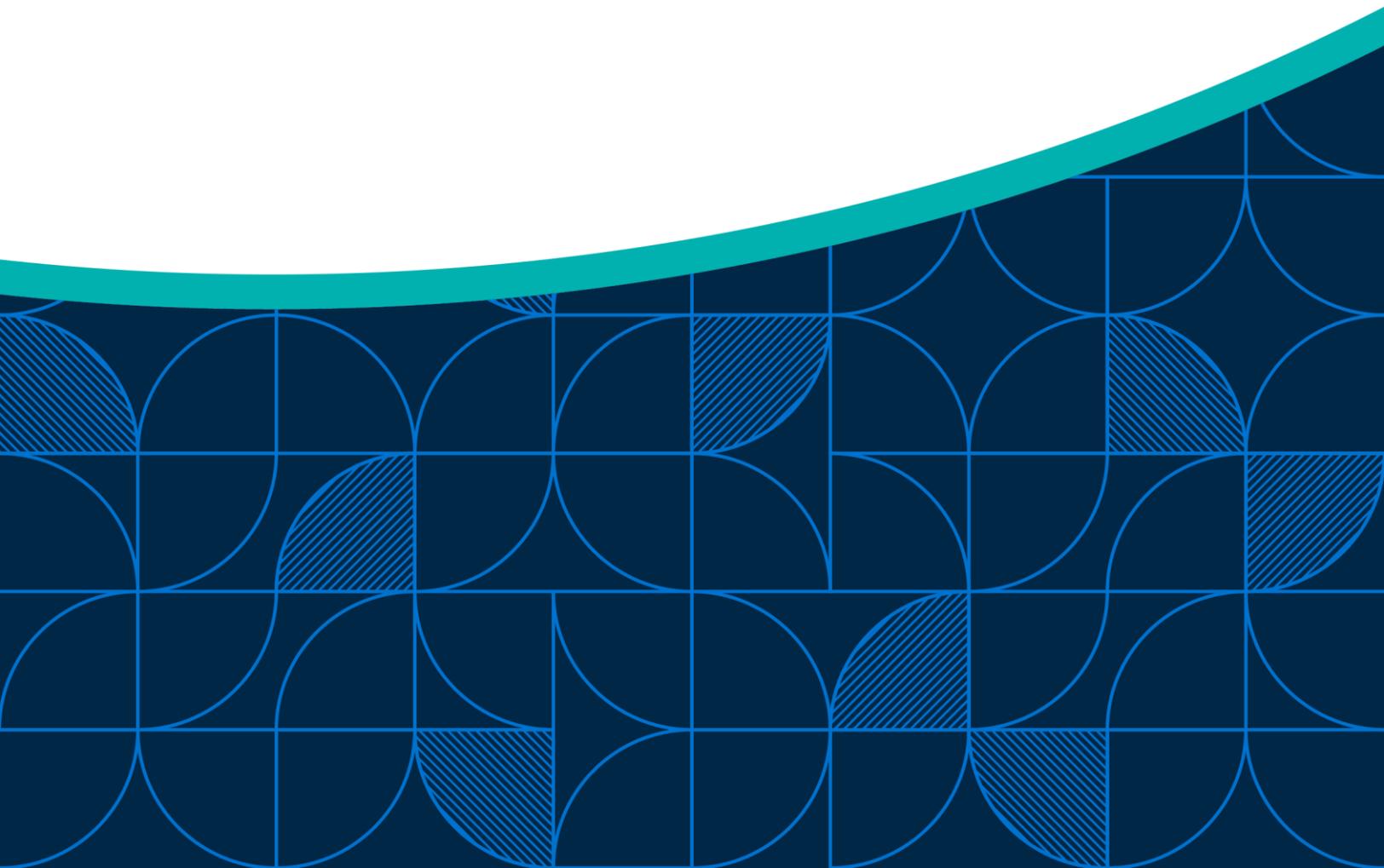




PROGRAM OVERVIEW

District Leadership Forum

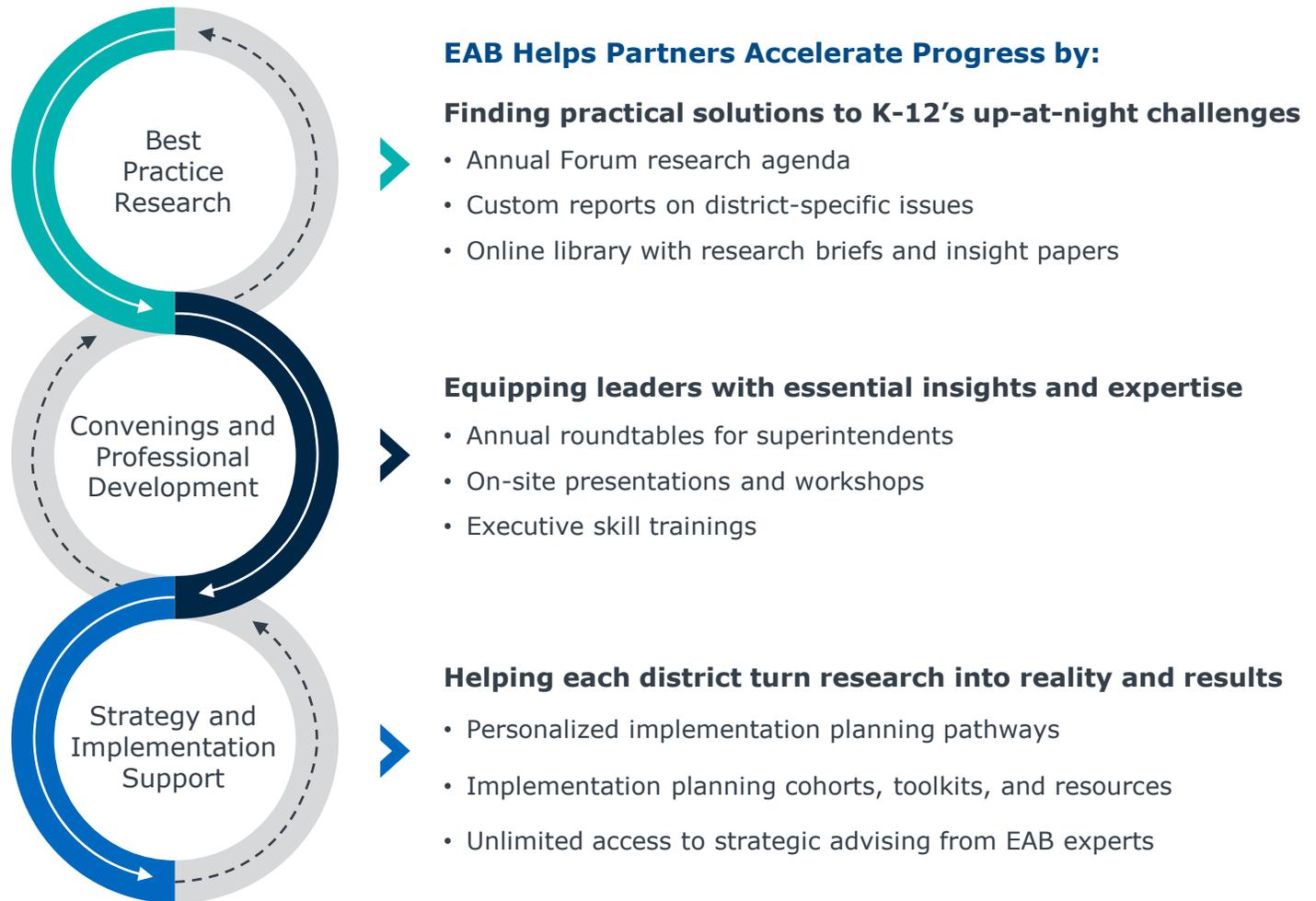
Innovative, Proven Solutions to K-12's Most Complex Challenges



