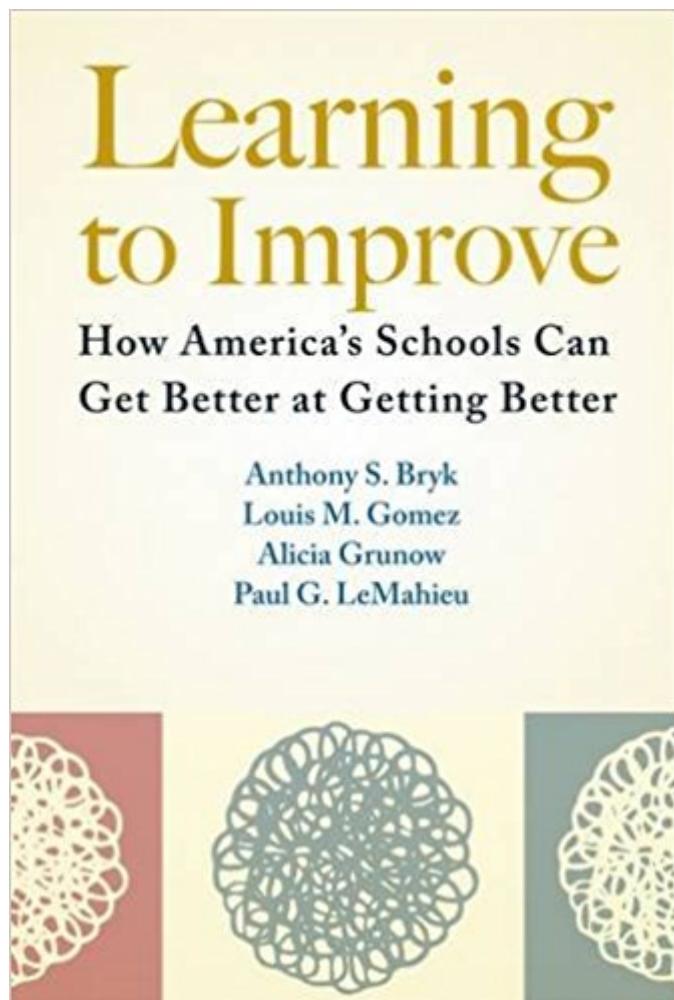


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# Learning To Improve: How America's Schools Can Get Better At Getting Better



## Synopsis

As a field, education has largely failed to learn from experience. Time after time, promising education reforms fall short of their goals and are abandoned as other promising ideas take their place. In *Learning to Improve*, the authors argue for a new approach. Rather than implementing fast and learning slow, they believe educators should adopt a more rigorous approach to improvement that allows the field to learn fast to implement well. Using ideas borrowed from improvement science, the authors show how a process of disciplined inquiry can be combined with the use of networks to identify, adapt, and successfully scale up promising interventions in education. Organized around six core principles, the book shows how networked improvement communities can bring together researchers and practitioners to accelerate learning in key areas of education. Examples include efforts to address the high rates of failure among students in community college remedial math courses and strategies for improving feedback to novice teachers. *Learning to Improve* offers a new paradigm for research and development in education that promises to be a powerful driver of improvement for the nation's schools and colleges.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Well written, well organized, and very practical. But perhaps more interesting is the author's adaptation for improving education of a proven approach used in healthcare. The authors insights to the challenges of scaling up what works are right on. And what they propose as an alternative could

transform education. It's not a silver bullet. It's not a piece of cake. But it can work. It's what public education needs. Just what the doctor ordered!

The wisdom and humility conveyed by the authors make this book a standout among so many others on the topic of school improvement. For anyone interested in what it takes to improve our education system on a larger scale, you are very unlikely to find a clearer, more useful, or more inspiring presentation of research-based principles and practical cases.

In my opinion, this is the best book on the market on improving education. The authors have done a masterful job pulling together the critical ideas and weaving them into a compelling story. Do you think the U.S. will ever learn the lessons of failed educational reforms? A good start would be for the stakeholders in school improvement to read this book. It contains an insightful description of the problems we face and the best paths toward lasting solutions.

This is a real breakthrough! I especially like how they identify key limitations in how we have approached changing schools in the past -- trying to implement too fast and not learning through the implementation process. I also like the research practitioner focus, showing how schools can learn from one another and as they engage new reforms. All while drawing on recent research and providing guidelines for developing a rigorous research base in the future. I've already directed several of my students to the work.

The best book on educational improvement I've ever read. Using methods that have shown success in healthcare and many other industries, the authors offer a clear rationale for why we need to use new methods to improve education systems.

This book honors the expertise and passion of those actually leading and learning in our schools. I especially appreciated the powerful anecdotes from both the management world and education sector to highlight the big ideas. This is a great tool for any learning community (school or other sectors) to use as a way to talk about how to begin and lead change. I am excited to bring this into my own work more explicitly and using it to learn alongside others.

"Improvement science"--and a methodology to back it up. This book will make you feel kind of bad for every idea you've ever tried to implement without thinking through the actual problem or issue

you were trying to address. Great stuff.

Great book on how to improve education and schools. The ideas from this book have guided the direction of my career as someone who wants to make schools better. It's written with readers in mind—so it's cohesive and natural to follow along with.

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