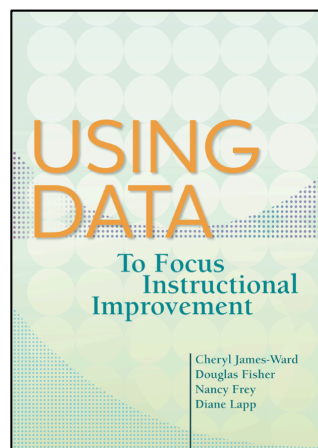


Using Data to Focus Instructional Improvement

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Summary:

Grab this book and learn how to empower yourself and your school community with information gleaned from your school's data. Experienced educators and authors offer simple instructions that can help focus school improvement efforts and result in increasing teacher expertise – a factor that positively affects the quality of life for students long after they have left the classroom.

Accepting responsibility for such far-reaching influence requires educators to adopt instructional improvement as a standard by which a school needs to operate and as a means to collaborate and interact with one another. More than that, though, instructional improvement is an important component of successful schools. Learn how to improve instruction by

- collecting the right data – the right way;
- incorporating relevant data into everyone's daily life;
- resisting the impulse to set brand-new goals every year;
- never settling for good enough;
- anticipating changes – big and small, local and federal;
- collaborating and avoiding privatised practice,
- involving all stakeholders in identifying problems, setting goals and analysing data; and
- agreeing on what constitutes high-quality instruction and feedback.

The challenge is to understand that data – not intuition or anecdotal reports – are tools to be used in getting better at teaching students. And teaching students effectively is what schools are all about. Following the guidance in this book, overcome uncertainty and concerns about data as you learn to collect and analyse both soft and hard data and use their secrets for instructional improvement in your school.

Supporting Resources:

- *I Have the Data... Now What?: Analyzing Data and Making Instructional Changes* (EYE2363)
- *Data-Driven Decision Making: A Handbook For School Leaders* (IST4082)
- *Translating Data into Information to Improve Teaching and Learning* (EYE7168)
- *Student Achievement Goal Setting: Using Data to Improve Teaching and Learning* (EYE4013)