

Development and Analysis of a Student Survey for Use in Program Model and Outcomes Assessment

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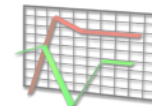
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Purpose

Demonstrate how:

- Program theory can be used in the development of a student survey
- Survey constructs can be used to assess a program model as an integral part of subsequent outcomes assessment

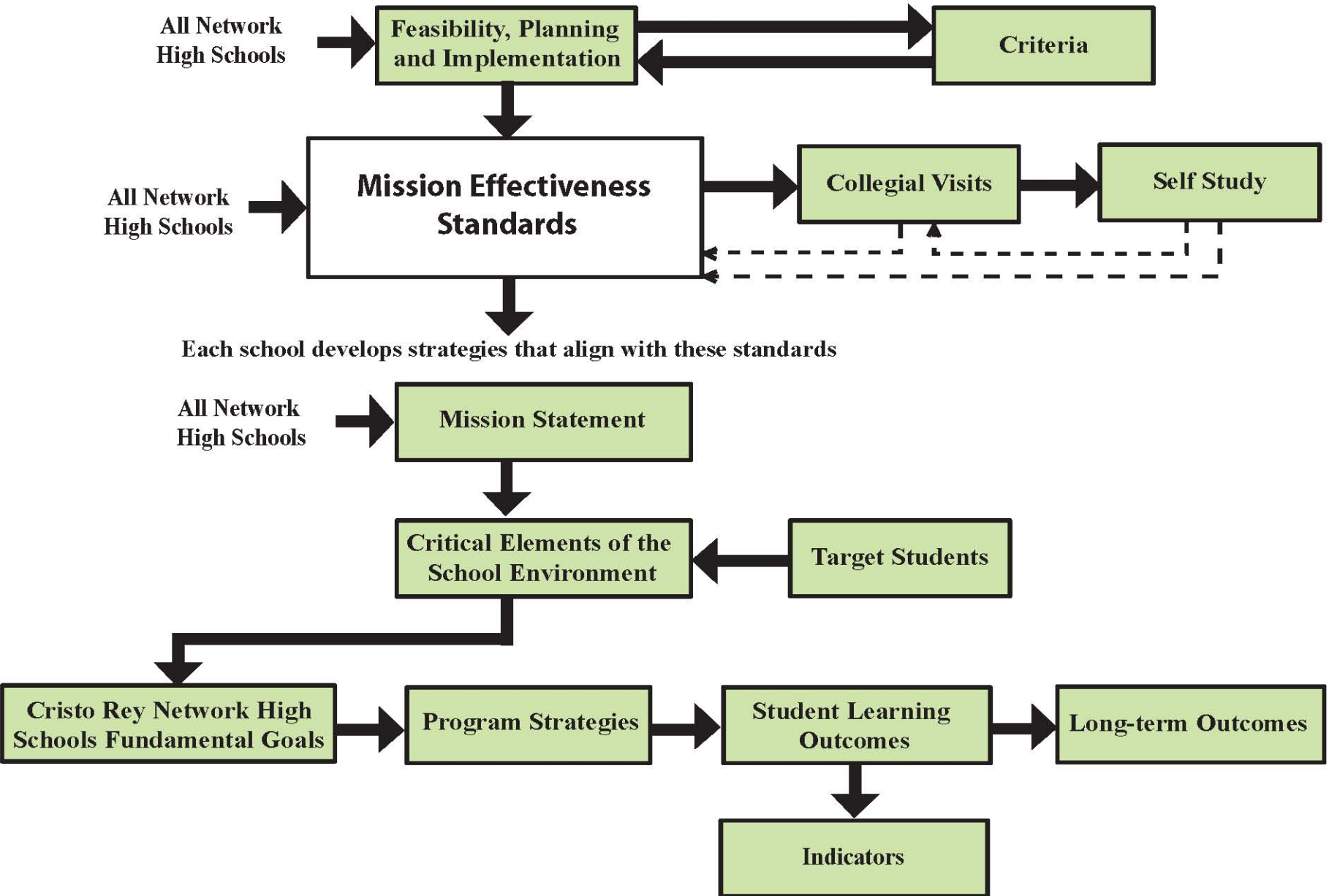
What We Did

Developed:

- Metrics to assess Critical Elements in the School Environment articulated in program model
- Metrics based on student survey

Figure 1

Normative Student Learning Outcomes Model for Cristo Rey Network Schools (abbreviated)



