

The convening process for inviting voice



AMSD 2017 Conference

TIES Building
December 8, 2017

Purpose statement:

"Our purpose is to ensure the fundamental right to an adequate education of all students by creating a comprehensive collective educational plan to address integration, access, opportunity and educational achievement."

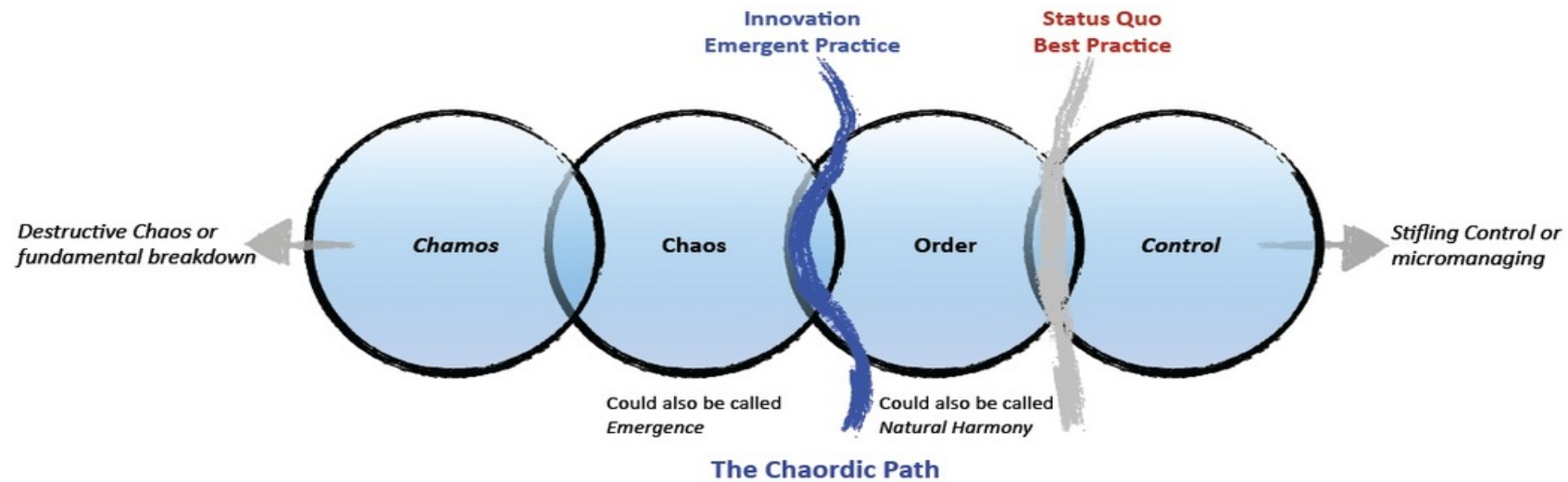


The invitation

- Created a list of inclusive, representative community groups to convene.
- Invited and convened 12 community conversations, hosted a business luncheon using the World Café model to collect challenges, hopes and ideas for creating lasting equity, integration, and excellence in education for ALL children.
- We hosted a student conference with over 300 students to collect their hopes and dreams about an equitable education.
- We harvested, analyzed and synthesized the data collected from community groups, holding several facilitated meetings to find the themes and develop recommendations for a collective educational action plan.
- Now, we are in the phase of reflecting on the information we collected and the suggested actions that the superintendents and leaders think we should take to move toward lasting equity, integration and excellence.

