

Personalized  
Learning  
Summit  
2017



# Learner Centered Education: It's a Paradigm Shift

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[@edreimagine](#)

[@edelements](#)

[bit.ly/PLSWorkshopSurvey](https://bit.ly/PLSWorkshopSurvey)

[#PLSummit](#)



Learner-Centered: It's a paradigm shift.

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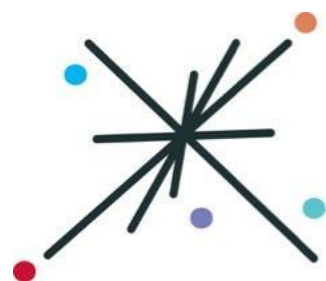
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# Connecting Question

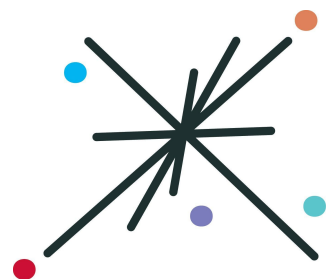
**What do you most want kids to experience  
when they are learning?**

**What matters to you about that?**



# Vision stakeholders

<b>Johns Hopkins University</b> David Andrews, Dean	<b>NYC Principal</b> Robert O'Brien	<b>KIPP Houston School Leader</b> Lara Wheatley	<b>MacArthur Foundation</b> Jen Humke	<b>50CAN</b> Marc Magee
<b>Nebraska Teacher</b> Maddie Fennel	<b>NEA</b> Lily Eskelsen	<b>Microsoft</b> Andrew Ko	<b>SAIS</b> Steve Robinson	<b>Ethica Global Alliance</b> Rehan Dawer
<b>Chief State School Officer RI</b> Peter MacWalters	<b>AFT</b> Randi Weingarten	<b>The Nellie Mae Foundation</b> Nick Donohue	<b>New Profit</b> Shruti Sehra	<b>Disney</b> Lizabeth Fogel
<b>Blackboard</b> Sig Berhens (formerly)	<b>Lego Education</b> Stephan Turnipseed (formerly)	<b>Jaquelin Hume Foundation</b> Gisèle Huff	<b>The Brookings Institution</b> Stuart Butler	<b>Illinois School Board President</b> Jeff Weissglass
<b>NOVO Foundation</b> Robert Sherman (formerly)	<b>The Schott Foundation</b> John Jackson	<b>DC Public Schools Vice Principal</b> Dwight Davis	<b>City Neighbors Foundation</b> Bobbi Macdonald	<b>PassageWorks</b> Mark Wilding
	<b>Superintendent Cobb County, GA</b> Michael Hinojosa	<b>KnowledgeWorks</b> Judy Peppler	<b>Education Consultant &amp; Writer</b> Sam Chaltain	



# Education Reimagined

**OUR PURPOSE** is to accelerate the growth and impact of the learner-centered education movement in the United States by:

- Finding and encouraging learner-centered pioneers;
- Bringing diverse movement pioneers together; and
- Sharing the possibility of learner-centered education.

## TABLE CONVERSATION

What do you have to know,  
do and be like to be a successful  
adult & citizen?

## TABLE CONVERSATION

What strikes you about  
the list we just created?

What do you notice  
about our list?

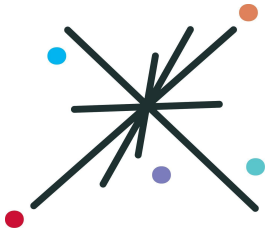
## TABLE CONVERSATION

What are the assumptions about school, learning, and learners that form the current design of the American school?



# **Reforming to Transforming:**

A difference that makes  
all the difference.



# Reform

**Root-word “RE”** means to “go back” or “do again.” Words like revisit, revise, review, reallocate, rebrand, renew, report, and reform.

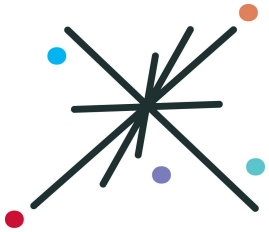
Suggests not a complete “do-over” but to go back and try again—to tweak, adjust, adapt, or fix.

## **Reform:**

- make changes in order to improve it.
- the improvement or amendment of what is wrong, corrupt, unsatisfactory, etc.:
- to put an end to (an evil) by enforcing or introducing a better method or course of action



**Reform** is about adjusting  
and playing with the **means**  
of a system, not the **ends**.



# Transform

**Root-word “TRANS”** means to means to “go across.”  
Like transatlantic, transition, transfer, transport, transact.

Suggests not “going back” but moving forward to something new—note the emphasis isn’t on the “how” or the inputs, but on the end game.