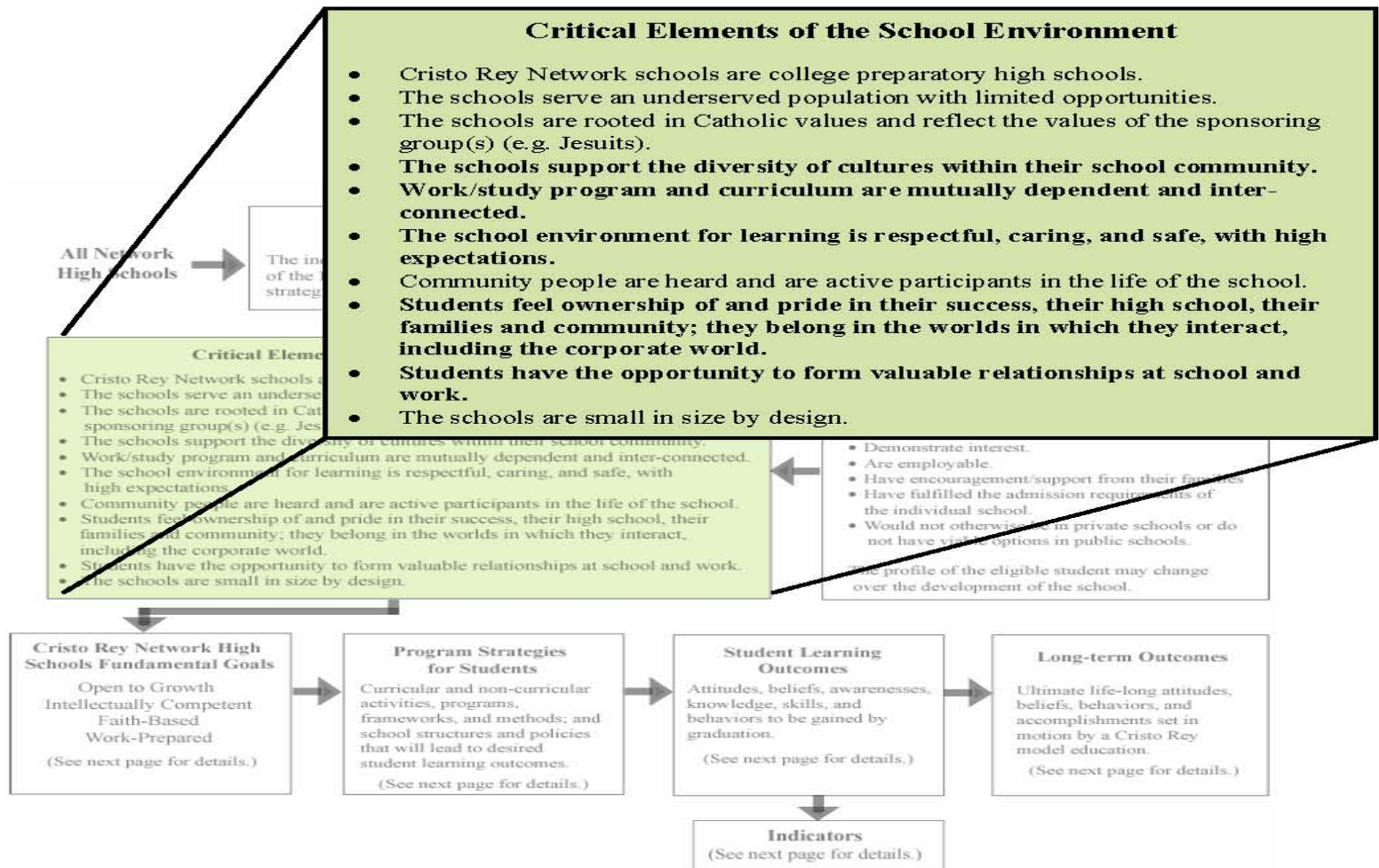


Figure 2. Alignment (in bold face type) between Section I Constructs and Critical Elements of the School Environment from the Normative Model.

Network of Schools

- 11 high schools across the country
- Provide faith-based, high-quality college prep to high-risk students
- Unique 4-year work-study program

Sample

- 743 freshmen
- Survey administered in fall 2004
- Response rate across schools ranged from 87% to 100%

Survey

- Specifically designed to measure student perceptions (4 sections)
- Section I: 50 items
- Response categories: 5 = Almost Always, 4= Often, 3 = Sometimes, 2 = Not Often, 1 = Rarely

Analysis

Based on:

- Principal Components Analysis (used variance-covariance matrix)
- Oblique Rotation (Promax)
- 38 retained items

Results

Five Factor Solution:

- Relationship with Supervisor (10 items, alpha = .80)
- Relationship with Teachers (8 items, alpha = .87)
- Relationship with Co-workers (6 items, alpha = .88)

Results (con' t.)

Five Factor Solution:

- School/Work/Life/Faith Connections (8 items, alpha = .82)
- School Environment (6 items, alpha = .81)

Results (con' t.)

