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Jay Marino
Associate Superintendent
Cedar Rapids Community
School District

Quality increases academic achievement.

"As a classroom teacher, I was looking for tools and processes that increase academic achievement in my classroom. I was introduced to quality – I found success."

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Iowa School District Charts the Path for Continuous Improvement Journey

In 2006, the Cedar Rapids Community School District began a long-range initiative to engage every student through empowerment, ownership, and accountability. To do so, the district created a student-centered environment via a continuous improvement classroom.

The district works to align all improvement activities and resources to its strategic plan. In turn, each school coordinates its improvement plans with the district's plan. Classroom teachers align their work to the school's improvement plans. The combined effort creates a unified, systemic, and systematic approach to continuous improvement.

Continuous improvement initiatives focus on student achievement, but quality tools are also extended to support services, such as food and nutrition, community relations, and accounting. These services also play an integral role in creating a positive learning environment.

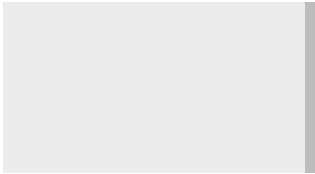
Although it's early in the quality journey, the district has already garnered statewide recognition. It earned a bronze award in the Iowa Recognition for Performance Excellence (IRPE) awards program.

[Read the full case study](#) (PDF, 220 KB, Free Registration Required)

[Watch the ASQ/APQC Webinar](#)

Hear from Jay Marino and Crista Kautz as they discuss how PLCs bring about improvements and results in student achievement.

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