# Today’s Outcomes:

* Provide an overview of MNPS’ Data-Informed Decision Making Ecosystem
* Model the MNPS collaborative inquiry process as an approach for developing a data-informed decision making culture.

# Data-Informed Decision Making Ecosystem

Johnson, 2016; Johnson, in press

# MNPS Collaborative Inquiry

Collaborative Inquiry is a data-based team process that consciously uses the collaborative learning cycle (activating and engaging, exploring and discovering, and organizing and integrating) and the qualities of effective groups (fostering a culture of trust, maintaining a clear focus, taking collective responsibility and data-informed decision-making).

# Modeling the Collaborative Inquiry Process

## Activating and Engaging---TOPIC: Attendance

* My name is…
* My relationship to the topic is….
* My expectations for today are…..

## Exploring and Discovering—Observations

* MNPS Attendance Journey Overview
* Calibrating Activity
* MNPS Attendance Data Warehouse Dashboards for 2014 through 2017 Observations
	+ attendance for males and females basically the same
	+ attendance rates for various ethnic groups similar except Asian students have lower absences
	+ ED and SWD students have higher absences
	+ LEP students have lower absences
	+ yearly attendance trends by grade levels are similar
	+ overall, yearly attendance trends similar

## Organizing and Integrating—Recommendations

Given the data observations, what might be some recommendations you have for improving attendance for MNPS students?

* Begin to have an early focus on chronic absence
* Investigate the reasons for students being chronically absent further
	+ home connection? having to work?
* Identify siblings of older students who are chronically absent and try to intervene
* deeper dive into why seniors and freshman students have higher chronic absence rates
* establishing consistent and clear guidelines that can be communicated to families about attendance and restoration
* advocate for policy changes about attendance and funding
* investigate role of transportation issues as related to chronic absence
* investigate role of school choice as related to chronic absence
* Would a later start for high school decrease chronic absence?
* Consider providing work for students at schools
* partnerships to inform and engage families about attendance
* investigate MNPS students who are now MNPS parents to provide support
* find out what excites students who are chronically absent and pare them with adults who work in the related areas
* a program like big brothers/big sisters so if they are not being encourage at home they have someone else to show school is important

# Reflection

Given what we have discussed, what might be some actions you take or ideas you implement in your organization?

* Would like a follow up on some solutions that you have put in place along with how you plan to track the success of those actions.
* How to leverage data to make our organization successful
* implement culture of collaborative inquiry throughout the organization
* involve staff at ALL levels in the learning/exploring process (collaborative inquiry)
* We could help look at spatial issues (geography) and student attendance
* cross collaboration across departments
* How to get all metro departments that work with school age children to deliver the same message?
* Our department needs to better engage with the stakeholders as far as interpreting data.
* I think we could use some collaborative inquiry processes in our office to investigate what our data is telling us.
* We may be able to share data regarding youth population in Davidson Co. The data may show barrier(s) that could help draw a more accurate picture.