Five-Factor Solution confirmed
based on Confirmatory Factor
Analysis (CAF) using Structural
Equation Modeling

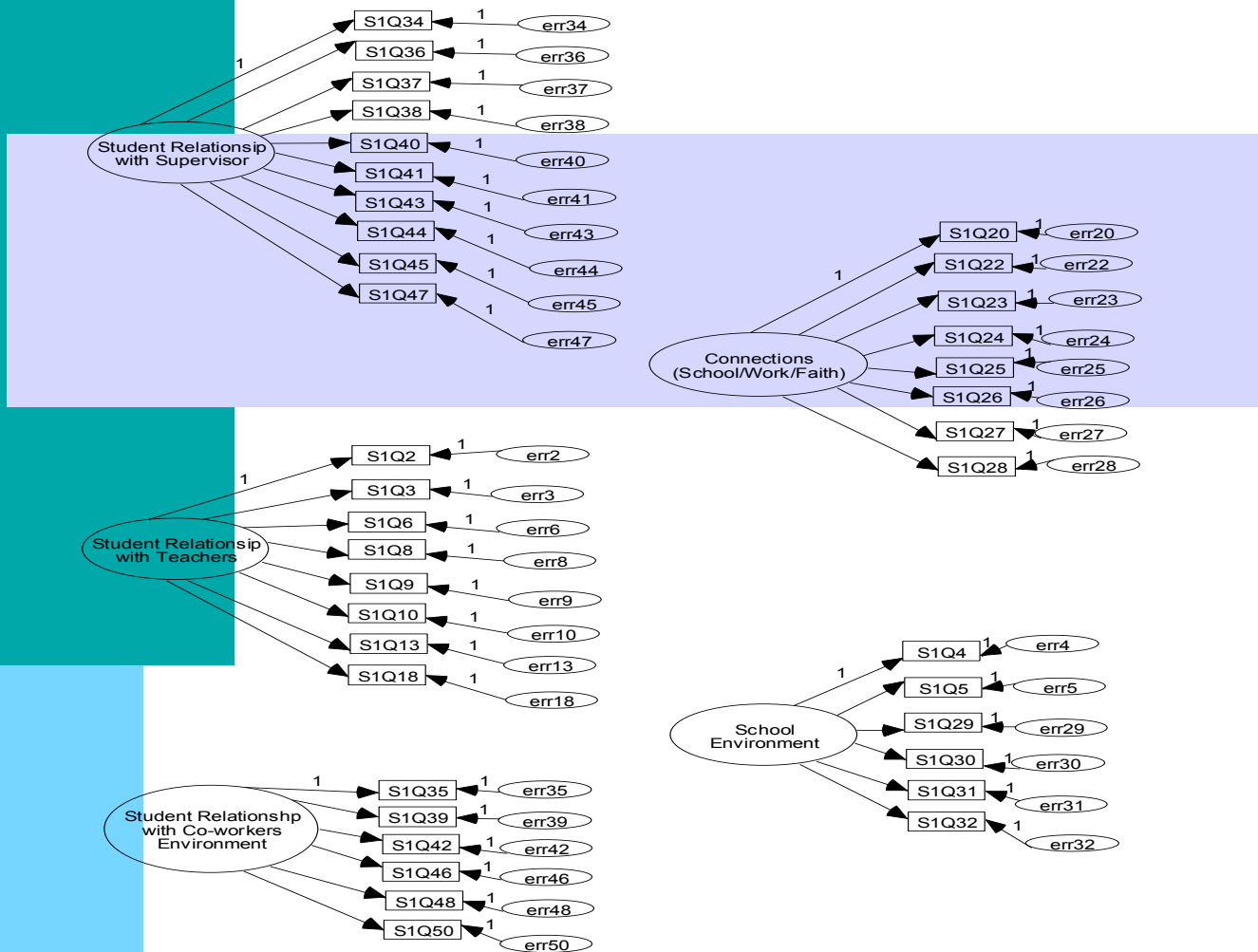


Figure 3. Confirmatory Factor Analysis: Student Perceptions of School/Work Relationships, Connections and School Environment (simplified)

Next Steps

- Demonstrate how these constructs can be used as an integral part of outcomes assessment
- Use similar methodology to create indicators related to learning outcomes

Next Steps

(con' t.)

- Understand links between critical elements of the school and student performance -- academic and school performance, work performance, perceptions about performance

Lessons Learned

- Survey designed on principles and components articulated in a program model
- Metrics developed that serve to assess components of a program model

Lessons Learned (con' t.)

- In turn, these metrics can be used in outcomes assessment to link program model strengths with observed outcomes