

Climate Assessment

Successful reform requires that those involved have mutual agreement/understanding of the goals of the initiative. Square one of successful ITI implementation is the Climate Assessment. During this school visit, a senior ITI trainer observes and evaluates the school's emotional climate, physical environment, and levels of academic engagement. The climate assessment helps determine the school's level of readiness and starting point for ITI implementation. Climate assessments are designed to analyze a school's environment both physical and emotional and the level of academic engagement.

Climate assessments are highly recommended for all schools new to ITI. Typically, they last from a few hours to a full school day, depending on the size of the building. They are conducted on days when it is possible to observe the entire school population in its normal routine. Climate assessments are most useful when it is possible to see what a typical day at your school looks, sounds, and feels like.

Following a detailed interview with the school leaders will be a comprehensive tour of the building and the sharing of information on how implementation of ITI will impact the school.

Goals of a Climate Assessment

Successful Assessments:

- **Eliminate false starts**
- **Save time and resources by having a plan created at the outset**
- **Lead to a customized plan for implementation**, showing how SK&A will support the school and what action steps the school should take
- Provide an opportunity for school administrators to hear how implementing ITI would impact their school