## **Transform:**

- changes in character or condition;
- to make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of;
- changing the characteristics so as to change the use or purpose.



Reforming the airplane to reach the moon.





**Transformation means a whole new  
world of possibility**



## TABLE CONVERSATION

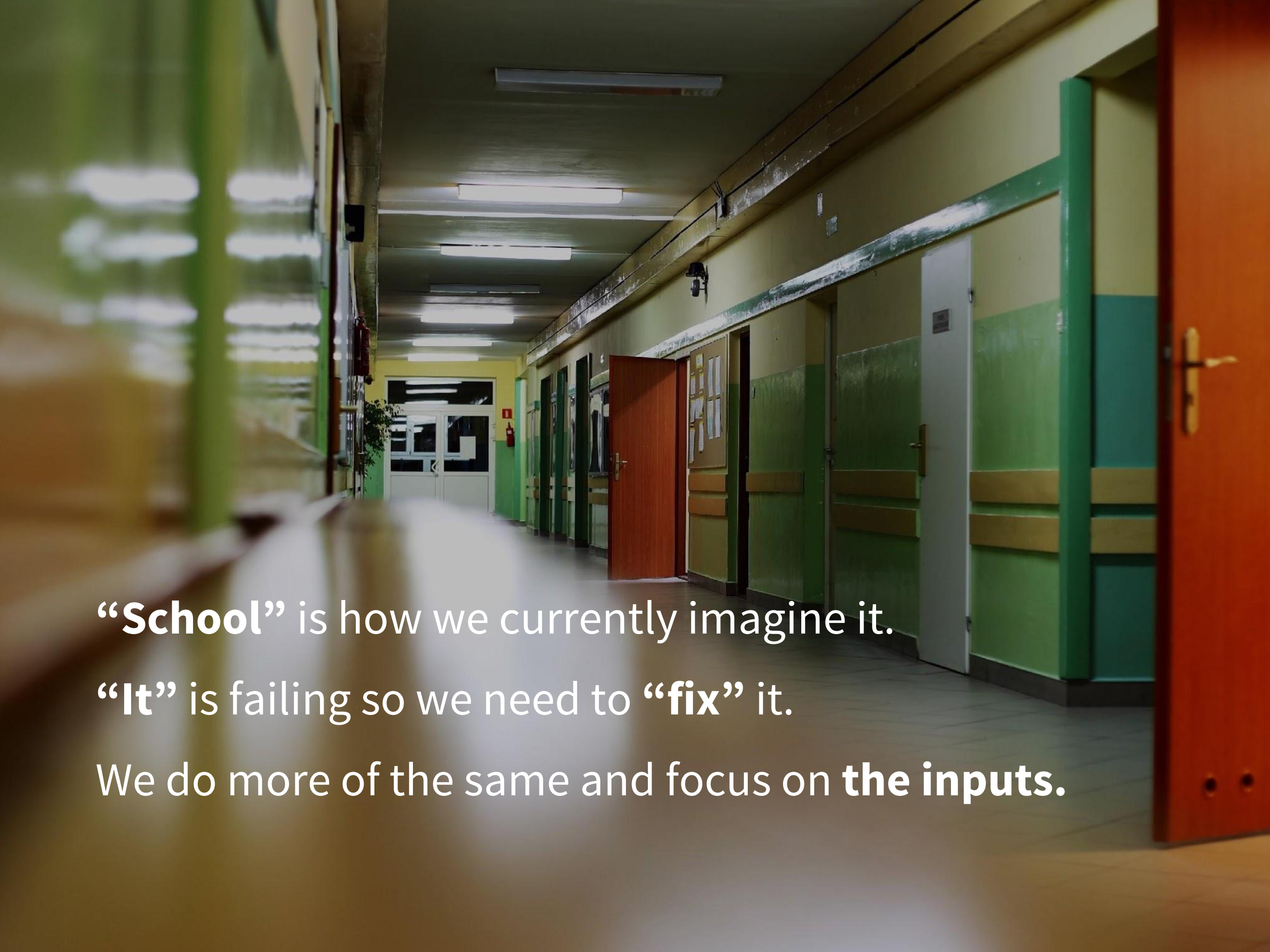
What thoughts and ideas  
resonate with you?

What causes dissonance?

What questions do you have?

