

OVERVIEW BROCHURE

# Leadership Services

Empowering Leaders,  
Inspiring Teachers,  
Transforming Learning +

nwea



# Take the guesswork out of continuous improvement

The Center for Model Schools, in partnership with NWEA, offers Leadership Services that empower educators to turn vision into lasting impact through data-driven insights and proven strategies for sustainable growth. We start by providing an evidence-based evaluation of the essential elements that maximize student success. We pinpoint precisely where your school needs to improve to see meaningful gains in student outcomes. We then partner with you to translate your data into concrete actions and continuous improvement plans that lead to lasting, sustainable change.

## The 5Essentials®: Leading the way with a holistic, evidence-based approach

Through an exclusive partnership with the University of Chicago, the Center for Model Schools utilizes the 5Essentials® Framework, which is based on over 20+ years of research from the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research. This framework identifies five key factors that are essential for driving sustainable improvement: Effective Leadership, Collaborative Teaching, Supportive Environment, Involved Families, and Ambitious Instruction.



### IMPORTANT FACT

Research shows schools strong on at least three of the five essentials for school improvement were 10 times more likely to show substantial gains in student learning than schools weak on three or more of the five essentials.



## 5Essentials is positively related to multiple academic outcomes:

- Test Scores and Test Score Gains
- Attendance Rates
- Graduation Rates
- GPA
- Teacher Mobility/Retention
- Freshman on Track

# A powerful process to drive change

The Center for Model Schools collaborates with district and school leaders to gather baseline data, identifying key strengths and growth opportunities. By working closely with you, we aim to gain a deep understanding of your unique context and needs. To further support the partnership, we offer a suite of specialized tools and surveys designed to diagnose issues, refine goals, and measure progress over time. These resources, available through our Leadership Services, provide valuable insights to drive meaningful growth and transformation.

## Our Approach:

- **Rooted in research:** The 5Essentials Survey is backed by 30+ years of research and meets ESSA criteria as a Tier 2 evidence-based practice
- **Focused on school leaders:** We support school leaders with a unique coaching model and targeted professional learning that strengthens leadership skills and data-informed practices
- **Tailored to educator needs:** A leadership consultant collaboratively creates a tailored plan that builds on leaders' strengths and refines the highest-gain areas for improvement
- **Focused on systems and sustainability:** Supports school leaders in establishing wide-scale practices and protocols that align school initiatives and bolster collaboration, improved instruction, and enhanced student engagement
- **Reinforces continuous improvement and collaborative reflection:** Elevates stakeholder voices through the 5Essentials Survey and progress monitoring of improvement efforts





# Leadership Services

## School leaders are agents of change

Based on decades of research establishing the fundamental role of school principals in improving student achievement, the Center for Model Schools services intentionally focus on school leaders as the central agents of change and drivers of continuous improvement.

“An effective principal’s impact is stronger and broader than previously thought, making it ‘difficult to envision’ a higher return on investment in K–12 education than the cultivation of high-quality school leadership.”<sup>1</sup>

## Our leadership consultants:

- **Guide and support school leaders** in developing and implementing sustainable processes, practices, and protocols supporting the essential conditions for effective schools that are embodied in the 5Essentials Framework
- **Spend quality time in schools**, observing school leaders in action, visiting classrooms, and interacting with staff during improvement meetings
- **Employ an inquiry method** focused on asking open-ended questions and active listening
- Illuminate insights through **constructive and strategic feedback**
- Can **work alongside** district and school leaders to **define and develop a unified vision** centered on learning results, distributed leadership, a systems approach, and leader self-efficacy

“I chose to invest in the 5 E’s, in addition to coaching with the Center for Model Schools, because I’m impressed with the thirty years of research behind the tool. Additionally, our team has worked really hard to get good growth from our scholars. We believe the outside analysis of our systems and processes, along with comprehensive support for school improvement will help us make finer adjustments on our way to lifting greater numbers of scholars’ learning to proficient levels.”

**KIM SCHAEFER**  
Whitehorse HS Principal  
Whitehorse, Montana

1. Anna Egalite, Jason Grissom, and Constance Lindsay, *How Principals Affect Students and Schools: A Systematic Synthesis of Two Decades of Research* (New York: The Wallace Foundation, 2021). <http://www.wallacefoundation.org/principalsynthesis>.



# Model Schools Conference

## Looking to inspire your teams before the start of the next school year?

Dive into inspiring stories, innovative approaches, and practical tools that will empower you to overcome challenges and make lasting impact. This is your chance to connect with passionate educators, gain fresh insights, and leave with a renewed drive to create meaningful change in your districts, schools, classrooms, and beyond.

**Don't miss out- keep that fire burning strong all year long!**

“The best part of MSC is attending sessions [that feature] top-notch schools and districts across the country. It is the fastest way to learn what others are really doing, what is working, and the opportunity to see what areas one might want to dig deeper into!”

**TRACI HOGAN**  
Asst. Superintendent; Special Education Services  
Greenville County Schools, SCCICS West



**Click or Scan to learn more about the Model Schools Conference**



Take the first step toward creating the  
conditions for lasting success.

Begin your journey at [hmhco.com/center](https://www.hmhco.com/center)

**nwea**

NWEA, a division of HMH, supports students and educators worldwide by providing assessment solutions, insightful reports, professional learning offerings, and research services. Visit [NWEA.org](https://www.nwea.org) to find out how NWEA can partner with you to help all kids learn.

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APR25 | NWEA\_WF2261102