# Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection
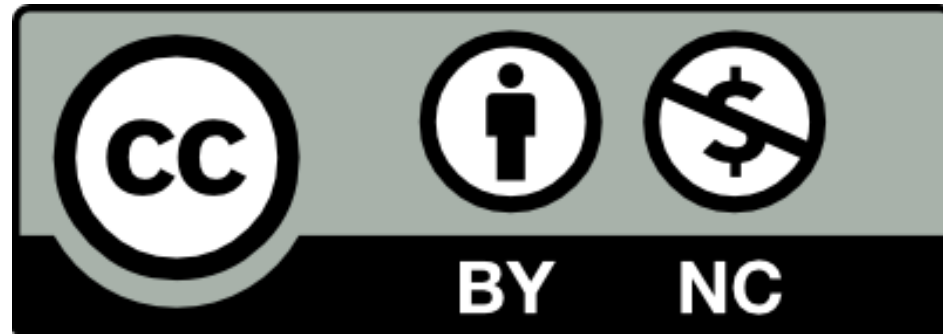
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# Group Agreements

## We are Responsible

- Return on time from breaks
- Take care of our needs

## We are Engaged

- Share "air time"
- Plan to participate in multiple ways
  - Chat, breakout rooms, polls, reactions, unmute
  - Ask questions

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# Training Effectiveness

- At the end of the session, you will be asked to provide feedback on today's training

- Results will be used to make improvements to professional learning and for reporting to TA Center stakeholders

- One of the feedback questions you will see is related to promoting and positively portraying diversity among educators and learners (e.g., focus on asset-based language, positive representation of multiple identities)

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# Purpose

This session guides districts to establish or refine a process for reviewing, selecting, or de-selecting educational initiatives, innovations, and assessments.

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# Intended Outcomes and Agenda

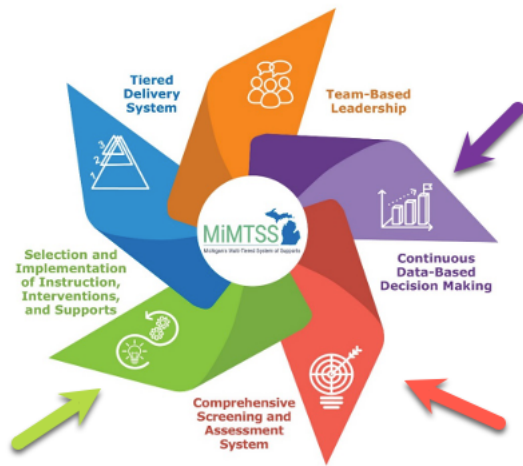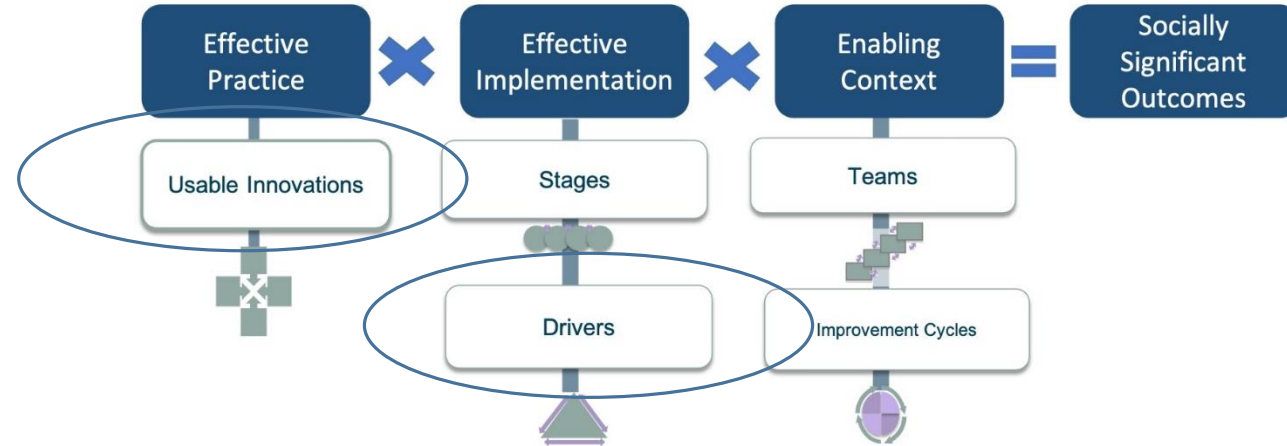| Intended Outcomes | Agenda |
|---|---|
| • Explain the purpose and identify the core components of an initiative and innovation review process<br>• Describe the benefits of using an initiative and innovation review process<br>• Develop a draft district Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process | 1.0 Review<br>2.0 Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process<br>3.0 Next Steps |

