Be True to Your School

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We are misjudging school quality
Lessons from the recent past...
Metrics and incentives matter
What you test is what you get!
Accountability isn’t going away any time soon
School quality has many dimensions
4 steps to improve how we measure school quality...
Craft a rich description of goals
Goals for student learning
Goals for school conditions
Goals for student learning

Know things

Can make and do things

Lead healthy lives
Goals for student learning

- Develop good habits of mind
- Play well with others
- Are good citizens
Goals for student learning

21st Century skills
Goals for school conditions

Safe

Rich learning environment

Supportive
Goals for school conditions

- Communicative
- Connected
- Consistent
Create indicators for each of the goals
Move beyond test scores as key indicators!
Inputs/facilities + Processes/practices = Outputs
Use existing administrative data
Use the indicators to create school profiles
School profile

Know things

Can make and do things

Develop good habits of mind

Safe

Communicative
Avoid combining indicators into a summary score
4 Show performance in relative terms
Enrich our notion of accountability!

“identified for improvement”

“corrective action”

“restructuring”
Enrich our notion of accountability!
The bottom line...
If it isn’t counted, it doesn’t count
Let’s do a better job of counting things that really count