

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (2024-2025)

NARRATIVE - SMS PART 1

OVERVIEW OF STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Districts and charter schools (Local Education Agencies or LEAs) must review, update, and post their Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) to their website no later than October 1 each year, and must submit their plan by the deadline to the State Board of Education by sending it to plans@edu.idaho.gov.

[Section 33-320, Idaho Code](#), addresses Continuous Improvement Plans. This section of statute was amended during the 2021 legislative session; no changes were made during the 2022, 2023, or 2024 sessions. The section of code states, in part:

“CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND TRAINING. (1) Each school district and public charter school in Idaho shall develop an annual plan that is part of a continuous focus on improving the student performance of the district or public charter school. A public charter school may use its performance certificate in lieu of a separate continuous improvement plan.

(2) (a) The board of trustees and the superintendent shall collaborate on the plan and engage students, parents, educators and the community as appropriate. The board of directors and the administrator of a public charter school shall collaborate on the plan and engage students, parents, educators, and the community as appropriate. All continuous improvement plans must be approved by the local governing board.

(b) The annual continuous improvement plan shall:

- i. Be data driven, specifically in student outcomes, and shall include, but not be limited to, analyses of demographic data, student achievement and growth data, graduation rates, and college and career readiness;
- ii. Set clear and measurable targets based on student outcomes;
- iii. Include a clearly developed and articulated vision and mission;
- iv. Include key indicators for monitoring performance;
- v. Include student literacy proficiency goals and targets and how progress towards those outcomes will be measured;
- vi. Include, as applicable to the grade ranges served, trajectory growth targets toward literacy proficiency;
- vii. Include, as applicable to the grade ranges served, college and career advising and mentoring goals and how progress towards those outcomes will be measured;
- viii. Include the individual staff performance on each of the performance criteria as defined in Section 33-1001, Idaho Code, including measurable student achievement and student success indicator targets and the percentage of students meeting those targets. Data will be aggregated at the grade range, subject, or performance indicator, as determined by the commission and allowed pursuant to section 33-133, Idaho Code;
- ix. Include, at a minimum, the student achievement and growth metrics for the state accountability framework. Student achievement and growth will be reported on each school and district’s report card as required by the state board of education and published by the state department of education; and
- x. Include a report of progress toward the previous year’s improvement goals.”

Section 33-320, Idaho Code also requires all school district boards of trustees / charter school boards of directors to continuously monitor progress toward the goals identified in the plan and to include consideration of the progress in the district superintendent’s or charter administrator’s evaluation.

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POSTING / SUBMITTING YOUR PLAN

- **State law requires all LEAs to post your Continuous Improvement Plan to your website and submit it to the Office of the State Board of Education via e-mail by October 1.** Plans should be submitted to plans@edu.idaho.gov in PDF, Word or Excel. Please also provide a hyperlink to the section of your website where the plan is posted.

GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR USING THE CIP TEMPLATES

Please Note: Charter schools with performance certificates that meet all of the CIP requirements outlined in the law, including a link to the charter school's report card (on idahoschools.org) and annual Performance Targets for all required metrics, may submit their performance certificate in lieu of part or all of the Continuous Improvement Plan. If you are interested in this option, please contact our staff in advance to discuss your performance certificate and its alignment to the Continuous Improvement Plan requirements.

2024-2025 Templates for the Continuous Improvement Plan

LEAs are not required to submit your Continuous Improvement Plan in one of our provided templates. You may provide your plan in any format you choose. If you are submitting your plan in a locally-developed format, we encourage you to use our template(s) and review checklist(s) as guides to identify the required plan elements and data that should be included in your plan.

The Continuous Improvement Plan Template is split into two (2) pieces. **To complete your plan using this format, you need both a Narrative (Part 1) and Metrics (Part 2).** The following templates are available to help you meet the requirements:

- 2024-25 Continuous Improvement Plan Narrative – Template Part 1
- 2024-25 Continuous Improvement Plan Metrics – Template Part 2

LEAs may post and submit your Continuous Improvement Plan as two separate documents (Word and Excel or PDF) or combine them into a single PDF.

Substantial Revisions vs. Plan Update (when to submit a new Narrative)

The Continuous Improvement Plan is an ongoing plan that needs to be *updated* annually. The metrics and report of progress must be updated annually, but some LEAs may qualify to forego submission of a new CIP Narrative.

If you have made changes to your mission, vision, or community involvement processes, you must submit a new Narrative. However, if you meet both of the following qualifications, you do not need to submit a new Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) Narrative for 2024-25:

- Your LEA has *not* made changes to your mission, vision, or community involvement practices described in your previous CIP Narrative or Combined District Plan Narrative; and
- Your LEA had a fully compliant CIP Narrative or Combined District Plan Narrative in 2023-24, or you are continuing a previously granted narrative exemption.

