

Webinar starts in

2:00



Spring Forward: Cultivating Educators

Selecting High Quality Instructional Materials with Teacher and Student Voice

May 12, 2022

WELCOME | Introductions

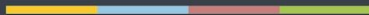


Cristina Strunk
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Falls Church, VA

IN THE CHAT:
Share your name,
district, and role



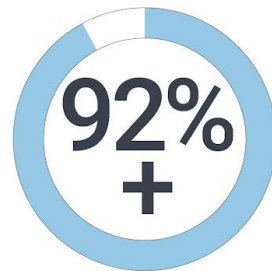
Hi! We are Education Elements



WE ARE AN EDUCATION CONSULTANCY, THAT HELPS TRANSFORM SCHOOLS AND DISTRICTS

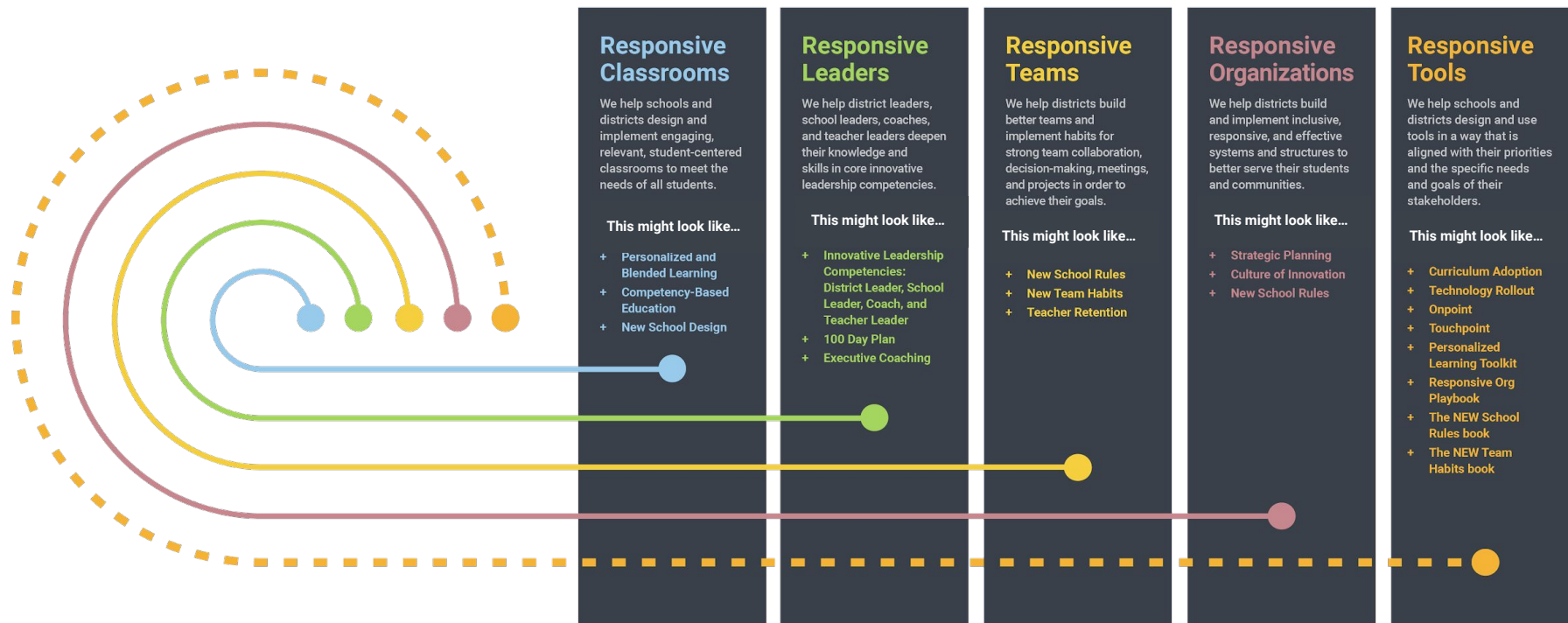


1000+
Schools
and Districts



of attendees find our
workshops excellent
or very good

OUR WORK | Responsive Ecosystem



Overview

- Opening + Overview
- Setting Context
- Embedding Stakeholders Across the Selection Cycle
- Discussion + Closing

Objectives

Offer insights and strategies for key stages of curriculum review cycle

Share resources for future exploration

Collaborate to share practices, barriers, and ideas

Add to the chat:

What are you hoping to get out of our time together?

CURRENT STATE | Materials Matter



TEACHERS SPEND 7-12 HOURS PER WEEK

searching for and creating instructional resources (free and paid), drawing from a variety of sources, many of them unvetted.



96%

OF TEACHERS

use Google to find lessons and materials.



Nearly 75%

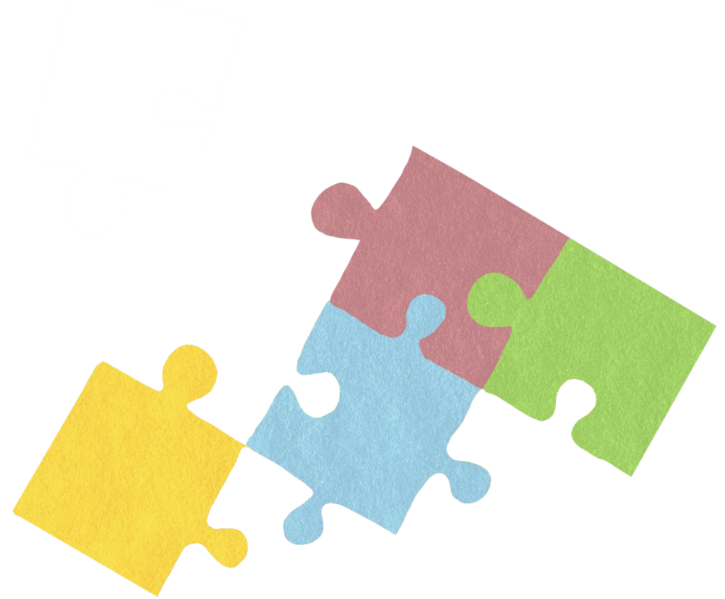
OF TEACHERS

use Pinterest to find lessons and materials.

Source: EdReports, [Why Materials Matter](#)

CURRENT STATE | Materials Matter

“When average teachers use excellent materials, student learning results improve significantly. Research also documents that many teachers do not have access to strong, standards-aligned curriculum; in fact, most teachers spend hours every week searching for materials that haven’t been vetted and aren’t connected to ongoing, professional learning activities in their schools. Ensuring teachers have high-quality, rigorous materials is an effective and affordable tool for improving student learning outcomes at scale.”



Source: [Practice What You Teach](#), Aspen Institute

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stakeholder

stayk-howl-dr

a person with an interest or concern in the project

Our team believes when ...



There is **AUTHENTIC** representation of multiple viewpoints across schools, offices, and the community.



Multiple inputs will provide a **DIVERSITY** of thought and perspective



Stakeholders are engaged in **FEEDBACK AND DESIGN** then there is **HIGH BUY-IN** and **LOW FRICTION**

Materials Adoption Cycle

Define

Create shared definition of curriculum, high-quality instruction for content, and vision for curriculum for students, teachers, leaders, and community members.

Evaluate

Consider current curriculum, usage, and engagement against vision for excellent instruction + vision for student experience/outcomes

Select

Review high-quality curriculum options, choose new standards-aligned materials that align with vision using a selection tool. Include professional learning for selection committee on instruction, content, and materials.

Implement

Test out new curriculum strategically (consider a pilot group of early adopters, scaled implementation). Gather data on user experiences (student, teacher, leader, community members) through observations, surveys, student work samples.



