

Mind Mapping

Intended Outcome:

The group will have a shared sense of what we hold in common and what we share as a community about the themes/influences that affect Student Achievement.

Materials needed:

- Roll of Poster Paper – 6 X12 foot
- Markers –broad chisel tip
- 3 different color dots (6 per participant)

Roles Needed:

- Facilitator
- 2-3 Recorders

Mind Mapping is an extremely effective method of taking notes. Mind Maps show not only facts, but also the overall structure of a subject and the relative importance of individual parts of it. They help us to associate ideas and make connections that we might not otherwise make. It literally "maps out" your ideas.

Process:

Participants create a mind map of themes/influences which effect student achievement.

Have participants place their chairs around the 6-foot by 12-foot poster paper placed on the wall in a tight semi circle.

State the Ground Rules for Mind Mapping:

- Brainstorm – no evaluation, no working of issues, criticism or censorship.
- The person who names the idea gets to say where it goes on the map.
- Be concrete. Speak in terms of “who” and/or “what”

To create a mind map:

1. Start by writing or drawing an image of Student Achievement in the center of the poster paper.
2. Ask the participants to raise their hand when they have something they want to share that has an effect on student achievement (two minutes maximum). If you have several people number them off in order to give their responses.
3. As participants respond, ask where they would place their thought/theme on the map. These main themes are attached to and radiate from the center as 'branches'.
 - Make the lines the same length as the word/image they support.
 - If someone has a comment/thought that is similar to a theme that is already on the map, you can ask him/her if it could branch off that

theme.

- Use a different color for each new theme throughout the Mind Map, for visual stimulation and also to encode or group.

When the map is complete:

Ask the participants to place their 6 dots on the map next to the theme or themes that they feel have the greatest influence on student achievement.

The facilitator and recorders will tally the dots during lunch.

The group will identify the themes with the most dots.

Sample:

