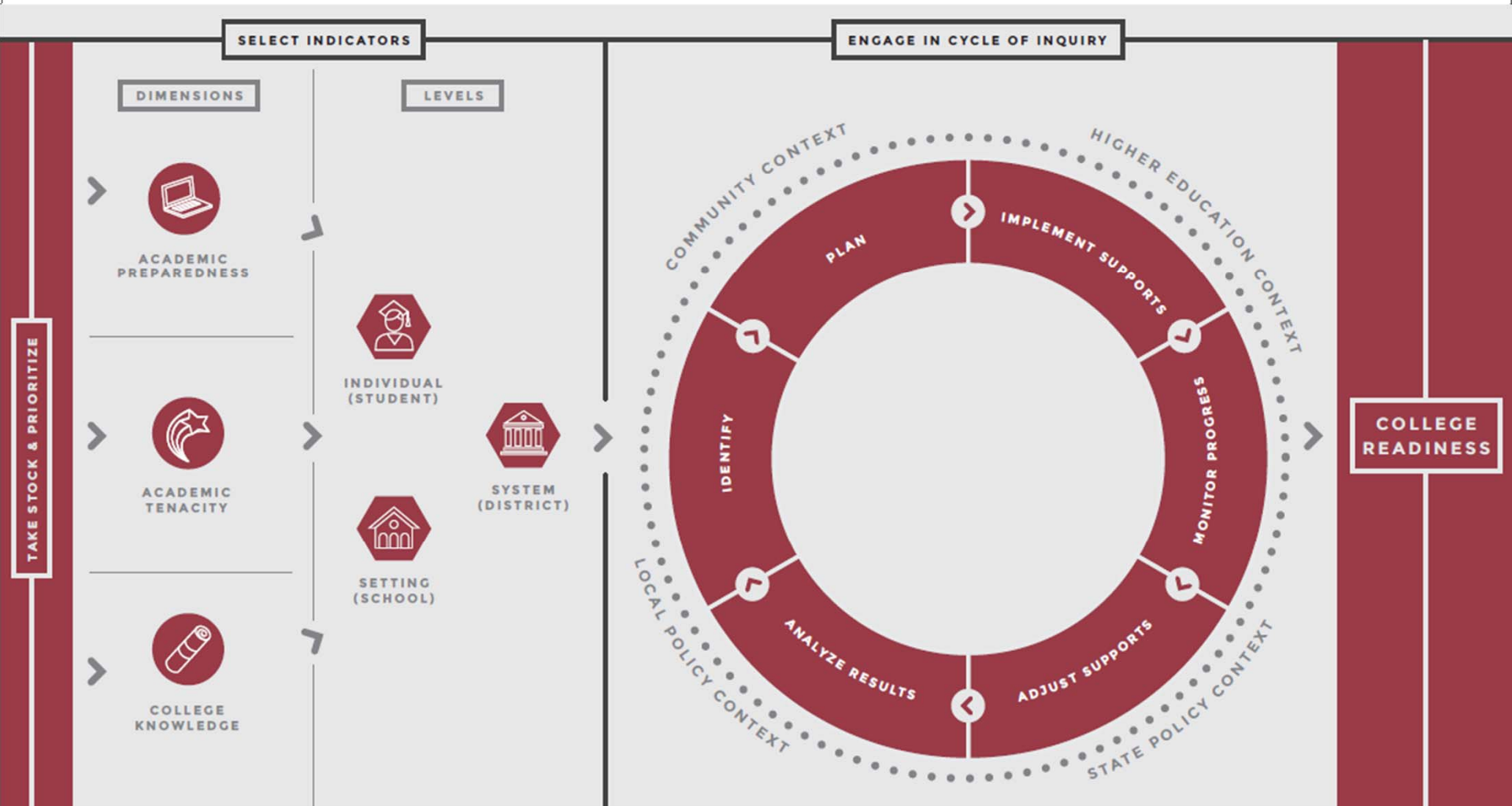
Five Essential Elements

1. Engaging Leadership

2. Building Data Infrastructure

3. Strengthening Adult Capacity

4. Connecting Indicators with Supports

5. Developing Partnerships

ELEMENT 1 Engaging Leadership Commitment to CRIS

- Articulate vision and support for college readiness

- Promote common understanding of goals

- Support data-driven culture

ELEMENT 1 Engaging Leadership Commitment to CRIS

San Jose Unified School District aligned CRIS indicators to the objectives of its strategic plan and Key Performance Measures & created a CRIS team involving senior staff from key departments.

ELEMENT 2 Building Data Infrastructure

Establish:

- Technical architecture

- Organizational routines

- Formats and timelines that meet stakeholders' needs

ELEMENT 2 Building Data Infrastructure

New Visions employs DataCation, a platform that enables educators, parents, and students to track student progress towards graduation and college readiness.

- Incorporates user feedback
- Involves site specific TA

ELEMENT 3 Strengthening Adult Capacity Around Data

- Invest in capacity to collect and use data

- Protect time to collaborate in data teams

- Develop a shared understanding of college readiness

- Provide teacher and parent access to college knowledge

ELEMENT 3 Strengthening Adult Capacity Around Data

In **Dallas Independent School District**, Executive Directors of Strategic Feeder Patterns lead regular group meetings with principals during the school year to review their schools' data on key academic indicators.

ELEMENT 4 Connecting Indicators With Supports to Promote CR

- Individuals representing diverse roles and locations work collectively

- Inquiry groups regularly convene at school and district levels

- The Cycle of Inquiry connects indicators with supports in a systematic, iterative process

ELEMENT 4 Connecting Indicators With Supports to Promote CR

Based on an in-depth examination of district data, the OPSTAT team at **San Jose Unified School District** established thresholds to define three tiers of supports that students may need to be successful in AP courses.

San Jose Unified School District

ELEMENT 5 Developing Partnerships with Community Institutions & Higher Education

- Leverage resources outside the K–12 school system

- Employ data sharing as basis for partnership

- Enlist intermediaries to raise community awareness and assist in coordinating with CBOs

ELEMENT 5 Developing Partnerships with Community Institutions & Higher Education

Pittsburgh Public Schools have a formal data agreement with United Way's Be a Middle School Mentor program, which includes close partnerships with school staff and an MoU between the United Way and the district.

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Looking Ahead

CHALLENGES

- Tracking and evaluating supports

- Cycle of Inquiry across levels—routines/capacity

- District/school relationships

OPPORTUNITIES

- Common Core State Standards

- New state data systems

- CORE

- LCAPs

RESOURCE	DESCRIPTION
A New Framework for Promoting College Readiness	A description of the interrelated components that make up a CRIS
Menu of College Readiness Indicators and Supports	A list of research-based indicators and supports to choose from in building a CRIS, organized across the three dimensions and three levels.
Selecting Effective Indicators	A guide for determining indicators to include in data reporting systems in light of a district's priorities and capacity to offer interventions and support.
A Technical Guide to College Readiness Indicators	A guide that outlines seven steps to examine the predictive validity of indicators.
District Self-Assessment Tool	A tool that supports a district's effort to assess and strengthen its organizational capacity to plan and implement a CRIS.
Essential Elements in Implementation	A report of key components of a CRIS, promising implementation strategies and case examples from the sites.

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CRIS
RESOURCE SERIES

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