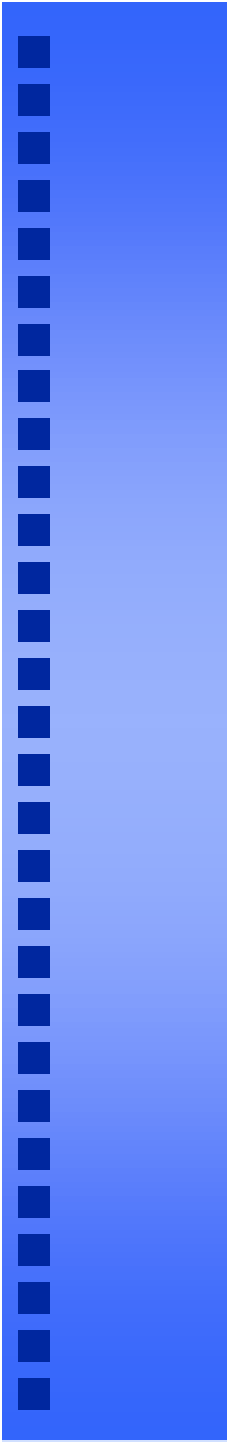# State Policy Framework
for Effective Technology Use

Chris Dede

Harvard University

State Technology Policies to Improve Student Learning and Standards-based Reform

➢ Categorizing and charting the evolution of State technology policy

➢ Linking technology policy to overall strategic planning to improve education

➢ Self-assessment by State policymakers

➢ Providing a common framework for dialogue among States

Core Policy Themes

o Student Standards and Assessments

o Teacher/Educator Standards, Assessments, Professional Development, and Assistance

o Electronic Networks for Information Exchange, Collaboration, and Distance Education

o Support for Administration and Data-Driven Decision Making

o Guidelines for Facilities Design, Equipment, Software, Connectivity, and Infrastructure; Funding Support for Technology Acquisition

o Evaluation, Research, Development, and Dissemination

Essential Questions & Indicators

Illustrative Essential Question

> Are technology tools and services used as a vehicle for ongoing improvement of student learning and assessment?

Illustrative Indicators

- State provides online resources for model curriculum units and lesson plans linking state content standards and student assessments

- State assessment strategies exemplify effective use of technology for assessment

- State provides incentives to develop virtual learning environments for students who have difficulty obtaining access to classroom settings

