**Education Value**

There is no “proof” that something works like the results others have achieved using the *Baldrige Excellence Framework.* See an example of the results from [Montgomery County, Maryland schools](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/baldrige/about/classroom.aspx)achieved using the Baldrige Framework. Evidence of innovation from another school district south of Tulsa Oklahoma ([Jenks Public Schools](http://www.jenksps.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/District%7CInnovation%20at%20Jenks%20Public%20Schools)) is also worth viewing. Many more examples are available on the[Baldrige](http://www.nist.gov/baldrige/) website.

The *Baldrige Excellence Framework e* is not another set of standards. Rather, the *Framework* help K-12s school systems integrate and meet the requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Kentucky’s Senate Bill 1, Common Core, special education requirements for students with disabilities, ELL, gifted child programs, and other mandates while creating a highly engaged workforce of both certified and classified staffs. The Criteria guide planning activities, bring the board of education into an active and supporting role, and show how to measure activities to create best-in-class results.

When former Kentucky Commissioner of Education Dr. Terry Holliday was Superintendent at [Iredell-Statesville](http://www.iss.k12.nc.us/page/1388) Schools, North Carolina (a Baldrige National Quality Award winner), he had this to say about the *Criteria*: “Baldrige (offers) the only education Criteria that actually (enable a school system) to compare itself against other organizations . . . that show you what world-class looks like.”

The *Baldrige Excellence Framework* is a set of inter-related questions across seven categories:

**1.**       **Leadership**

**2.**       **Strategic Planning**

**3.**       **Customer Focus**

**4.**       **Measurement, Analysis and Knowledge Management**

**5.**       **Workforce Focus**

**6.**       **Operations Focus**

**7.**       **Results**

Answering these questions leads organizations on a journey of continuous improvement. Continuous improvement results in:

         Increased efficiency (cost savings – more satisfied taxpayers/tuition payers);

         Increased effectiveness (accomplishing better outcomes with more satisfied students and parents);

         Increased willingness of taxpayers/tuition payers to support higher education funding levels;

         A more engaged workforce (teachers and other staff who love their work *and* their work environment);

         Innovation and agility that allow the entire school system to flex and change rather than rupture;

         Leadership (school boards, superintendents, principals) who take great satisfaction in jobs well done; and

         Favorable comparisons against other school systems recognized for excellence.

For further information and consultation to aid your journey to Performance Excellence contact us at info@kycpe.org, or call 859-281-1171 or 502-608-2061.