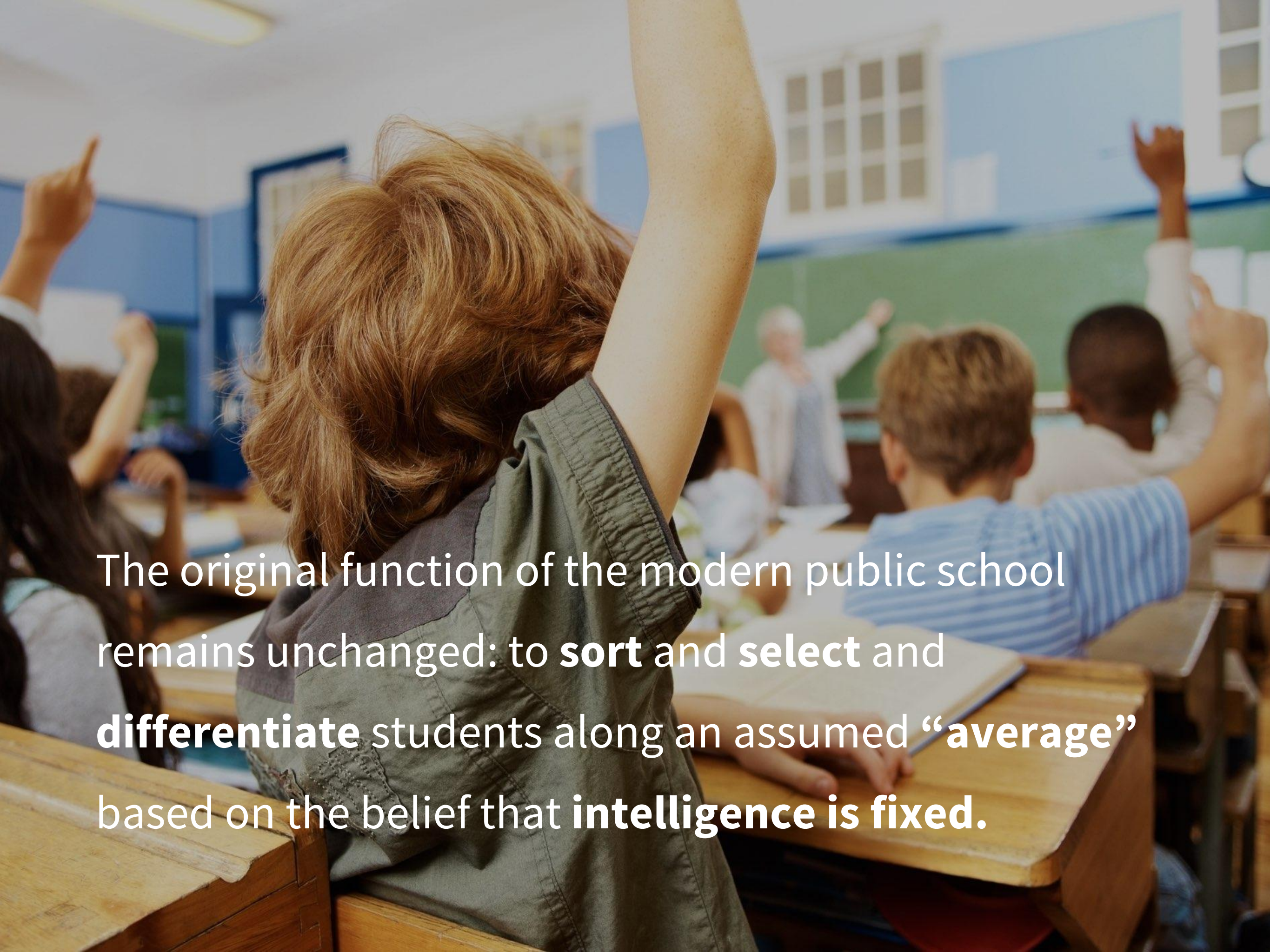


# Assumptions

A photograph of a school hallway. The walls are painted in alternating green and orange horizontal stripes. Several doors are visible, some of which are open. The floor is made of light-colored tiles. Fluorescent lights are mounted on the ceiling. The perspective is looking down the length of the hallway.

“**School**” is how we currently imagine it.  
“**It**” is failing so we need to “**fix**” it.  
We do more of the same and focus on **the inputs**.

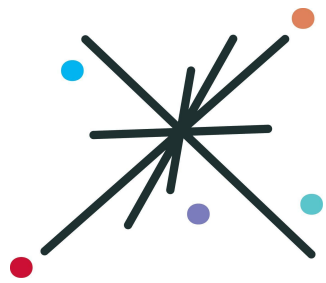


A photograph of a classroom from a rear perspective. In the foreground, a student with long, wavy brown hair is seen from behind, wearing a green and grey shirt, with their right arm raised high. Other students in the background are also raising their hands. A teacher is visible at the front of the room, pointing towards a green chalkboard. The room has large windows and blue bulletin boards.