Who Are Our Stakeholders



STUDENTS

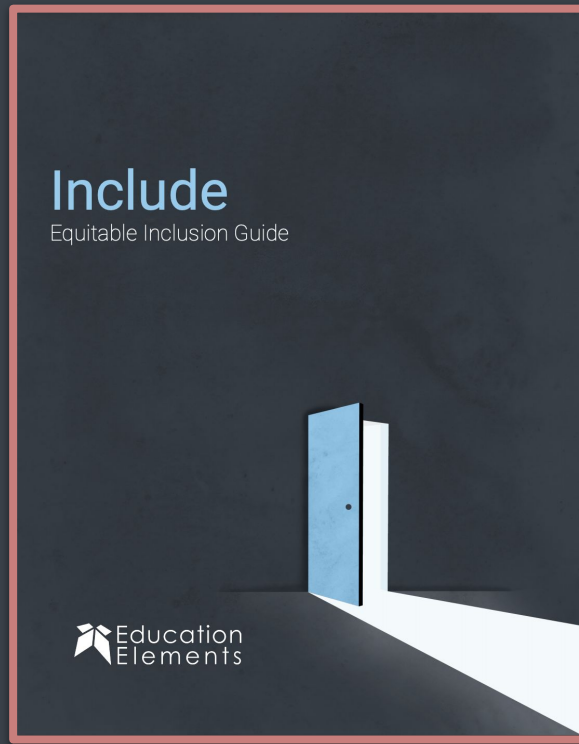


FAMILIES

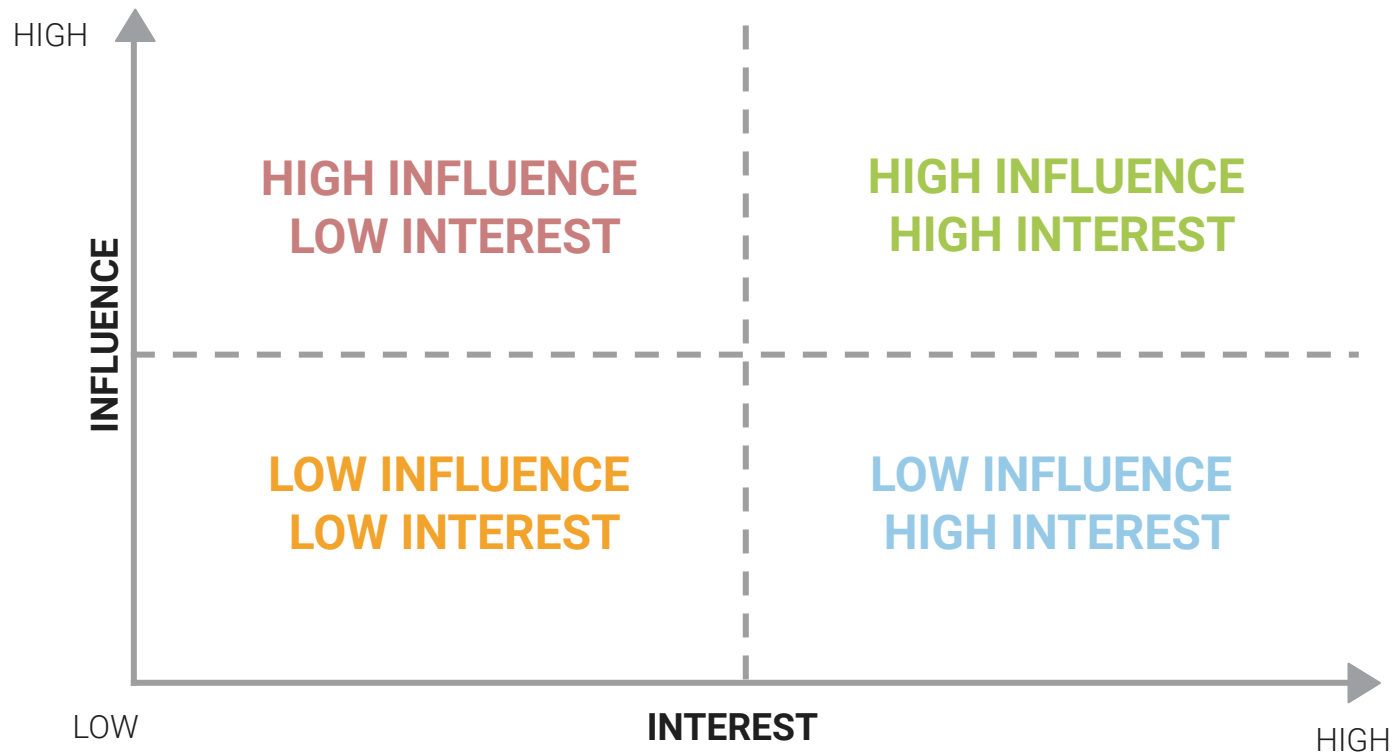


**DISTRICT &
SCHOOL-BASED STAFF**

Equitable Inclusion



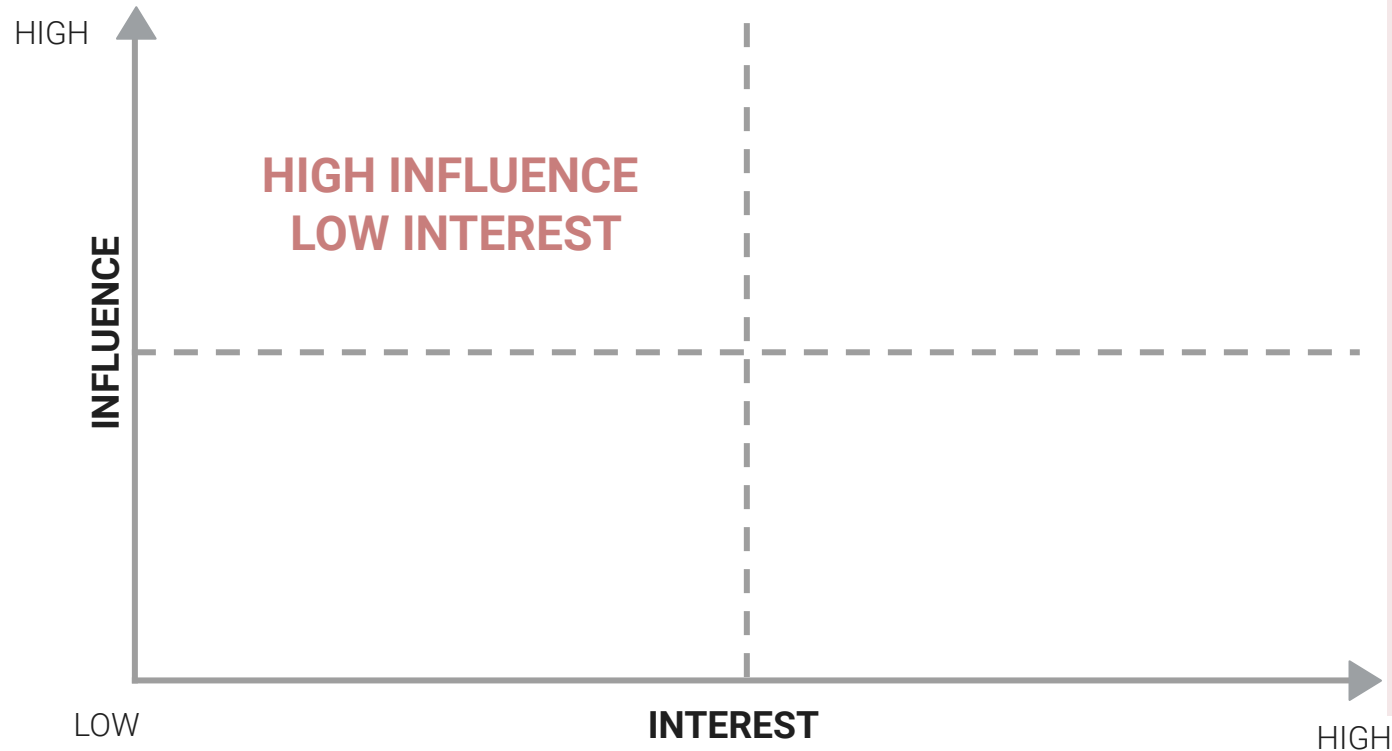
Engagement Matrix



Influence cannot ignore power dynamics

Interest is an assumptions based on our perceptions

HIGH INFLUENCE + LOW INTEREST

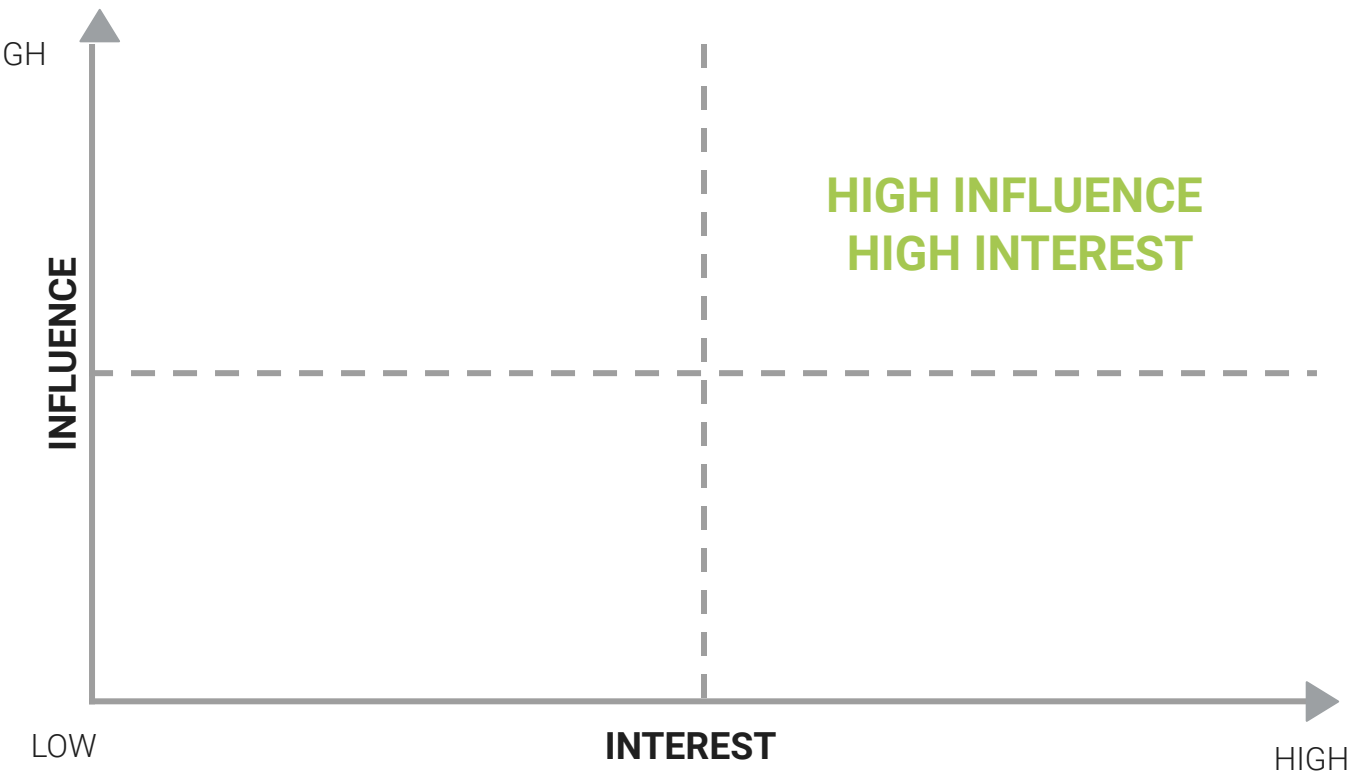