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If you are unsure if your LEA meets the qualifications listed above, please contact Nick Wagner (nwagner@edu.idaho.gov; 208-488-7586) prior to the October 1 plans submission deadline.

If your LEA has met the qualifications and is not submitting a new narrative, when you submit your web link and/or plan documents, please indicate in the body of your e-mail that you believe you meet the qualifications and have no changes to your CIP Narrative.

Please note: The Metrics spreadsheet (Template Part 2) includes Benchmarks and the Progress Report (required by law) that *must* be updated and submitted annually.

FUNDS FOR TRAINING

Up to \$6,600 is available for each LEA, on a reimbursement basis, for LEA superintendents/administrators and boards of trustees/directors for training in continuous improvement processes and planning, strategic planning, finance, administrator evaluations, ethics and governance. A list of Approved Trainers is available on the State Board of Education website at <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/k-12-education/school-district-charter-school-planning-training/>.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Additional templates, recorded webinars, and the Review Checklists are available on our website at <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/k-12-education/school-district-charter-school-planning-training/>

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LEA	#	Name:
Superintendent	Name: Christi Thompson	Phone: 208-806-2880
	E-mail: cthompson@syringamountainschool.org	
CIP Contact	Name: Kristin Funk	Phone: 208-806-2880
	E-mail: kfunk@syringamountainschool.org	

Instructions: Your Continuous Improvement Plan must include a mission statement and vision statement. Please provide them in this section.

Mission and Vision - REQUIRED

Syringa Mountain K-8 Charter School Mission:

Syringa Mountain School is a liberal arts and arts-integrated free public charter school, incorporating sustainable living practices and experiential learning guided by the Core Principles of Public Waldorf Education. Students impart meaning and direction to their lives through cultivating their intellectual, physical, emotional, social and creative capacities in natural learning environments. Through a supportive community of peers, parents, and teachers, each child is a confident, self-directed and engaged learner, invested in his/her own education.

Syringa Mountain K-8 Charter School Vision:

Children will emerge from Syringa Mountain School with a life-long passion for learning, well prepared for the transition into other academic programs, as creative thinkers, engaged citizens with a strong work ethic, and prepared to become stewards of the earth and its many diverse communities.

As a result of attending Syringa Mountain School, students will demonstrate:

- Reverence and stewardship for self, others and the earth
- Creative, flexible and imaginative thinking
- Critical thinking and good judgement
- Literacy Proficiency
- Responsibility and self-reliance
- Lifelong learning

Instructions: Per statute, please describe how your school district or charter school considered input from the community in developing or revising your Continuous Improvement Plan.

Community Involvement in Plan Development - REQUIRED

Community Involvement in the development of the Combined District Plan (or CIP and Literacy Plan)

Parents receive a weekly newsletter informing them of their student's literacy curriculum being taught in the classroom. At PTC K-4, students make literacy goals for each student at a 1 or 2 to reach proficiency. We also have a parent liaison for our Smart 2.0 program to help educate and include our parent body.

Syringa Mountain School also holds a curriculum night at the beginning of each school year to inform parents about curriculum and CIP. During that evening, parents are encouraged in an open form to give feedback and create discussion on CIP topics.

Syringa Mountain School is holding curriculum night for parents on September 19th, 2024 @ 5:30pm.

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Parent Notification of College and Career Advising and Mentoring Services

During the end of the 1st quarter parent-teacher conference, each parent will be introduced to their child's individual 4-year learning plan by their classroom teacher. They are also given an outline of topics that will be discussed during the 8th grade class meetings that help introduce students to high school metrics, dual credit and career exploration. Parents are also invited to accompany the classroom on field trips to explore high school campuses across the Wood River Valley in the spring.

Parental Involvement in Students' Individual Reading Plans

Syringa Mountain School uses the school's first parent teacher conference in October to present the parent with data collected from state testing and teacher assessments at the beginning of the year. Teachers provide the state benchmarks for "proficient" on those assessments and then inform the parents if their child has qualified for an Individual Reading Plan. Parents and teachers then create goals for students based on areas needing improvement. These goals are revisited between parent, teacher, and student at least 3 more times during the year.

Please proceed to the Continuous Improvement Plan Metrics – Part 2.

Performance Metrics Instructions:

Provide your report card link, Progress Report, and set Benchmarks (performance targets) using the **2024-25 Continuous Improvement Plan Metrics – Template Part 2**. The template includes two (2) tabs: Instructions and Examples and Metrics. Please review the Instructions and Examples tab before entering your data into the Metrics tab.