Assessment Criteria for State Policies and Plans
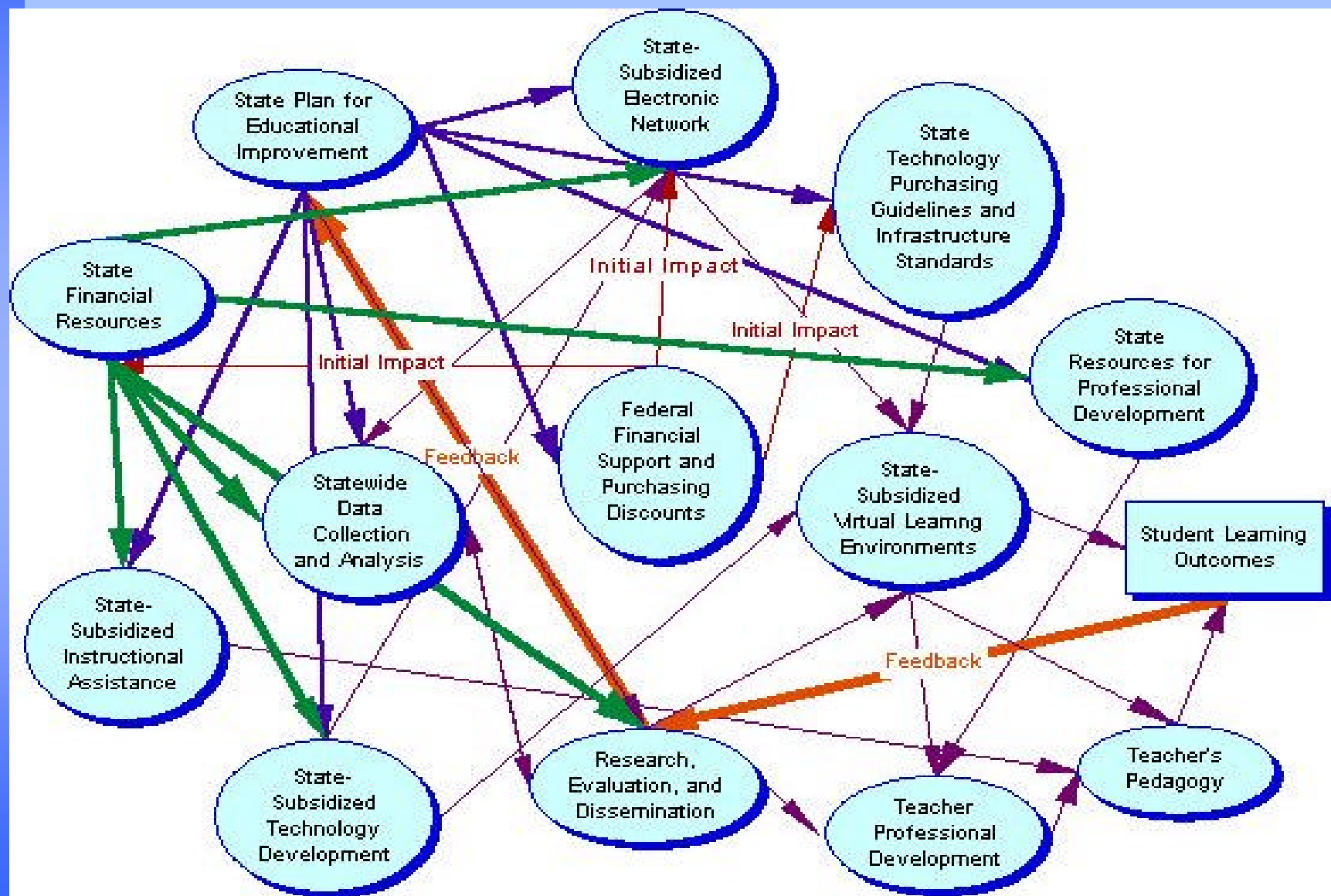
Evolutionary Coherence