“I need to know things, but not all the things”

What to do:

- Communicate big ideas or themes
- Highlight wins and risks
- Keep communication short

HIGH INFLUENCE + HIGH INTEREST

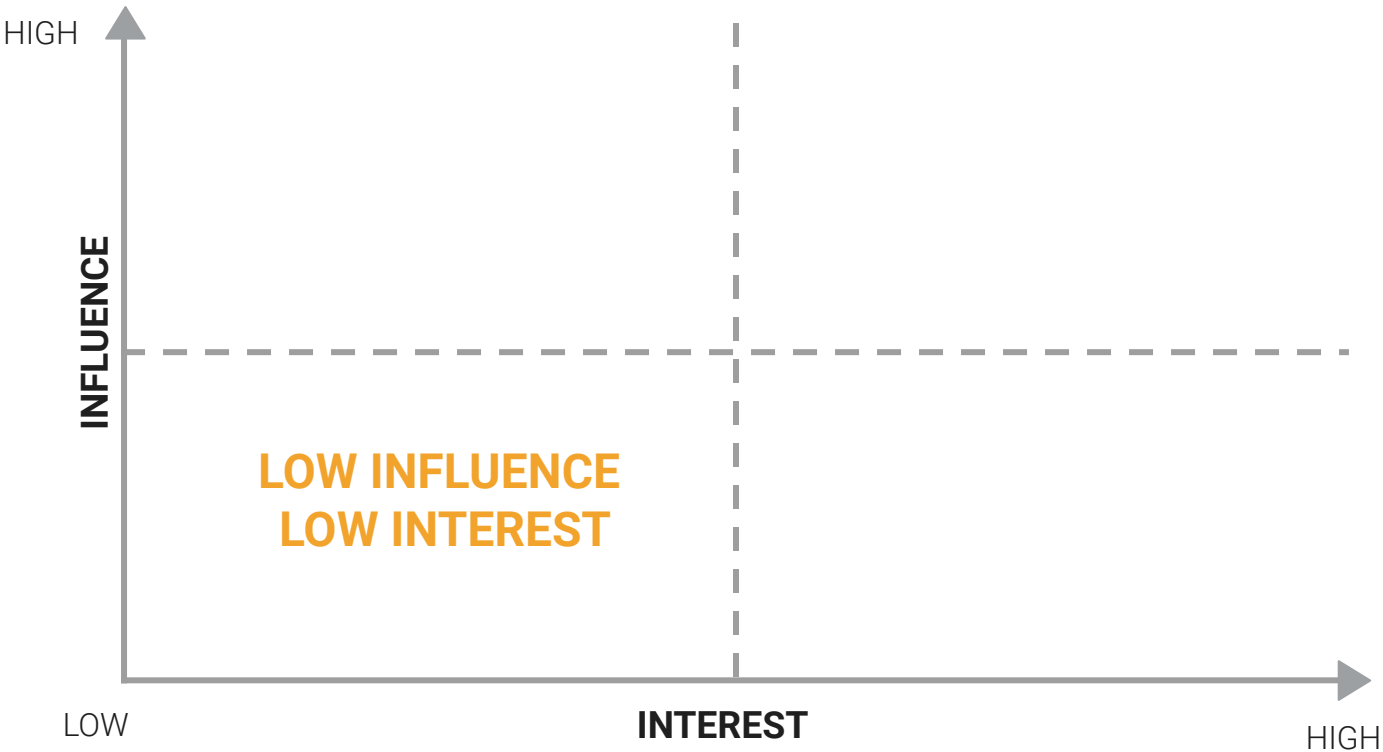


**“I am deeply impacted,
and my support will
move things forward”**

What to do:

- Incorporate this person as a partner
- Consider expertise and interest in how you engage this person strategically