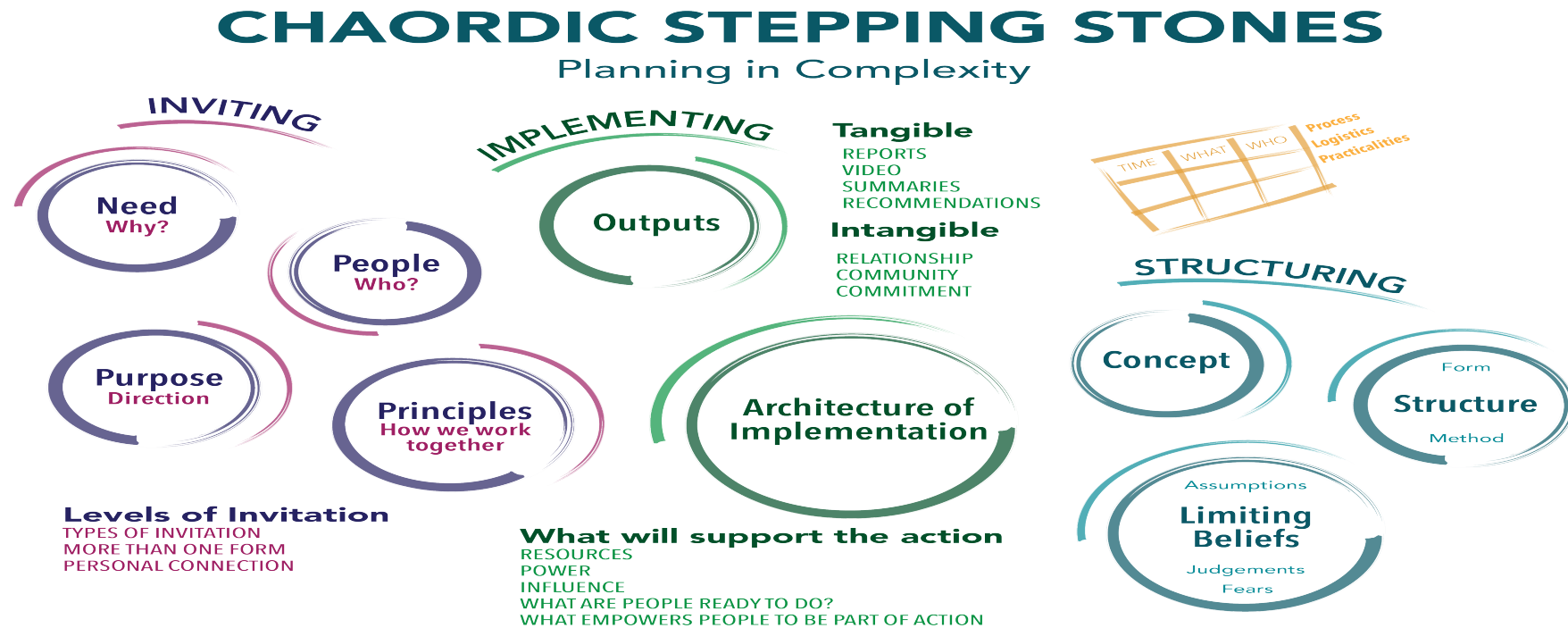


Methodology for Convenings



Chaordic Stepping Stones

Planning in Complexity



Reimagine Minnesota

A commitment to create lasting equity and excellence in education for all students

Welcome to a Community Conversation on Equity, Integration and Excellence for all Students



Introduce Yourself

- Share your name and position with your table friends.
- Pick a table host.





Question One

Describe your vision of an equitable,
integrated and excellent education for all
students.

What does it look like, feel like?

Question Two

As you think about the challenges we will face to build an equitable, integrated and excellent education for all students, what is at the heart of the matter for you?



Question Three

What are the most urgent changes we need to make so that so all students have the best chance of being successful?



Business Question Three

What is changing in our communities and in the greater business communities that requires a change in the way we educate our students? How will these changes affect our local economy and community?

Business Question Four

What barriers can our business and community partners help the school districts move out of the way to create lasting equity, integration and excellence in school for all Minnesota school children?





Nancy Margulies 2007

Table Etiquette

- Listen to understand.
- Listen for patterns, insights, deeper questions.
- Contribute your thinking.
- No fixing, no advising.
- If you find yourself in judgment, turn to wonder.
- Hear all the voices.









OUR VISION



REIMAGINE MINNESOTA



Harvest Time



Student Conference

- Over 300 students from the metro area school districts
- All day conference at TIES center
- Open Space Technology Method
- Students created the agenda
- The adults hosted the space
- The students facilitated the conversations
- They spoke their truth with their hearts
- We need to Listen2students



Top Ten Student Priorities

1. Racial Diversity
2. Achievement Gap
3. LGBTQ Issues
4. Teach us about our cultures
5. Equal distribution of resources
6. Standardized testing
7. Courses should better reflect the diverse classroom that they are being taught in
8. Policing and pipeline to prison
9. Personalized learning
10. Safe spaces









Three Emerging Themes- “SEE ME”

1. Effective, diverse stakeholders who use trusting relationships to create welcoming classrooms, schools and communities that meet the needs (hopes & dreams) of all students and families
2. Personalized relevant education and youth development that guarantees access to rigorous learning and eliminating predictability based on race
3. Equitable resources (time, talent, funds) aligned to student needs (hopes & dreams) that enable every district to "see all" and "serve all"

Behind the scenes

- Over 11 small businesses-minority and/or woman owned.
- Several are one person consulting or business owners.
- Youth Lens 360- Hired and trained over 20 youth facilitators, videographers and photographers to capture the events.
- Over 15 minority youth assisted capturing the data entry from world cafes table posters.
- One of our youth Facilitators was inspired to go into education. He is going back to college in the spring and is now a para at St. Paul school district.
- Two of our youth opened photography and graphic design businesses and are back in school.
- Several of our North High school youth facilitators enrolled in college after high school but stay in touch to work with us over breaks.
- Two of our youth are now AmeriCorps fellows- One is at Eagle Rock in Colorado as a youth mentor and advisor at a boarding experiential school.
- When you reach out to your community-you inspire leadership, change, partnership and trust.

“Nothing stops an organization faster than people who believe that the way you worked yesterday is the best way to work tomorrow.”

Jon C. Madonna

Thank you!