Introducing the District Leadership Forum

A Unique Network of K-12 Leaders Turning Research Into Reality and Results

School systems nationwide are all trying to address the same challenges, but few—if any—have the resources to solve those problems alone. The District Leadership Forum serves as a shared research department for a network of more than 150 districts nationwide, finding innovative, practical solutions to current challenges. Our goal is simple: *Help school systems get further, faster, together.*



Benefits of Partnering with EAB



Expand the capacity and effectiveness of your team



Accelerate progress on key issues



Avoid costly missteps and wasted effort



Stay ahead of the curve

Hear why superintendents love working with EAB



How We Help Partners Build High-Performance Districts

Defining What the Best Do Differently to Improve Student Outcomes

EAB helps districts tackle their toughest issues by accelerating progress on critical initiatives and building the capacity to tackle future challenges. We partner with districts to identify barriers to student success and implement research-backed practices to overcome them. At the same time, we aid leaders in making organizational improvements that expand their capacity to navigate change efficiently and effectively.

Student Success



Organizational Excellence

Signature Research Areas:

- Raising early literacy and math performance
- Reducing absenteeism
- Creating conditions for positive behavior
- Responding to mental health crises
- Closing college access gaps
- Scaling career readiness

EAB helps districts:

- Identify common pitfalls to progress
- Implement and scale new, evidence-based practices
- Save time with ready-made resources and templates

Signature Research Areas:

- Reimagining strategic planning
- Improving leadership alignment and efficiency
- Developing principals
- Boosting teacher morale and retention
- Preparing for generative AI integration
- Strengthening strategic initiative design

EAB helps districts:

- Prioritize investment of time and resources
- Identify and target root causes of key challenges
- Align leadership teams around shared goals

Insights on 100+ partner-requested topics available in EAB's K-12 research library



Relentlessly Focused on Helping Districts Turn Research into Results

Examples of how EAB's insights have led to real-world impact for District Leadership Forum partners

Raising teacher morale and retention at Ogden Public Schools



Aligning instruction with the Science of Reading at Republic R-III



Tackling chronic absenteeism at Johnson Middle School



Annual Roundtable Series for Superintendents

Deep-Dive, Research-Fueled Discussions on Top-of-Mind Issues

These closed-door executive sessions offer superintendents an opportunity to engage in bold, honest conversations about pressing challenges, future visioning, and practical solutions. Each year, EAB presents new research and insights on the issues most critical to district leaders. Join this signature partnership event for two days of networking and discussion with your peers.

2026 Roundtable Research Agenda

May 12-13, Washington, DC | June 16-17, Washington, DC | July 14-15, Chicago, IL

Student Readiness & the Workforce in the Age of AI

- How is AI redefining how schools should prepare to be college- and career-ready?
- Which K-12 experiences and career pathway touchpoints most reliably shape long-term student success?
- How are districts building partnerships with colleges and employers that produce measurable outcomes?

Securing Financial and Operational Stability in a Volatile Landscape

- What is the true outlook for school choice and demographic decline, and when will most districts feel the impact?
- How might federal and state policy and funding shift, and how can districts prepare for those shifts?

Benefits of Attendance

- **First access to EAB's latest research**, with implications for leadership, policy, and strategy
- Two days of **protected time for deep-dive discussion on key issues** with peers
- In-person session scheduled to **inform and support summer planning**



Feedback from Our Partners



The **best professional development I've received** in 30 years as an educator."

Superintendent,
Midwest District



I appreciate the time to dig into best practices and have **thought partnership through new networks** across the country.

Superintendent,
Midwest District

Increase the Capacity of Your Leadership Team

Supports for Building a High-Performance Organization

Districts are facing increasingly complex challenges with insufficient—often decreasing—resources. To do more with less, leaders must build an efficient organization ready to tackle any challenge. EAB helps partner districts understand what successful districts do differently to outperform their peers, then works with teams to hardwire systems that build the capacity for change.

