

Sto-Rox High School

Describe the ISSUES (facts, problems, and opportunities) in the case. Look for underlying issues as well as obvious problems the characters face.

- Describe the range of problems facing the administrators and faculty of Sto-Rox High School. What barriers do they face to resolving these problems?
- What particular issues do the students face that might affect their achievement—whether negatively or positively?
- What opportunities has the school been able to offer due to the grant money they have received?
- How has technology been used to transform this urban school?

Consider the PERSPECTIVE of each character or group presented in the case. What is their unique take on the issues? What informs their point-of-view? What insight do you gain into issues by considering others' opinions?

- Describe both teacher and student perspectives on changes at Sto-Rox.
- How might Kerber's perspective on the school and the community inform her leadership?
- Given the school's administrative history and Kerber's background, how might community members evaluate her first year as principal?

What KNOWLEDGE might inform how to address issues in the case? Which sources of knowledge might you consider (professional, experiential, empirical)? What more would you like to know before proposing any actions or next steps?

- What information about school improvement and the reform process would you share with Kerber to inform her ongoing efforts to turn around this school?
- Teachers at Sto-Rox use technology to reach students in innovative ways. Suggest resources and content area strategies that might engage, motivate, and increase student achievement.
- What additional data might the administrators and faculty collect and how might they use this data to help them continue improvement at Sto-Rox?

What ACTIONS might you recommend characters in the case take to address issues? What possible next steps might occur?

- Joe identifies student apathy as a problem at the school. What actions is the faculty taking to combat that apathy? What other actions might they take? Cite current research on student engagement to support your proposed plan.
- What actions might the school take to get parents more involved?
- Imagine you are the principal of a school like Sto-Rox. Prioritize a list of school issues and leadership challenges. Outline a brief plan to address the top three items on the list.

What are the CONSEQUENCES of proposed actions? What might happen, short- and long-term, intentionally and unintentionally, of following your suggestions? What else might you consider as possible results of suggested actions?

- Imagine the effect of the Great Grants programs on students and teachers—both those involved, and those not involved, in these additional programs.
- What impact might the basketball game incident have on school violence, investment in the school by families, students, and teachers, and the affected athletics programs?
- Review Joe’s digital microscope assignment. Describe possible outcomes from lesson. How is this lesson different from and similar to a traditional lab?