LOW INFLUENCE + LOW INTEREST

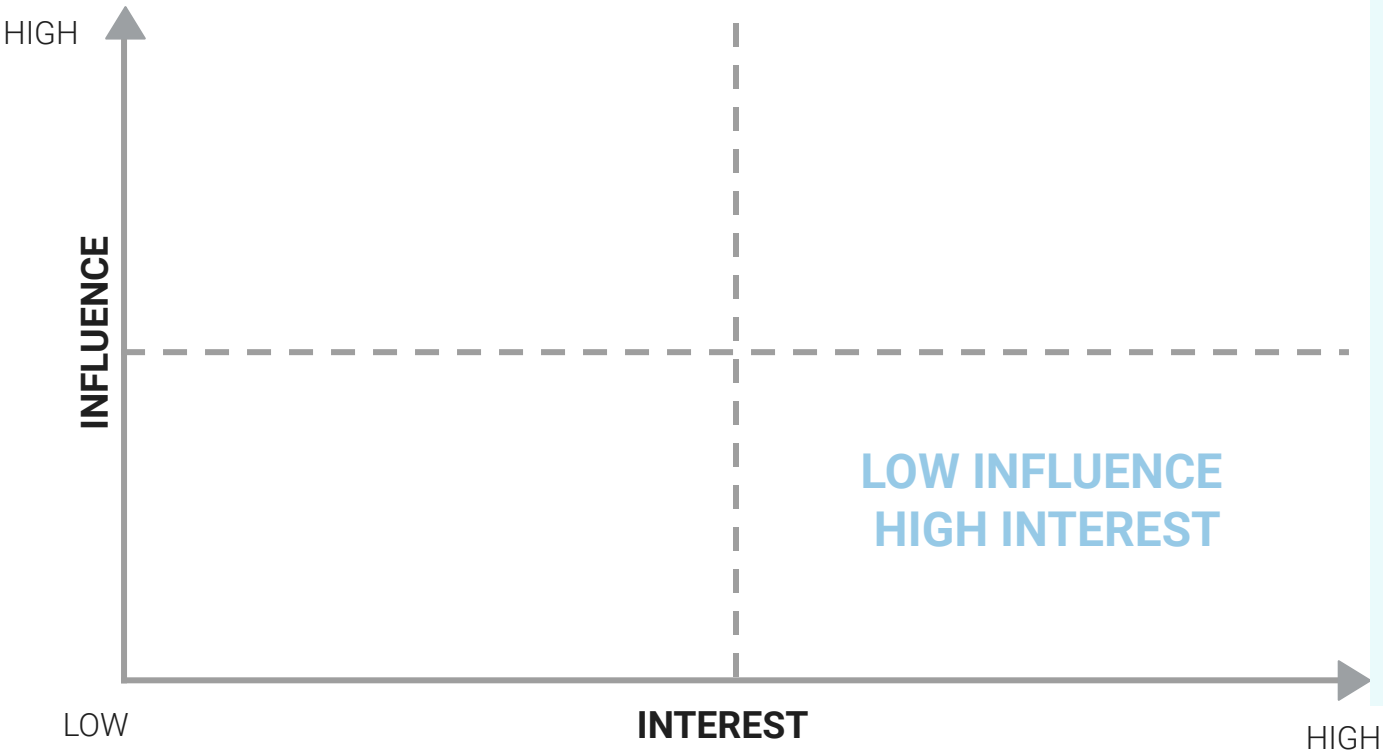


“I’m not very interested and don’t need to be involved, but don’t forget about me”

What to do:

- Consider how you can utilize other stakeholder strategies for this group
- Monitor their interests for any changes

LOW INFLUENCE + HIGH INTEREST

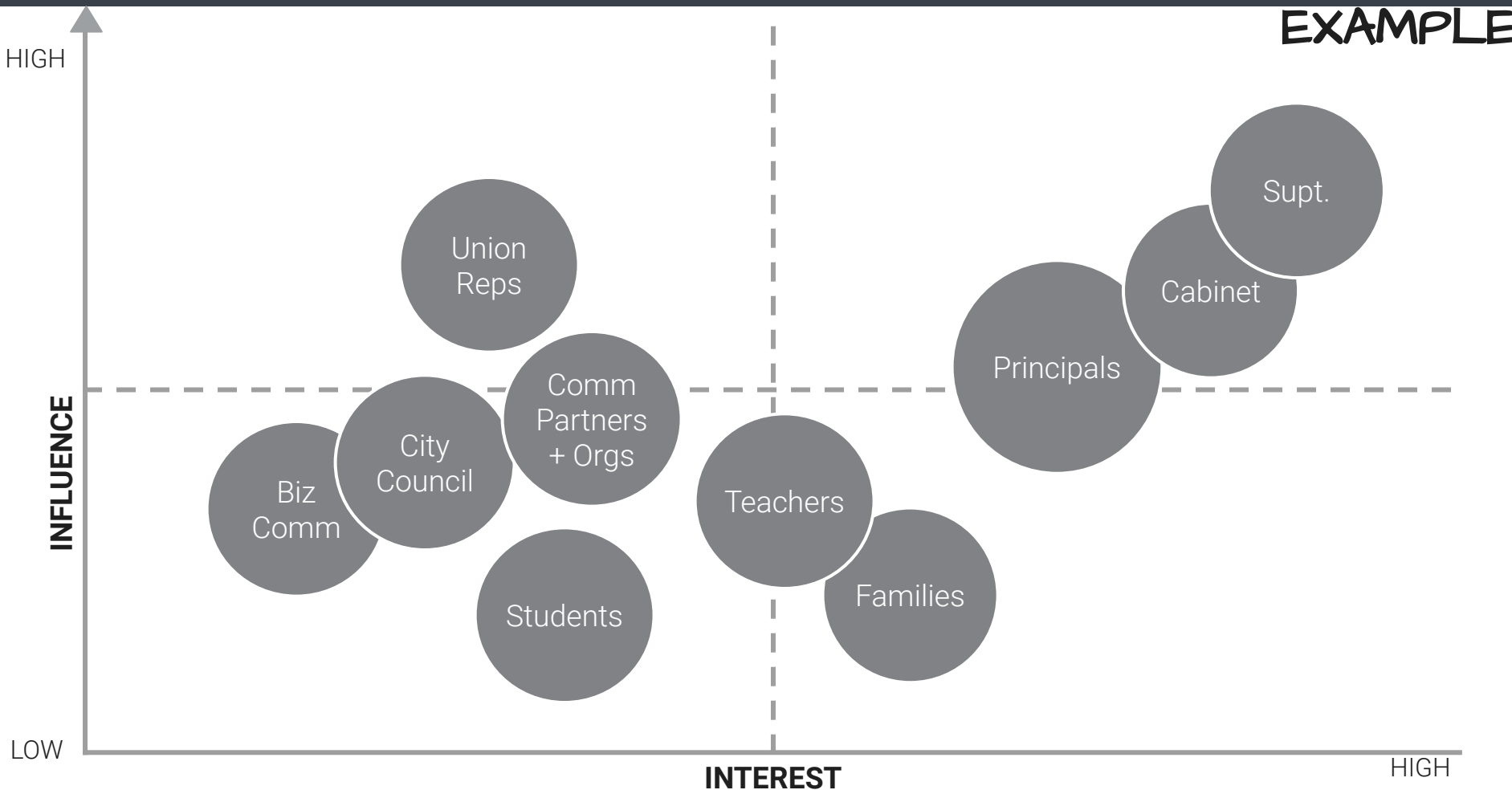


**"I am very interested.
Don't forget about me!"**

What to do:

- Incorporate this person as a partner as available to you
- Engage them with specific topics or requests

EXAMPLE



Add to the chat:

Who has traditionally been involved in curriculum decisions in your context? What new voices might add expertise moving forward?