Upgrade Your District's Approach to Strategic Planning

Three-workshop series to help you strictly prioritize to do less, but better

➤ Workshop #1: Strategic Dashboard Development

- Discuss and define long-term pillars and objectives
- Select relevant and trackable KPIs for each pillar
- Map applicability of KPIs to each school and department

➤ Workshop #2: Landscape Analysis and Prioritization

- Assess performance on district KPIs
- Explore external trends and near-term impact on schools
- Prioritize issues using categories for the year ahead

➤ Workshop #3: Initiative Implementation Design Workshop

- Review the eight hallmarks of successful strategic initiatives
- Craft plans that align your priority initiative with those eight hallmarks
- Develop message maps to secure buy-in from challenging stakeholders

Improve Central Office Alignment and Capacity

Three-part assessment of current practices, pain points, and priorities for improvement

EAB's Central Office Role and Ownership Clarity Assessment evaluates your current practices against characteristics of high-functioning central office teams. In partnership with an EAB expert, you will:

- ✓ Assess the maturity of your central office against 16 research-backed criteria
- ✓ Identify pain points experienced by your team and prioritize focus areas
- ✓ Walk away with EAB expert-recommended next steps for the upcoming year

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the EAB assessment tool. The top screenshot is the 'Assessment Summary' page, showing a table with columns for 'Characteristics of High-Functioning Central Office Teams', 'Maturity Score', 'Urgency Score', and 'Clarity Score'. The middle screenshot is the 'Team Perspectives Survey' page, showing a table with columns for 'Component 1: Clear Ownership of District Responsibilities', 'SD', 'D', 'NS', 'A', and 'SA'. The bottom screenshot is a detailed view of 'Component 1: Clearly Defined Ownership of District Priorities', showing a question: 'Question 2: Do cabinet roles establish clear ownership of a district's expected terrains?' and a table with four levels (Level 0, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3) and their descriptions. A 'Level/Score:' field is at the bottom.

Expert-Guided Implementation Workshop Series

Guided Programs That Take the Guesswork Out of Implementing Best Practices

Too many initiatives fail because districts lack the capacity to design and manage implementation. EAB's collaboratives will guide you through topic-based workshops alongside a cohort of peers. Eliminate the guesswork and accelerate implementation of new practices and systems with the help of a research-backed curriculum, protected time, and shared accountability. Collaboratives include:

Leading for Literacy

- Learn how successful districts managed implementation of the science of reading
- Define roles and responsibilities for central office leaders and principals
- Build clear and repeatable processes for continuous instructional improvement

Preparing Principals to Lead Change

- Establish a systematic annual process for school improvement
- Craft a professional development plan to develop strategic leadership skills
- Establish district-wide practices that protect principals' time for strategic work

Hardwiring Effective Communications to Reduce Chronic Absenteeism

- Build a best-in-class campaign to improve daily attendance
- Establish a sustainable "Tier 2" system to bring absent students back to school
- Identify hidden barriers to attendance affecting families in your district

Raising Teacher Morale and Engagement

- Diagnose the root causes of morale issues in your district
- Learn how to collaborate with teachers to craft solutions to those root causes
- Embed an annual process for raising morale to reduce employee turnover in your schools