The original function of the modern public school remains unchanged: to **sort** and **select** and **differentiate** students along an assumed “average” based on the belief that **intelligence is fixed**.



My Story



# School Reform

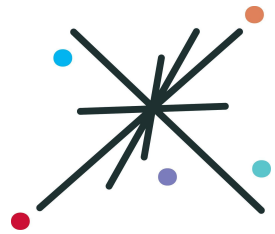
<b>Industrial Model of Schools Created</b>	Everything is designed to give every child access to the same education. Differences between students show up as problems for the system. Students who excel are deemed smart.
<b>Reform Movement</b>	Seeks to go from providing the same access to providing the same results to every child.
<b>“21<sup>st</sup> Century Student Outcomes Movement”</b>	Seeks to update what results are considered satisfactory.

**The system has to be reimagined.**



A Learner-Centered Paradigm...

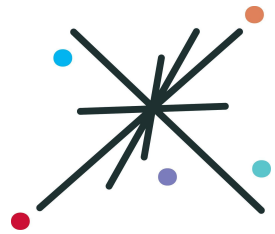




# The paradigm shift

ASPECT	CURRENT PARADIGM
World View	Industrial Age
Frame of Reference	Factories and Assembly Lines
Model	<b>SCHOOL-CENTRIC</b> All components of the system are designed for efficiency of education delivery in the context of standardized schools.
Education Challenge	Move all children from 1st grade to 12th grade successfully





# The paradigm shift

ASPECT	CURRENT PARADIGM	LEARNER-CENTERED PARADIGM
World View	Industrial Age	Networked Age
Frame of Reference	Factories and Assembly Lines	Networks and Lateral Connections
Model	<b>SCHOOL-CENTRIC</b> All components of the system are designed for efficiency of education delivery in the context of standardized schools.	<b>LEARNER-CENTRIC</b> All components are designed for the education experience to be adaptable to the needs and strengths of each learner and support the highest outcomes for each and every learner.
Education Challenge	Move all children from 1st grade to 12th grade successfully	Enable each unique child to learn successfully and be lifelong learners



The work of education is learning.





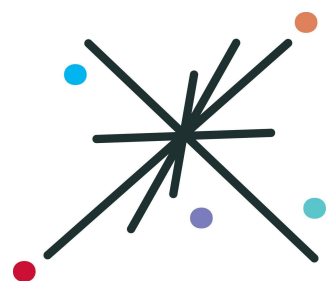
Education is done by & with the learner.



All kids are unique, capable, curious,  
and wondrous.

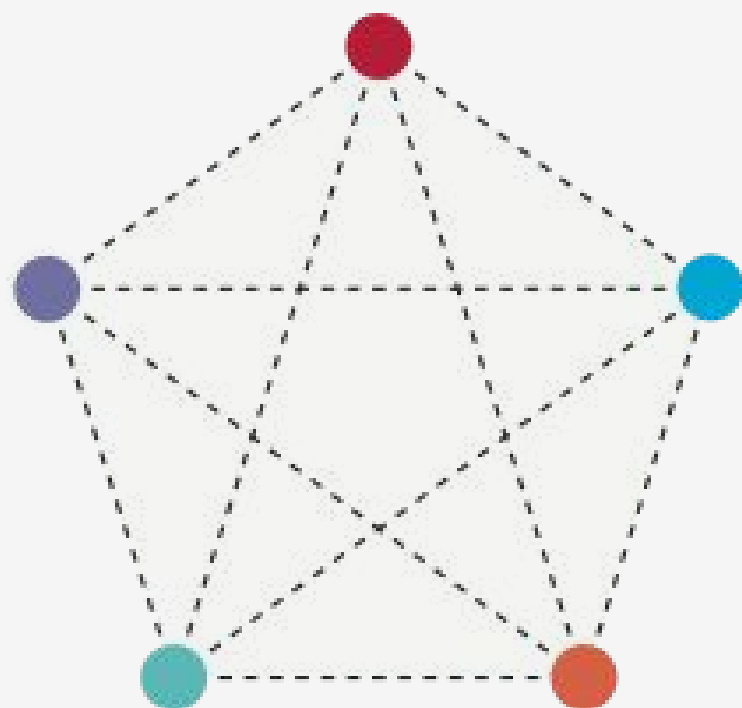






# Learner-Centered Education

## FIVE INTERRELATED ELEMENTS



**Competency-based**

**Personalized, Relevant  
& Contextualized**

**Learner Agency**

**Socially Embedded**

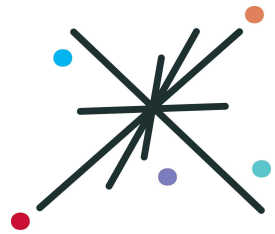
**Open-Walled**



## OUTCOMES

Knowledge,  
Skills, and  
Dispositions

Here's what this looks like  
at Iowa BIG.