Define

Curriculum Ecosystem | The Big Picture

Student Learning Experience

What is true for all instruction in our district?
Personalized learning, Research-based practices,
project-based learning, etc.

Curriculum Consistency

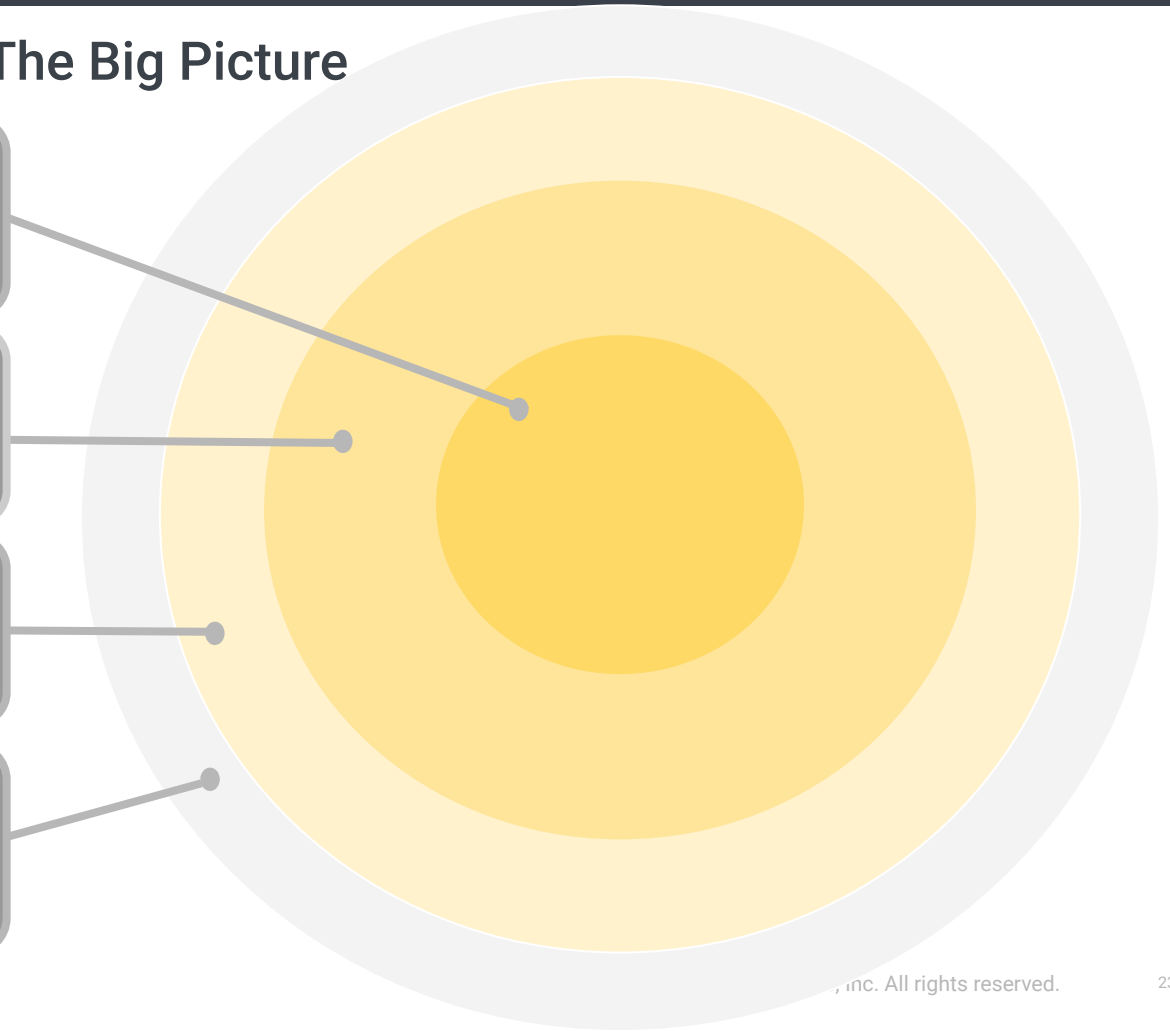
Vertical and Horizontal alignment, core resources,
progression of standards/courses, representation
in subject material, grade-and content-specific
adjustments

Support Structures

Leadership practices, structure, collaboration time,
departments and grade level teams, processes for
alignment and support

Progress Monitoring + Accountability

Measuring what students know and can do, and
using this to guide systems change. Defining,
recruiting, and retaining talent to support the work



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An instructional vision helps to communicate the expectations for teaching and learning and creates a common language for what effective instruction looks like in a classroom.

*The vision should guide...process[es] and
serve as a critical lens.
-EdReports*

SHADOWING A

Student or Family

DESIGNING THE APPROACH

Shadowing a student or family is a great way to see the world through their eyes and empathize with their needs. You may be able to discover the experiences of students or families that you otherwise were unaware of. It is a good practice to begin with a pre-conference and end with a post-conference. During the pre-conference, you may take time to build rapport to get to know who you are shadowing. During the post-conference, you may ask questions about the things you observed.



DESIGNING A

Town Hall

DESIGNING THE APPROACH

Town Halls are typically large gatherings of community members with administrators and staff. As mentioned above, there are multiple format options when designing a town hall. You may have multiple segments of your town hall to leverage various strategies.



Evaluate

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DESIGNING A

Focus Group

DESIGNING THE APPROACH

Focus groups require thoughtful planning to organize and execute successfully. Prior to designing your focus group, you will have already identified the insight you are seeking and the stakeholders you are aiming to engage. Use this information to design your focus group guide, which is the set of questions you will be asking across groups.