Core Components of EAB Collaboratives



Guided Planning Workshops



Ready-to-Use Implementation Resources



Weekly Office Hours with Experts



Community of Peers

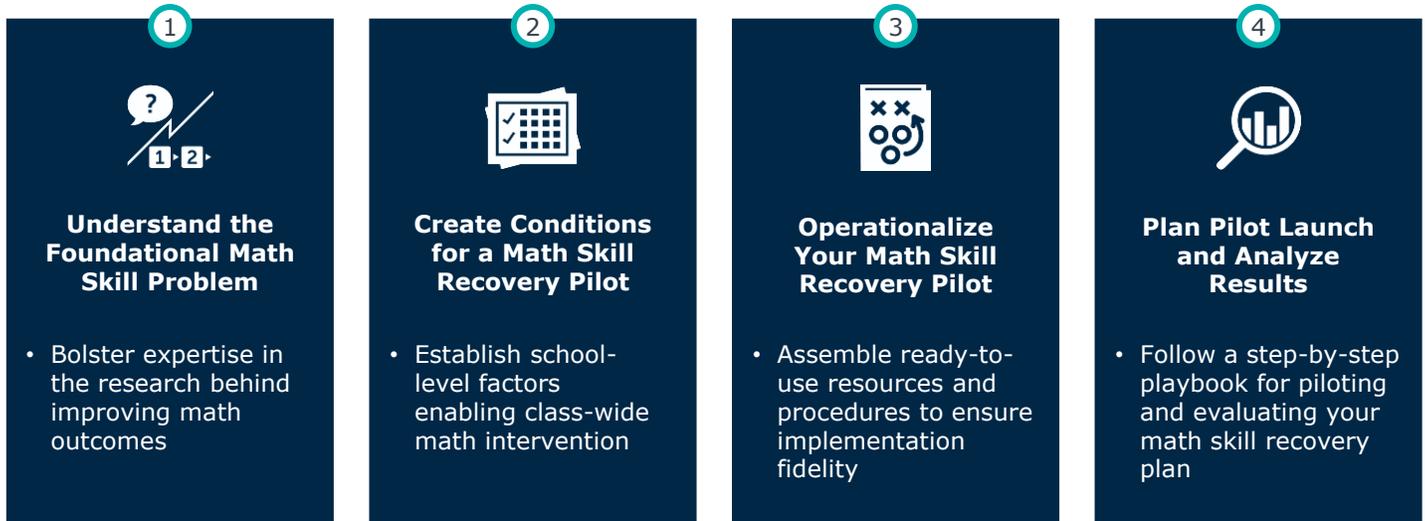
Leave every collaborative with a tailored, research-backed plan you can implement with confidence.

Series Spotlight: The Math Leadership Lab

Implementation Series for Accelerating Math Progress in Your District

District leaders are facing the urgent challenge of closing widening math skill gaps, while building long-term, sustainable improvement in student outcomes. EAB's Math Leadership Lab guides leaders through every step of building a math skill recovery protocol proven to boost student outcomes and feasible to implement at scale.

EAB's Four-Session Math Leadership Lab Experience



Collaborative Takeaways

- ✓ Deepened understanding of how students learn math and evaluation of current strategies
- ✓ Ready-to-launch plan for recovering missed foundational math skills
- ✓ Peer network dedicated to improving student math outcomes
- ✓ Evidence-based instructional framework to close foundational math skills

“

EAB's resources have been amazing. There's no way we could have done all of this alone.”

Superintendent, Missouri



Ongoing Support For Your Team

Services and Guidance to Help Your Team Get Further, Faster

Applied Insights: Decision-Quality Insights and Advice to Inform Your Next Steps

Turning District Questions Into Action-Ready Insights

EAB's Applied Insights team provides research, assessments, and analyses spanning instruction and learning, strategy and operations, and people and culture. Beyond information, our actionable guidance prepares districts to chart next steps and accelerate progress.

How Applied Insights Supports Districts

- **Evaluation and analysis of current practices** to identify opportunities for improvement based on EAB's best practice research and insights
- **Localized insights** adapting EAB's national research to your region, peer districts, and state context to inform decisions and near-term action
- Concise, **superintendent-ready summaries** of existing research to support board preparation, stakeholder communication, and key decisions



Professional Development for Change Leaders

Virtual Workshop Series for High-Potential Principals and School Leaders

Strategic thinking and strong interpersonal skills distinguish highly effective educational leaders from the rest. This four-session, guided professional development series will build your team's capacity to lead continuous improvement and change in schools.



Session 1

Introduction to Root Cause Analysis



Session 2

Hidden Enemies to Strategy



Session 3

Leading Campus Change Initiatives



Session 4

Compassionate Leadership Practices

Ready to Learn More About How EAB Can Support Your District?

“

“It's a cost effective, but high impact research-based partnership that can really make a difference for any superintendent.”

*Superintendent,
Illinois*

Schedule time with our team at eab.com/k-12