- ✓ Completeness
- ✓ Consistency
- ✓ Resonance
- ✓ Balance
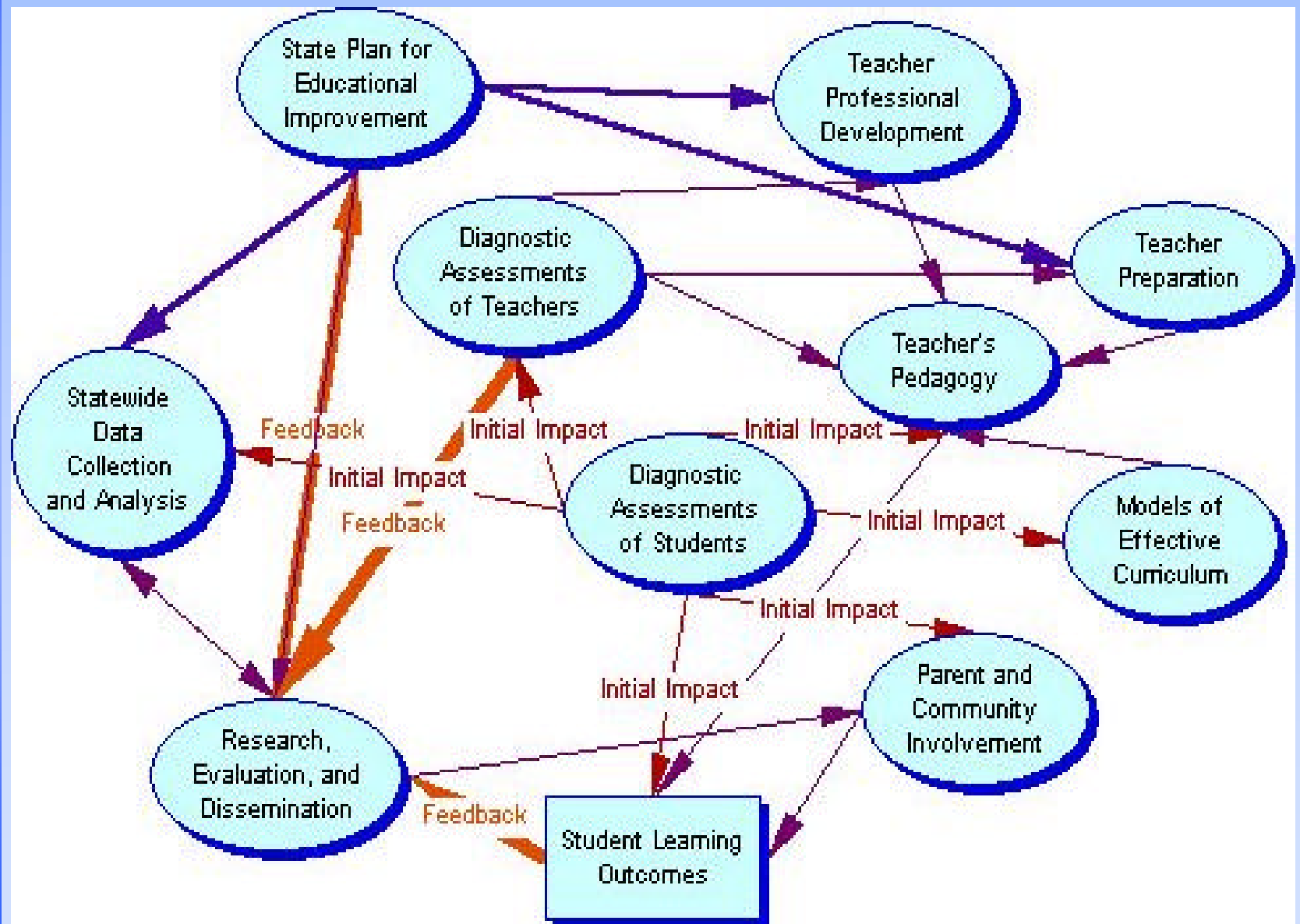- ✓ Progression
- ✓ Practicality

Illustrative Issues for Examining A State Plan

- Are the major current State educational initiatives empowered by the full range of policies that enable them?

- Are interconnections among policies articulated to maximize complementarity and harmonization?

- Is the proportion of State and local responsibility and power consistent with the regional political culture?

- Does the plan have an evolving definition of success?