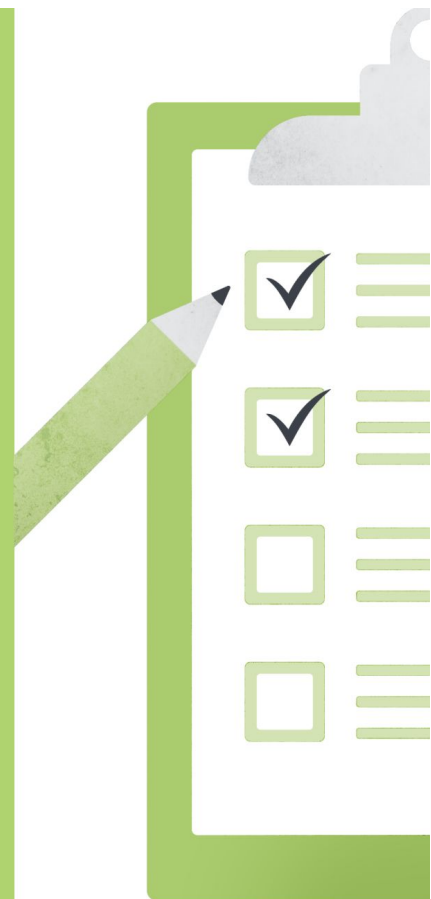


DESIGNING A

Targeted Survey

DESIGNING THE APPROACH

Surveys are a helpful tool to gather data from a large number of respondents. However, an effective survey necessitates a thoughtful design. Beginning with your objective, you will want to identify the data points that will help you reach your goal. Your survey should also state the goal for respondents. Surveys are best utilized for closed-ended questions with specific choices (e.g. multiple choice or checkbox). You may have a few text response questions, but if you find that most of your questions are better suited for text response then you may consider shifting to an interview approach.



Add to the chat:

What does your evaluation or review cycle look like now? How often are you reviewing

Select

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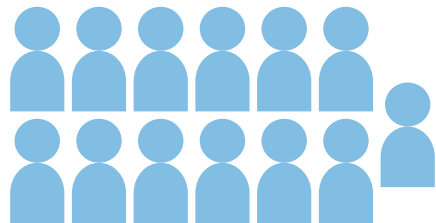


Materials Selection Cycle Roles



Project Leads

- **INSERT NAMES** 1-3 people
- Responsible for day-to-day management of the project, including managing planning, logistics, and communication in partnership with other teams, and elevating decisions when needed.



Pilot Team

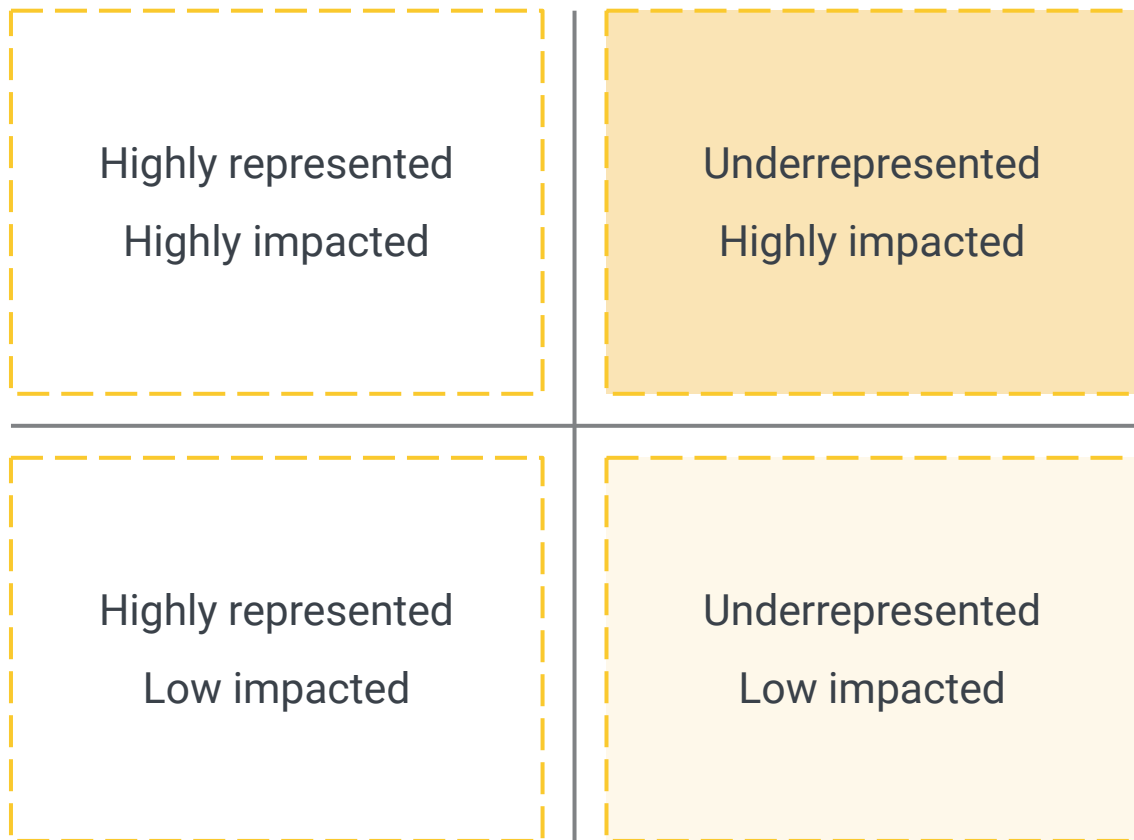
- **INSERT NAMES** (varies depending on scale of curriculum pilots)
- Co-designs the district-wide systems to support the curriculum pilot
- Observe implementation, reflect on successes and challenges schools experience, and support as needed.
- Validates the decisions based on stakeholder input.



Advisory Team

- **INSERT NAMES** (smaller team, focus is flexible depending on pilot)
- Gathers additional stakeholder engagement feedback throughout the process
- Communicates to key groups about progress and learnings of the pilot

