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Improving Schools: Why is it so hard?

We note that Tennessee schools chief Penny Schwinn recently sought the advice of a group of education leaders from across the country. As highlighted by Chalkbeat, the advice emphasized setting clear expectations, providing additional funding, and not putting everything on educators' shoulders.

Of course, improving schools, especially those designated as in need of improvement, is more complicated than that.

Rather than convening a group of experts, here are a few online readings that (a) underscore the societal realities that makes school improvement difficult and (b) highlight our Center's discussion of what schools need to do differently in classrooms and school-wide to address the realities that confront them:

- (1) *What's Wrong with America's Schools? David Berliner Blames America's Failure to Eradicate Child Poverty* – <https://janresseger.wordpress.com/2018/11/01/17869/>
- (2) *Public Education Funding In The Aftermath of the Great Recession* -- <https://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/decade-of-neglect-2018.pdf>
- (3) *Teacher Compensation: Fact vs. Fiction* – <http://www.nea.org/home/12661.htm>
- (4) *Addressing Barriers to Learning and Teaching* – <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/barriersbook.pdf>
- (5) *Improving School Improvement* -- <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/improve.pdf>