







# The Evaluation of Elev8: Research In Action

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## About Elev8

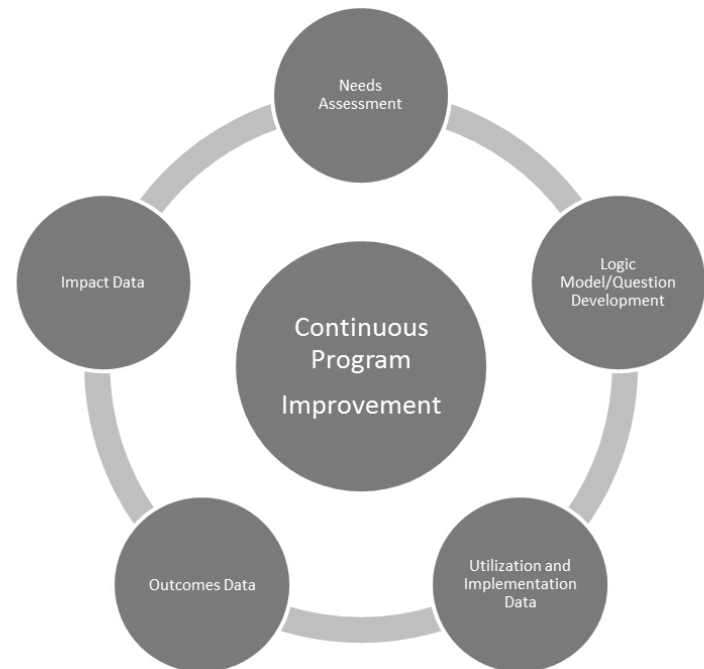
- Four regions
- Four pillars
  -  Out of School Time/Extended Day
  -  Community and Family Engagement
  -  Family Supports
  -  School Based Health
- Middle school
- Seed funding provided by Atlantic Philanthropies





## Goals of Elev8's Evaluation

- Inform implementation
- Bolster accountability
- Demonstrate outcomes





## Phase 1: Early Implementation

Key Questions: Is Elev8 reaching those who need it most? Are participants getting adequate dosage? What are the needs of students? What is the quality of the programming?

What are schools' experiences in Elev8?

- Performance Management System
  - ETO (custom)
  - Participant demographic data
  - Participation data
  - Programmatic data
  - Reporting
- Student Survey
  - Whole school
  - Identify gaps/needs
- Program quality
  - YPQA
- Implementation interviews and focus groups





## Example: Participant Profile

Table 1. Profile of Adult Participants, 2013-14

	REGION 1	REGION 2	REGION 3	REGION 4
<b>Adult Race/Ethnicity Distributions</b>				
% Asian/PI	N/A	N/A	N/A	8%
% Black, non-Hispanic	100%	20%	3%	23%
% Hispanic	N/A	77%	87%	67%
% White, non-Hispanic	N/A	2%	4%	N/A
% Other	N/A	N/A	7%	1%
<b>Youth Gender Distributions</b>				
Male	10%	19%	18%	26%
Female	90%	81%	82%	74%

*Note: N/A = not applicable*

Take Away: Parents mostly majority ethnic/racial group at school and female—how can Elev8 engage a more diverse set of parents?



## Example: Program Dosage

Table 2. Distribution of Student Participation in Elev8 Services: SBHC and OST, 2010-11

Number of Services	0	1 <i>(either OST or SBHC)</i>	2 <i>(both OST and SBHC)</i>
% of Sample	25.8%	50.9%	23.2%

Take Away: A quarter of students are not accessing OST or SBHC and a half are accessing only one. How can Elev8 integrate school and services so that we can move students from no Elev8 to one or more Elev8 services? What is missing?





