

# THE BIG IDEA: When students, parents, educators, and partners have the right information to make decisions, students excel.

**What does it mean to use data in service of student learning?**

Data is one of the most powerful tools to inform good decisions and create opportunities for students along their education journey—and it’s much more than test scores. Data helps us make connections that lead to insights and improvements. Everyone has an important role to play in helping all students succeed in their own individualized ways. Here’s what it will look like when data is working for all students.



**STUDENTS**  
 “I know my strengths and where I need to grow. I can shape my own education journey.”



**TEACHERS**  
 “I know where my students are succeeding and struggling right now.”  
 “I can help them grow.”



**PARENTS**  
 “I know what actions to take to help my child on her path to success.”  
 “I can be a better champion for her.”



**AFTERSCHOOL PARTNERS**  
 “I know what’s happening with these kids before 3:00 p.m.”  
 “I can help families and communities create more opportunities for students to succeed.”



**SCHOOL LEADERS**  
 “I know what’s working and what isn’t in my school.”  
 “I can make timely decisions and make sure resources support great teaching and improve student learning.”



Many educators and policymakers are already taking steps in the right direction. See DQC’s *Four Policy Priorities to Make Data Work for Students* for more on making this vision a reality for all students.