

Visionary. Innovative. Adaptive. Practical.

For over a decade, the **Colorado Education Initiative** has been at the forefront of improvement, innovation, and change in Colorado's public education system. Over the years, we've worked in partnership with educators on the ground in more than 150 urban, suburban, and rural school districts.



CEI has built our reputation on high-quality implementation, thought leadership, and the ability to convene key stakeholders. What sets our team apart is the broad range of skillsets that CEI staff members offer as individuals and as a collective team, and our deep understanding of extensive relationships and their relevance within the Colorado context.

Through 13 years of work in school systems in Colorado, CEI has identified that there are six fundamental components of all breakthrough designs. We have integrated these Design Commitments into our expertise, philosophy, and impact strategies.



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

For too long, Colorado's education systems have produced reliable, predictable, and significant gaps in achievement and growth for low-income students and students of color.

- Interrupt bias in the system (race, class, gender, language)
- Develop mindsets, practices, and conditions that disrupt inequity



Change Management

Educators at all levels of the system have the mindsets, skills, and space to design and manage school and system practices that are not currently the norm in many schools.

- Support a combination of user-centered design and continuous improvement methods for educators
- Commit to a clear and shared vision



Youth Activation

Students will not achieve these outcomes without a combination of agency, power, and purpose in and for their learning.

- Partner with and empower young people



Family & Community Partnership

In our dynamic and changing communities, schools and systems should be co-created and designed with stakeholders.

- Help schools and districts evolve into open systems rooted in the values of the community
- Partner with families and communities to create and affirm legitimacy and support



Social Emotional Development

Embracing an equitable and expanded definition of student success requires schools and systems to implement integrated practices and conditions to develop positive outcomes for all students.

- Support schools and districts to implement responsive systems that address an ecosystem approach to social emotional development



Leadership

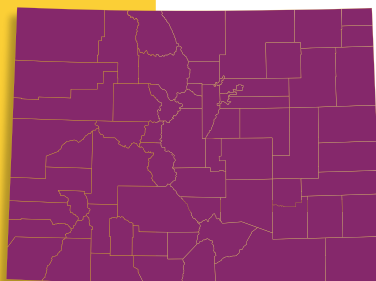
Leaders must demonstrate the mindsets and skills to lead with conviction, incorporating all of these design commitments in their efforts.

- Support school and district leaders to lead this complex change

Advancing education in Colorado

Drawing on our deep expertise, extensive network, and established design commitments, the CEI team provides a range of fee-for-service strategic consulting services.

- High-quality, researched-based professional development workshops and technical assistance supports
- Strategic planning and facilitation support to build and implement a vision that incorporates components of the design commitments
- Personalized leadership and executive coaching through fellowship and individual settings
- School Improvement Partnership—long-term partnership for transformative school improvement, including visioning, leadership, instructional transformation, culture shift
- CEI leverages the diverse skillset of our team to provide comprehensive implementation partner supports to foundations and state agencies. As an implementation partner, CEI offers strategic advising, grantee recruitment and selection, intermediary supports between funders and the field, deep content expertise, coaching, implementation planning and support, and developmental evaluation to ensure that initiatives are responsive and advancing learning.



Testimonials

“Alamosa is thrilled to be a part of the Youth Connections project. We believe this will support our current efforts underway to build social emotional supports for our students and staff while catalyzing progress and alignment in our system.”

Rob Alejo, Alamosa School District Superintendent

“Working with CEI through the School Retool principal fellowship was the inspiration, the shot-in-the-arm, that I needed to approach my work as a school principal with a new and energized mindset. I came back to my building with the vision, excitement, tools, and a network of other Colorado leaders to drive innovative, meaningful changes.”

Guillermo Medina, Principal, Escuela Bilingüe Pioneer, Boulder Valley School District

“I am grateful to CEI for helping us gather and validate information which will be incredibly useful as we work together with the Governor’s Office and community partners to support districts during this challenging time. I know that our educators and school leaders are struggling with the inequities that may be widening right now—students who were already behind are in some cases falling further behind. The information from the pandemic needs inventory will help policy makers and potential donors know how to target resources to ensure that we are supporting our most vulnerable students.”

Katy Anthes, Ph.D., Colorado Commissioner of Education

“The executive coaching I have received from CEI is some of the best mentorship I have received in my professional career. My coach listens and supports me to be a possibility LP thinker and problem solver. He continually encourages me to be a more thoughtful and responsive leader serving my team to the best of my abilities.”

Stacie Datteri, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Academic Achievement, Greeley-Evans School District 6

2019-2020 Impact by the Numbers

533,441 **students impacted**

32,676 **educators**

42 **school districts**