# Iowa BIG

**Public • 3 Districts • 5 High Schools • 120 Learners**



CEDAR RAPIDS METRO ECONOMIC ALLIANCE

# MINNOW TANK



April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
4:30-6:30  
Metro Economic  
Alliance  
501 1<sup>st</sup> St SE













## Standards Progress

### Reading Literature

3v: 0 2v: 0 Val: 8 att: 0 of 11



### Reading: Informational

3v: 1 2v: 1 Val: 7 att: 0 of 12



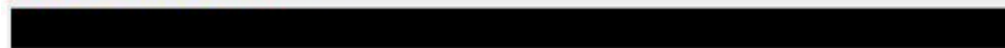
### Reading: History

3v: 0 2v: 0 Val: 0 att: 0 of 8



### Reading: SciTech

3v: 0 2v: 0 Val: 0 att: 0 of 9



### Writing

3v: 0 2v: 0 Val: 12 att: 0 of 12



Zealist  
Magazine

1 MILLION

1000

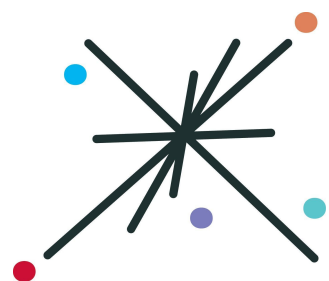


IOWA BIG



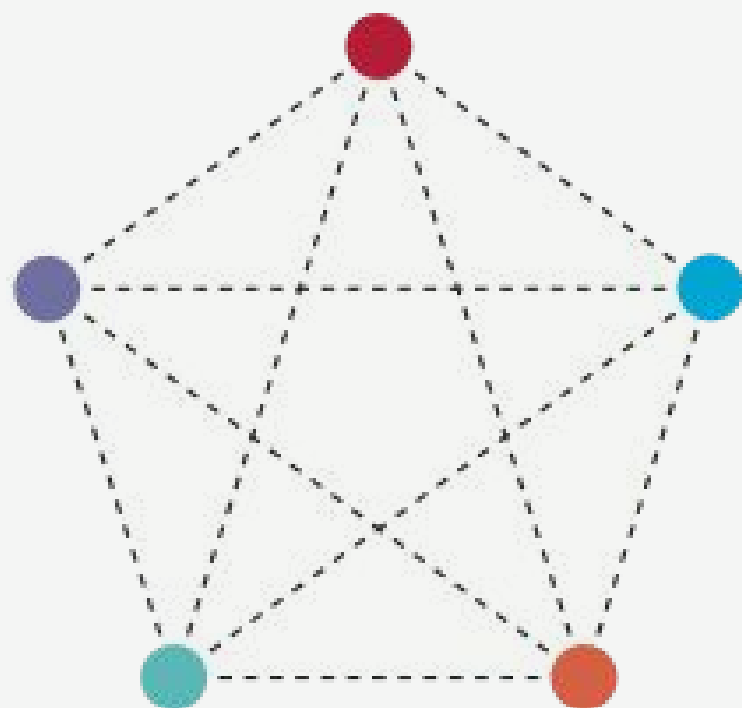
## TABLE CONVERSATION

Based on what you observed  
list the ways the 5 elements  
are present at Iowa BIG?



# Learner-Centered Education

## FIVE INTERRELATED ELEMENTS



**Competency-based**

**Personalized, Relevant  
& Contextualized**

**Learner Agency**

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## **OUTCOME S**

Knowledge,  
Skills, and  
Dispositions



## TABLE CONVERSATION

Share your reactions.

What are you wondering about?

What resonates with you?

Where is there dissonance for you?

Here's what is emerging in  
other parts of the country.

## **OTHER PIONEERING EFFORTS & ENVIRONMENTS**

ReSchool Colorado, CO

LRNG, nine cities

Taylor County Schools, KY

Lindsey Unified SD, CA



## TABLE CONVERSATION

Based on what you've seen  
and heard today what 3 things  
will you do next week?



This is an idea whose time has come.

We are looking for the pioneers.

**Are you one?**

Contact Us!  
[www.education-reimagined.org](http://www.education-reimagined.org)

# Thank you!

**[bit.ly/PLSWorkshopSurvey](https://bit.ly/PLSWorkshopSurvey)**  
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