Policy Interrelationships: E-rate
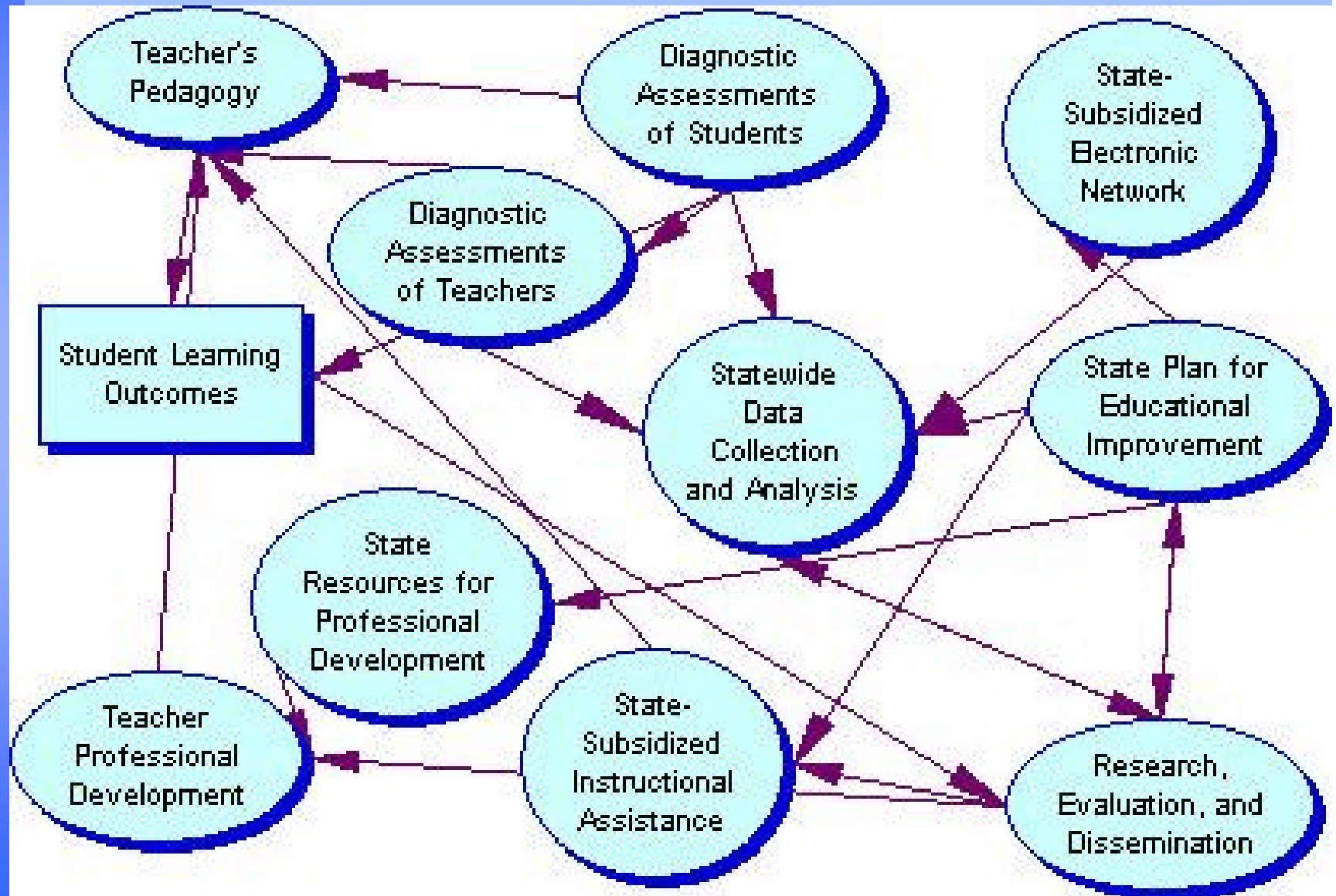
Interrelationships: Assessment

