

CHAPTER 1

Understanding Data Culture

THE BIG IDEA

Culture comes first. Before the dashboards, before the protocols, there has to be trust.

THE MOVE

Data feels like whatever your culture makes it feel like. In a low-trust building, a spreadsheet feels like a trap. In a high-trust one, the same spreadsheet feels like a tool. So the first job is honest: figure out where data actually sits on the line between support and surveillance in your school, then pick one small shift toward support.

IN SYMPLIFIED

The platform is built support-first, so the behavior and goal data your team logs feels like backup, not a paper trail.

“Prove it” vs “use it”

List recent moments when data showed up. Drop each into the column where it lives today.

Felt like “prove it”	Felt like “use it”



TRY IT

Name one moment where data currently feels like surveillance in your building. Then write one small shift that would move it toward support.

REFLECT

1. When data shows up in your school, does it feel more like support or surveillance?

2. How safe do teachers feel bringing messy, incomplete, or uncomfortable data into conversations?

3. Where does data work currently live, in isolation or in shared spaces?

4. What is one small shift leaders or teams could make to move from “prove it” to “use it”?

5. If collective teacher efficacy were stronger, what would data conversations sound like differently?
