

*School actions are bold strategies districts can take to create, redesign, or restart schools that meet the unique needs of their community.*

## Restart a Struggling School as an ACE Campus

### What is an ACE-Model School Restart?



**A district transforms a school by implementing the ACE model, focused on strategic staffing and instructional excellence.** The district will select new leadership and staff and the school model must be Effective Schools Framework-aligned, including high-quality instructional materials. All current students can stay and the school may remain a neighborhood school.

### Why Restart a Struggling School with the ACE Model?

- Deliver comprehensive change while maintaining a neighborhood district school by transforming it into a high-quality option for families
- Offer students an innovative model that has a strong track record of success in Texas schools
- Empower a strong leader to transform the school using the ACE model with excellent educators and staff

### What are the Core Components of the ACE Model?

- **Strategic staffing** of teachers and principals including annual stipends for effective teaching.
- **Instructional excellence** focused on data-driven instruction and early interventions.
- **Extended school day** by one hour and daily after-school enrichment - the school year may also be extended.
- **Social and emotional learning support** for students and training for educators.
- **Strong partnerships** with parent and community organizations.



To learn more about School Actions and your schools contact the  
CSA at [csa@tea.texas.gov](mailto:csa@tea.texas.gov)

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## How to Plan and Implement this Action Type

### 1) Engage with the School Community

- ❑ Identify stakeholders, project teams, and committees
- ❑ Engage with the community to provide information and generate buy-in
- ❑ Research program requirements and align with school expectations

### 2) Reconstitute School Staff

- ❑ Consider possible school leaders who could lead the restart
- ❑ Collect campus administrator effectiveness data and develop a selection process
- ❑ Collect teacher effectiveness data, establish a teacher re-application process, and begin recruitment

### 3) Finalize Plans

- ❑ Create a comprehensive budget plan
- ❑ Develop and implement an overall communication plan and strategy
- ❑ Conduct training and professional development for teachers and administrators
- ❑ Assess other operational needs such as transportation and technology

### 4) Launch Restart

- ❑ Finalize school design, ensuring implementation of: 1) data-driven instruction, 2) ESF aligned curriculum including high-quality instructional materials, 3) teacher observation, 4) afterschool enrichment, and 5) parent engagement.
- ❑ Restart ACE-model school opens!

### School Actions in Practice: Garland ISD

Garland ISD chose to restart Handley Elementary School and Lyles Middle School and implement the ACE model to quickly and dramatically increase student achievement and create a high performing culture. Handley ES and Lyles MS both earned a “B” rating after 1 year of the ACE model following multiple consecutive years of “D” and “F” performance.

