

**The 80 / 20 Rule** states that “80% of the trouble comes from 20% of the causes.” Therefore, the inverse should also be true...by focusing on the most important 20% of your causes, you stand to gain 80% improvement in your problem. In this activity, we will apply the 80 / 20 rule to the ABC Middle School case study.

**Scenario:**

- You are on the I-BST for ABC Middle School.
- The I-BST is working to through GLISI’s Protocol for Team-based Improvement around this **Need Statement:** *“We need to increase the % of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the economically disadvantaged category passing the CRCT in math”*
- You and the I-BST are working on **Protocol Task #5:** *“Assign high-leverage causes to additional teams (Better-Seeking Solution Teams or BSSTs) for solution development”*

**Directions:**

1. Review the list of probable causes below, which was generated by ABC Middle School’s I-BST in response to the Need Statement listed above.
2. Circle 2 causes that you believe meet both of these criteria:
  - a. The cause is within the team’s control to impact
  - b. Addressing the cause would have the highest impact on resolving the need
3. Be prepared to share your rationale when called upon.

**Probable Causes of Underperformance on 8<sup>th</sup> Grade CRCT Math at ABC Middle School:**

1. Some teachers don’t like the new textbook
2. Curriculum not aligned to GPS
3. Teachers lack knowledge of GPS
4. Low expectations of ED students
5. Lack of teacher collaboration and team-based approach
6. Benchmarks developed by Central Office
7. No curriculum calendar
8. Students are disruptive and don’t listen
9. Lessons do not meet the GPS standards
10. Lack of protocols to guide instruction