## Phase 2: Implementation is Stable

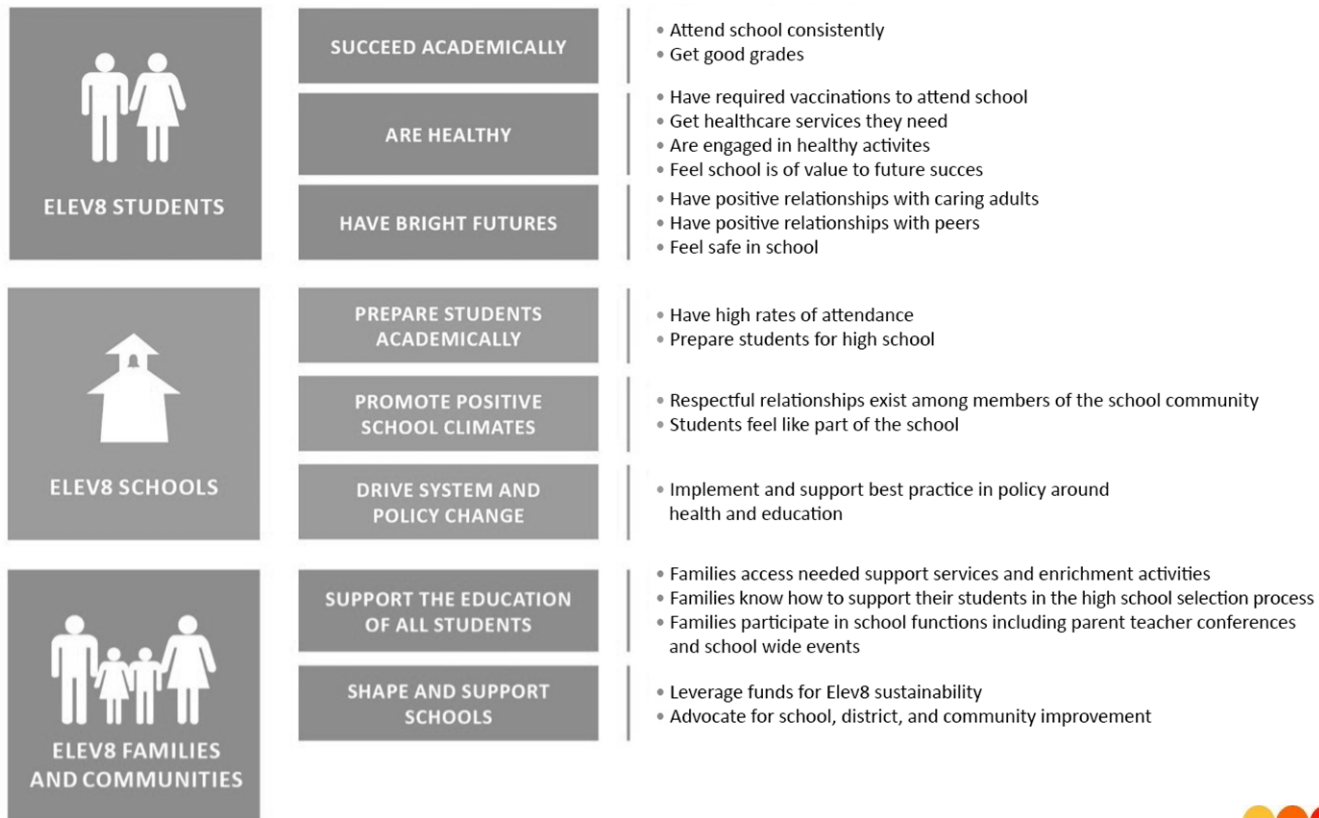
Key Question: Is Elev8 achieving its benchmarks?

