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Have Simple, Clear Plans

There is evidence that schools are well served by one-page plans that are clearly focused and simple enough that every participant in the process understand his or her role in executing the plan.

—Douglas Reeves

Leaders' clarity about goals and the methods the school community will employ for their achievement is essential to the success of school improvement plans. The realization of important district and school outcomes depends on leaders' abilities to articulate those goals in clear and compelling language and describe the actions they and others will take to achieve them. In turn, leaders ask those with whom they work to describe in clear, concrete language the outcomes they will pursue and the actions they will take that fit their unique roles and responsibilities.

Today I will take a moment to express in simple, everyday terms an important outcome and the next action I and others will take to achieve it. I will check my clarity by describing the plan to others and asking them to paraphrase it in their own words.