Stakeholder Mapping + Equity Lens



Implement

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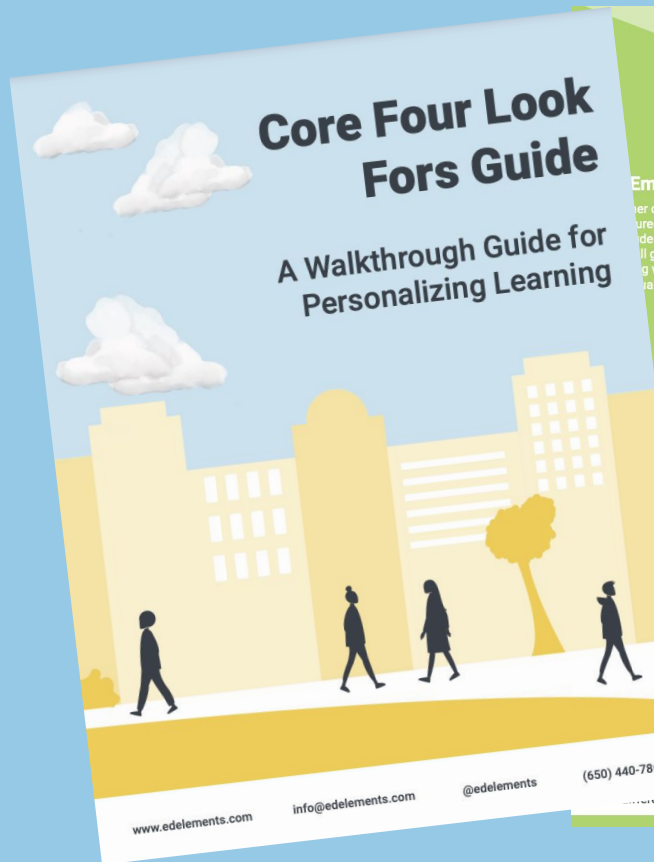


The purpose of learning walks is to check in on personalized learning in a virtual environment, identify trends, and understand how we can better support schools across Loudoun County.

Learning Walks

- **Learn** about high level trends within a set of look fors
- **Learn** what supports might be needed for teachers, students, leaders
- **Build** opportunities for collaboration and sharing practices

NOT evaluative



Core Four Look Fors Guide
A Walkthrough Guide for Personalizing Learning

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Targeted Instruction


Emerging	Developing	Advancing	Sustaining
Teacher creates differentiated opportunities for students to work in all groups, including with students individually or in small groups.	Teacher reviews data to create heterogeneous or homogeneous groups, and modifies instruction to better meet the needs of those groups for a small percentage of class time.	Teacher uses real-time data to make in-the-moment adjustments to instruction, so that students spend a larger percentage of class time having instruction tailored to their strengths, needs, or learning preferences.	Students can articulate what instruction they are receiving and why, and have some choice over the instruction they receive.

Look Fors

- **Emerging:** Students working in small groups or meeting with the teacher.
- **Developing:** Teacher is using a data report to inform groups.
- **Advancing:** Student groups are pre-determined by the teacher based on data.
- **Sustaining:** Teacher is using checks and balances to inform in-class instruction.

Questions To Ask Students

- **Emerging:** Do you meet with your teacher one-on-one or in small groups?
- **Developing:** Do you always work with the same classmates when you meet with the teacher?
- **Advancing:** Do you pick your groups or does your teacher determine your groups?
- **Advancing:** Do you spend most of your time in class working independently or in groups?
- **Sustaining:** Do all groups work on the same task/game/project?
- **Sustaining:** What are you learning about in your small groups, and why is it important?
- **Sustaining:** Did you get any choice in how you show your learning or how your teacher helps you learn?



Putting the Pieces Together

"A primary role of school systems is to create the conditions in schools through which teachers can become experts at teaching the curriculum they are using and adapting instruction to the needs of their particular students."

Source: [Practice What You Teach](#), Aspen Institute

Shared Vision + Alignment for
High-Quality Instruction

High-Quality Instructional Materials

Professional Learning for
School Leaders + Teachers

Collaborative Lesson
Internalization, Planning, +
Practice

Discussion

Key Considerations

Define

- Do you have an existing Instructional Vision/set of curriculum priorities to guide the process?
- Are there specific grade levels/content areas you will focus on this cycle?
- How might teachers and students provide additional insights at this stage?

Evaluate

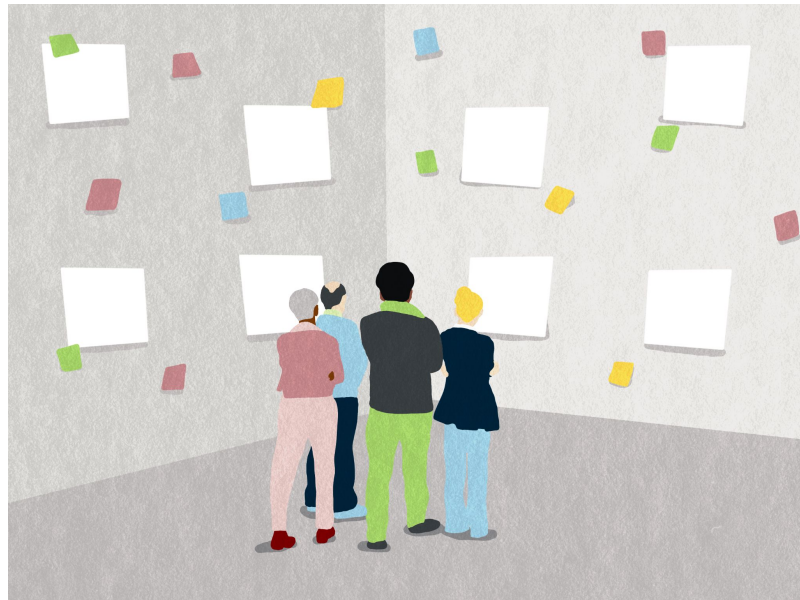
- How might you use student work samples,

Select

-

Implement

- How might you use student work samples, tasks, and other artifacts to embed student voice?



Conversation Rounds

Round 1: What is resonating with you from the session?

Round 2: What are some barriers that your district/school is facing when it comes to adding teacher or student voice to these processes?

Round 3: What are your goals for curriculum in the future?



Closing

SPRING FORWARD:

Cultivating Educators

WEBINARS



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APRIL 14TH - STRATEGIC PLANNING

APRIL 27TH- TEACHER EXPERIENCE

MAY 5TH- LEADERSHIP

MAY 12TH- CURRICULUM

MAY 18TH- STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

JUNE 21ST- STRATEGIC PLANNING



CURRICULUM COLLABORATIVE

Coffee Chat Series

Monday, May 16th
Tuesday, May 31st
Tuesday, June 14th

edelements.com/curriculum-chats

In Person Academy

Tuesday, June 28th
Ossining, NY



edelements.com/curriculum-collab

XanEdu



Tell us what you thought!

edelements.com/webinar-survey

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