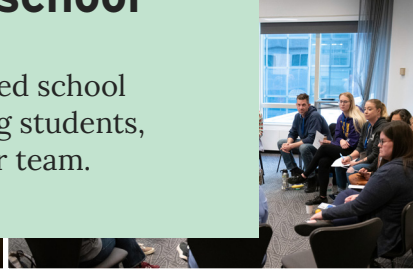
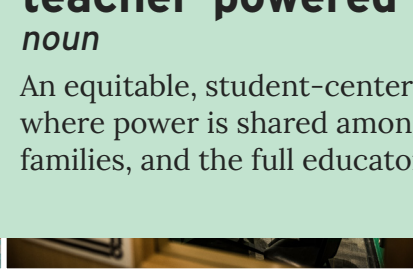




teacher-  
powered  
schools



**teacher-powered school**  
*noun*

An equitable, student-centered school where power is shared among students, families, and the full educator team.

## The OPPORTUNITY

Our education system is **not designed** to meet the needs of today's students and educators.

When students disengage, or educators are unhappy, these aren't accidents—they're design flaws.

We need to change the system.



## THE SOLUTION Moving Decisions Closer to Students & Families

A teacher-powered school is one designed and run by a **team of educators**, working in close partnership with **students, families, and community**.

Teachers use **collaborative leadership practices** and their **collective autonomy** to make changes that improve student learning—and transform the teaching profession.



- **Teachers (those closest to students) call the shots.**  
Decisions are made in classrooms, not boardrooms. For students, not statistics. With autonomy comes increased teacher accountability, and recognition as skilled professionals.
- **Students experience learning designed expressly for them.**  
School decisions reflect their unique assets and needs. Student voices are elevated, their agency and identities honored. Motivation and engagement flourish.
- **Families and communities share in this power shift.**  
They hold a direct line to school decision-makers, and become true partners in creating thriving learning communities.
- **Administrators help facilitate shared decision-making.**  
Most teacher-powered schools do have admins or principals. They make decisions with—not for—teachers.

## TEACHER POWERED SCHOOLS TIMELINE

**1970s**

Innovative teacher-run schools pop up across the United States.

**2012**

*Trusting Teachers* publishes, a book researching teacher-powered schools.

**2014**

The Teacher-Powered Schools initiative officially launches.

**2015**

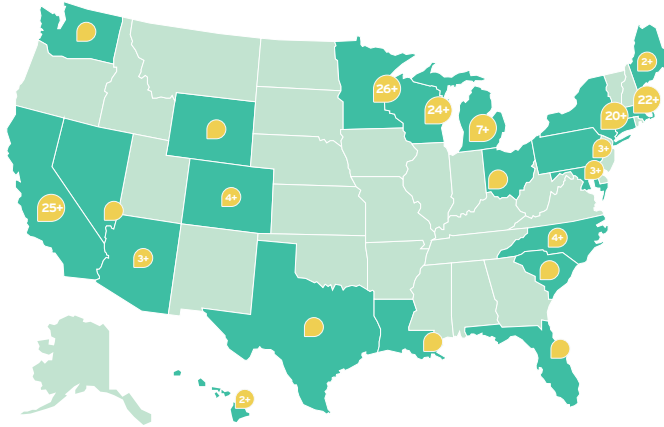
First national conference brings together teacher-powered practitioners for first time ever.

## A Growing MOVEMENT

Teacher-powered schools are found in districts, charters, union settings—just like any other public school.



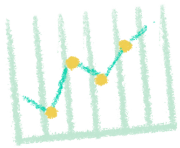
**300+**  
schools  
in at least  
**28**  
states



**“This is not about releasing power, but sharing it and building relationships.**

—A teacher-powered principal speaking about the movement

## Embodying Lessons from RESEARCH



Teacher-powered schools are grounded in research-based best practices and big ideas shown to strengthen teams and improve learning:

**Collective efficacy.** Implement the single largest in-school factor found to impact student learning.

**Change management.** Provide a realistic strategy, by building common vision and positive working conditions.

**Teacher diversity.** Teachers of color are empowered to create culturally affirming schools for our communities to thrive.

**Effective leadership.** Use shared, collaborative, servant leadership models—strategies with strong evidence.



### Raised student achievement

Scores up  
**↑20%** math  
**↑11%** ELA  
At schools with expanded teacher autonomy



### Increased retention & satisfaction

Departures rates  
**1/2**  
That of schools nationwide  
**9** in **10**  
Like their teacher-powered school more than any other job



### Strong public & teacher demand

**91%**  
Of public believe teachers should have more authority in their schools  
**54%**  
Of teachers very interested in teacher-powered schools

### 2019

A guide for administrators shares lessons from principals at teacher-powered schools.

### 2020

Work begins with teacher prep programs to equip a new generation of teacher-powered educators.

### 2023

New study shows teacher-powered schools retain talent better than traditional schools.

### NOW

‘Teacher-powered’ continues to grow as a beacon of promise.



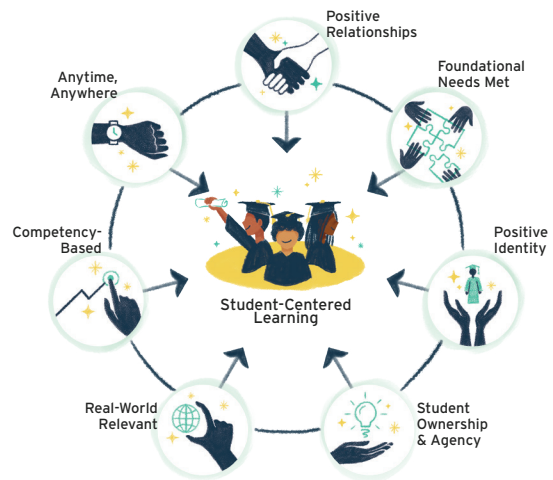


What we do to support schools and the teacher-powered movement.

## CREATE Student-Centered Learning Environments

We support school teams designing and running **student-centered schools** through direct coaching, custom workshops, and expert resources.

[more on student-centered learning:](https://teacherpowered.org/evidence)  
[teacherpowered.org/evidence](https://teacherpowered.org/evidence)



- Keep Students at the Center of Decision Making
- Meaningfully Involve Families & Communities
- Honor Student Voice & Choice
- Cultivate a Collaborative Structure
- Embrace Transparency in Decision Making
- Create Shared Leadership Structures
- Re-imagine & Rotate Leadership Positions
- Engage in Peer Observation
- Take On a Learner Mindset

[more on teacher-powered practices:](https://teacherpowered.org/practices)  
[teacherpowered.org/practices](https://teacherpowered.org/practices)

## BUILD Capacity of Educator Teams

We coach teams on shifting mindsets, establishing technical skills, and using **proven practices** to design and run teacher-powered schools.

## ADVOCATE for Teacher-Powered Opportunities

We engage districts, authorizers, unions, teacher prep programs, and policymakers to sustain systems where **teacher-powered schools thrive**.