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# 1.0 Review

# Foundational Elements
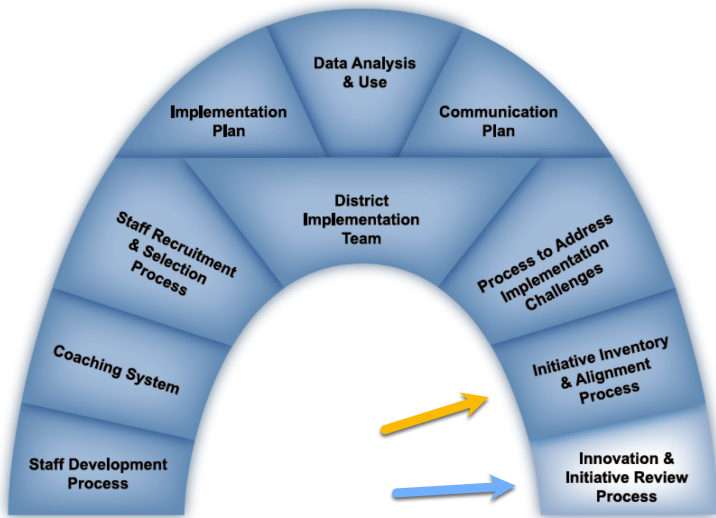


Figure 1. MDE's five essential components of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework

Effective Practice × Effective Implementation × Enabling Context = Socially Significant Outcomes

Usable Innovations | Stages | Teams

Drivers | Improvement Cycles

## DISTRICT CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

Items 5 and 6

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# 2.0 Initiative and Innovation Review Process

# Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process

A process that leads to careful analysis of a proposed initiative or innovation (e.g., evidence-based programs, practices, assessments) to inform a selection or de-selection decision.

# Activity 2.1

- As a team, discuss the following questions:
  - How are decisions about selection and deselection of initiatives currently made in your district?
  - What benefits, if any, do you think a district initiative and innovation review process brings to a district?
  - What concerns or potential issues might you anticipate around the use of a district initiative and innovation review process?

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# Benefits

- Increased confidence in the following:
  - Initiatives, programs, practices, and assessments are the best available
  - District has a full understanding of the resources needed to successfully use the selected initiatives and innovations
  - District has the capacity to support and sustain use of innovations as intended (e.g., training, coaching)
  - Decisions that resulted in not selecting an innovation or de-selecting the use of an existing innovation were the result of a thorough analysis of critical factors

# Impact on Student Outcomes

- Taking the time to conduct a thorough review of initiative and innovations will result in the selection of programs, practices, and assessments that are

    - Supported by the district

    - Used as intended

    - Scaled-up

    - Sustained over time

- When effective practices are selected, supported and implemented well, the result is successful outcomes for students

# Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process Components

- Written process

- Conditions that warrant use of the process

- Analysis of program indicators:

  - Evidence to demonstrate effectiveness

  - Readiness for usability

  - Supports available

- Analysis of implementation site indicators:

  - Need for the initiative

  - Fit and alignment with other initiatives

  - Resources/capacity needed to fully implement

# Activity 2.2

- Access the documents "District Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process" and "Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Summary Template."

- Your Implementation Specialist will facilitate a discussion around the process components, review tools, and summary template

- As you review, consider the following:

  - Does your district already have a review and selection process that serves this purpose? If so, could this be used or tweaked if it doesn't yet include all components?

  - If your district does not have something in place, might the MiMTSS TA Center template be useful? OR

  - Are there other ideas for how to develop a district Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process?

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# Activity 2.3

- Your Implementation Specialist will facilitate a discussion to support the development of the district's Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process.

    - Develop a draft process for your district

    - Consider what information you will share with DIT members around the process (e.g., definition, purpose, template, how to use, next steps) and how that information will be shared.

    - Develop action items to get feedback on the process and input from critical groups and teams on the contents of the process.

- Once the process has been finalized it will need to be approved by executive leadership and shared with critical groups and teams.

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# Considerations for Use

- Adequate preparation, additional learning, or additional support may be needed to ensure questions are answered accurately

- Prior to completing the process, documents and information may need to be gathered to support completion of the tool

- It may take multiple sessions to complete the process

- Pre-correct that the goal is to objectively complete the review process and summarize the results for decision makers

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# Using the Process

- When school and district leaders are approached with opportunities to select or deselect initiatives, the district Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection Process will be used to carefully analyze those initiatives.

- Examples of consistent use include:

  - Annual reminders to staff to use the process

  - The need to discussed Initiative and Innovation Review and Selection is considered as meeting agendas are developed

  - Process is completed in its entirety when initiatives are considered

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# 3.0 Big Ideas and Next Steps

# Big Ideas and Next Steps

- Big Ideas

  - Districts regularly receive requests to adopt (and/or discontinue) initiatives

  - It's critical that districts have a process in place to engage in careful analysis of initiatives to ensure they are the best available

  - Development and use of a process to review and select initiatives increase the likelihood that effective practices are selected, supported, and implemented well

- Next Steps

  - Update DIT Installation Checklists until they are 100% complete

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# References

- National Implementation Research Network (n.d.). *Module 6: Usable Innovations: Introduction*. Retrieved from: https://nirn.fpg.unc.edu/module-6/introduction

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