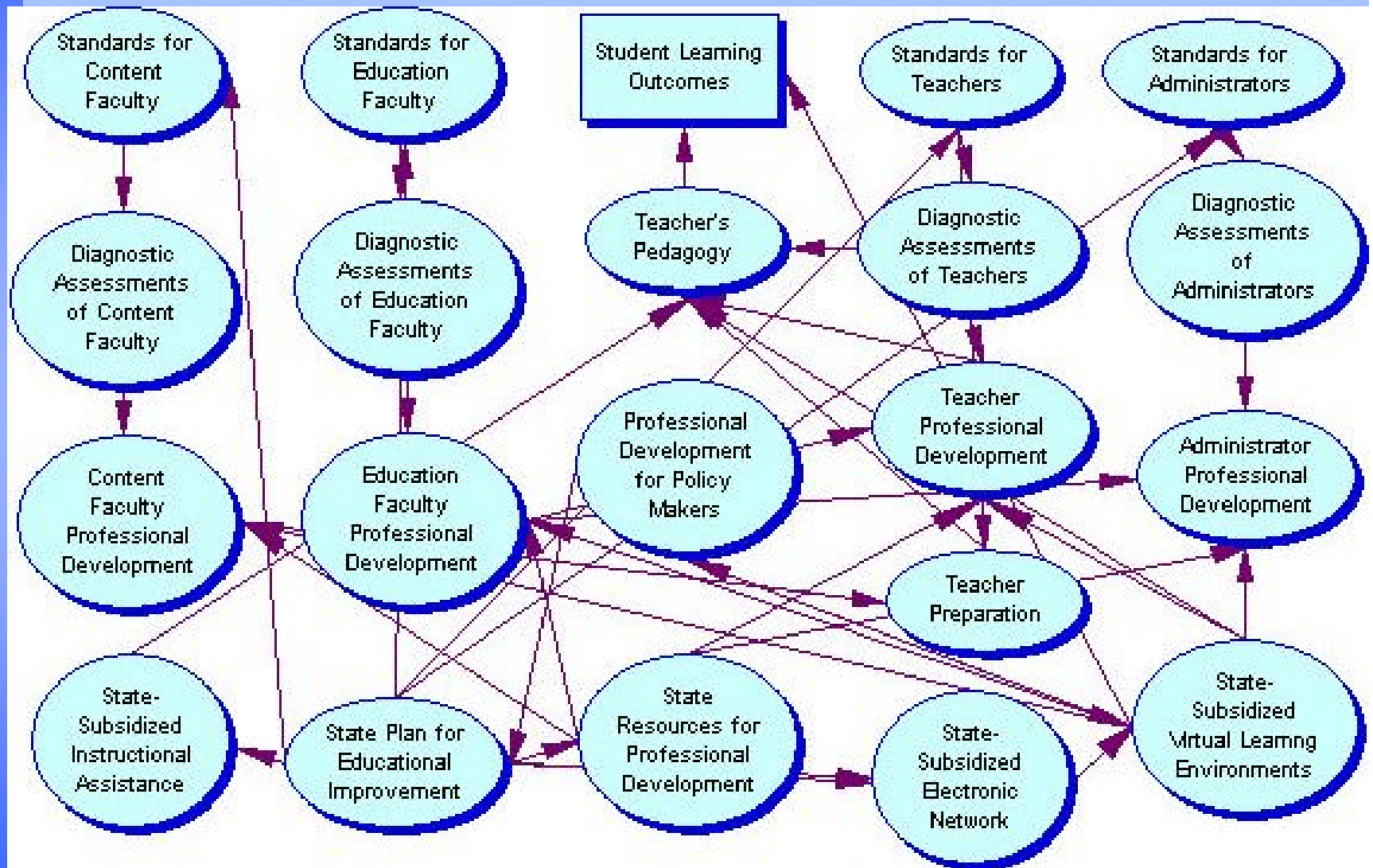# Meeting the Challenge of Assessment via Multiple Measures of Performance

Five Types of evidence   *easiest to hardest*

➢ motivation

➢ complex content earlier in curriculum

➢ sophisticated workplace skills

➢ success for all students

➢ better outcomes on standardized tests

Interrelationships: Data

Interrelationships: Development

Meeting the Challenge of Pedagogy via "**Un**learning"

- ❑ Developing fluency in using emerging interactive media
- ❑ Complementing presentational instruction with collaborative inquiry-based learning
- ❑ **Unlearning** almost unconscious assumptions and beliefs and values about the nature of teaching, learning, and schooling

  crucial issue for professional development

Providing On-going Support for Teachers

o **Cohorts of teachers** master what they need, when they need it

o **Partners outside of the school** work together with educators to share responsibility for students' learning

o **Partners and teachers share** a common context for expression, collaboration, design

o **Virtual communities** provide intellectual, emotional and social support

Next Steps in Evolving this Policy Tool

❖ Include policy examples from various States that provide specific illustrations and benchmarks

❖ Validate the overall model through application to several States exemplifying a wide range of policy settings