- Results Framework
  - Co-creation
  - Iterative
  - Measures progress against benchmarks
  - Aligned with other national efforts
- Annual reporting at the national level
  - Data sharing agreements with schools and research teams
  - Local support for data gathering and reporting





## Elev8 Results Framework

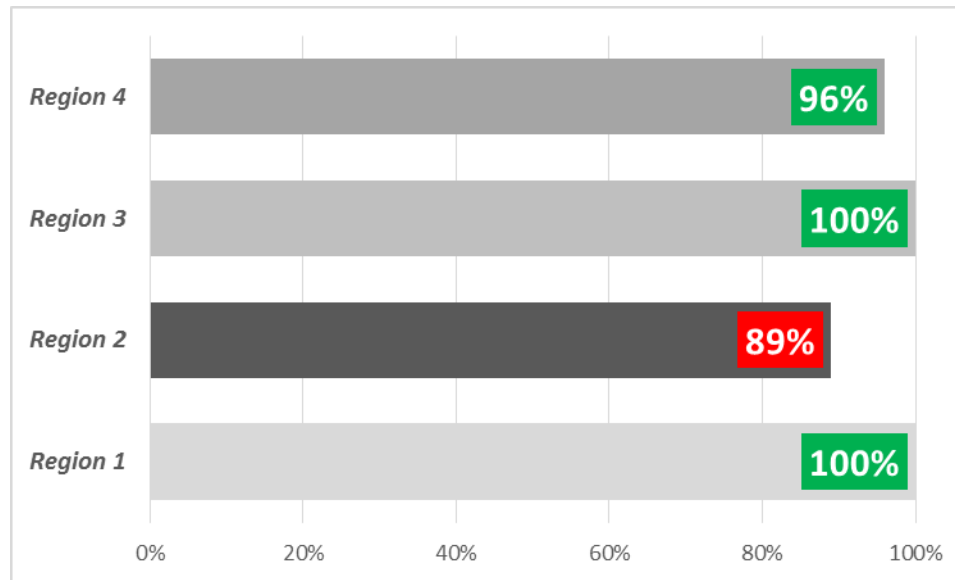






## Example: Students Have Immunizations

Figure 1. Percent of Students who have Required Immunizations



Take Away: Three sites met their benchmarks. How can Elev8 work to ensure that the additional 11% and 4% of unimmunized students receive immunizations through the SBHC?



## Example: Students Have Positive Relationships with Adults and Peers

**Table 3. Percent of Elev8 Students who Report Having a Caring Adult in Their Life and who Have Positive Relationships with Peers**

	REGION 1 (2013-14)	REGION 2 (2014-15)	REGION 3 (2014-15)	REGION 4 (2014-15)
Percent Who Have a Caring Adult in Life	89%	82%	80%	91%
Percent Who Have Positive Relationships With Peers	76%	88%	74%	76%

Take Away: Three of four regions met their benchmark, but between 9 and 20 percent of youth don't have a caring adult in their lives. Who are these students and how can Elev8 connect them with mentors?



## Phase 3: Implementation is Strong

Key Question: Is Elev8 responsible for improvements for students and schools?

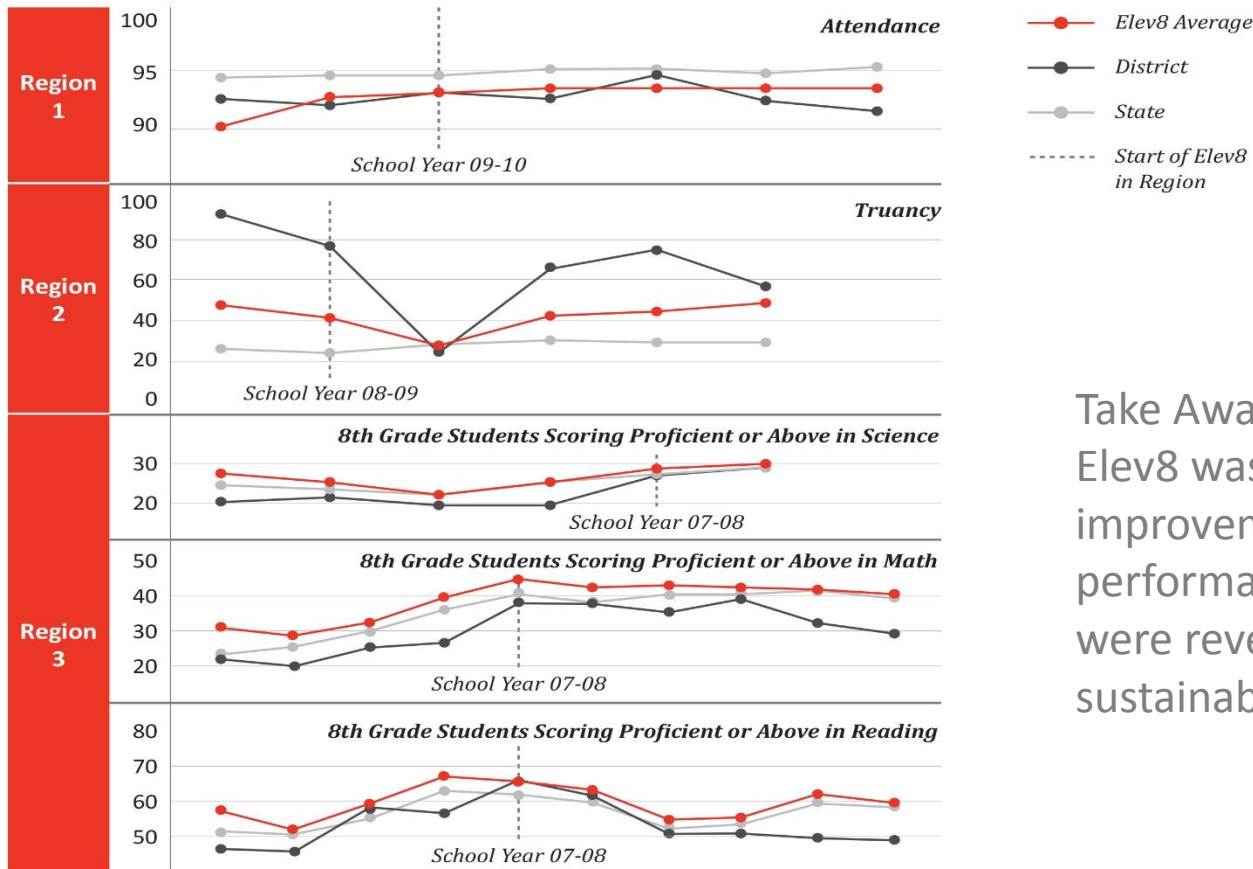
- External evaluation
  - Trend analysis of Elev8 school outcomes compared to other non-Elev8 schools
  - Quasi-experimental comparison of Elev8 student outcomes to those of non-participants\*
  - Combined with qualitative research

\* These studies for two regions coming out in 2016 and 2017



## Example: School Level Outcomes (By the Numbers)

Figure 2. Select School Outcome Trends by Region



Take Away: In select cases, Elev8 was associated with improvements in school performance, but many trends were reversed as it entered its sustainability phase.





## Example: School Level Outcomes (What the Experts Said)

Figure 3. Summary of Perceptions of Elev8's Benefits

	Region 1		Region 2		Region 3		Region 4	
	Principals	School Staff	Principals	School Staff	Principals	School Staff	Principals	School Staff
Better test scores	●			●		●	●	
Additional staff support	●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Improved school climate						●	●	●
Welcoming environment		●		●		●		
Improved attendance			●			●	●	
Increased educational enrichment	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Parent engagement	●	●		●	●	●	●	
Improved student health	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Take Away:  
School staff reported benefits of Elev8, but more frequently for students than for the schools as a whole.



## Elev8 Evaluation: Final Thoughts

- We approached the evaluation of Elev8 in stages that aligned with its phase of implementation
- Research essential to understand successes and challenges
- Advocate for “evaluation and research for good” and continue the fight for the “whole child”

