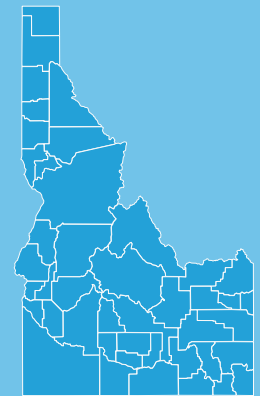




Improving Idaho's State System of General Supervision: An Impact Snapshot

Summary

The Idaho Department of Education is working to improve its state general supervision system to better meet the needs of students with disabilities. As part of this improvement effort, the state convened various community partners to seek input on ways to strengthen district monitoring and support activities. This impact snapshot provides an overview of this meeting and participants' feedback on the experience.



Background

The Idaho Department of Education is committed to improving educational access and outcomes for students with disabilities. As part of these improvement efforts, the state is working to strengthen its system of general supervision — a system at the state level that supports districts to provide a free appropriate public education to children with disabilities and ensure that special education policies and procedures are being implemented effectively and in compliance with state and federal requirements. The National Center for Systemic Improvement (NCSI), a federally funded technical assistance center, has been a key partner in Idaho's general supervision systems improvement efforts.



NCSI Support

In November 2025, NCSI helped Idaho design and co-facilitate a convening for state staff, state technical assistance partners, and select district representatives designed to clarify the state's vision for improvement, deepen stakeholders' knowledge of effective state general supervision systems, and strengthen partnerships between all parties to support the state's improvement efforts. The convening provided structured time for cross-role dialogue and shared learning while surfacing priorities, potential barriers, and immediate next steps to sustain collaboration.



Outcomes and Impact

1. Improving State Monitoring Policies, Procedures, and Practices

Through broad stakeholder input, Idaho identified opportunities for systems improvements including:

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| 1. Reducing the number of review items used in monitoring activities | 2. Enhancing collaboration and coordination with general education | 3. Modifying monitoring processes to place more emphasis on students' educational benefit |
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2. Supporting Districts

Participants generated ideas to help the state better support improvement efforts at the local level, including:

- More frequent monitoring activities**
- Improved resources and training for districts**
- Strengthened alignment between state initiatives and community needs**

3. Deepening Staff Knowledge and Skills

100% of survey respondents reported

IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF general supervision systems

INCLUDING

- state monitoring activities**
- use of data for decision-making**

4. Gathering Participant Feedback

- 100% of survey respondents felt their perspectives were acknowledged and their contributions were valued during the sessions.**
- As a result, the state's future improvement strategies indicate strong local input and buy-in.**

Conclusion

Authentic, collaborative partnerships between state staff, district representatives, and state technical assistance providers are the foundation of Idaho's special education improvement efforts. As this recent meeting reveals, such partnership results in more meaningful guidance for districts and more consistent implementation of special education policies and procedures – in service of ultimately improving the educational experiences and outcomes of students with disabilities in the state.

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WestEd is the lead organization for NCSI. For more information about the work of WestEd, NCSI, and their partners, please visit www.ncsi.wested.org and www.wested.org.

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