



# Group Data Exploration

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## **Purpose**

*The purpose of this session is to model collaborative inquiry for facilitating a group data exploration about cultural issues throughout MNPS.*

## **Essential Question**

*How can we unleash the power of data to foster a positive and purposeful learning culture throughout MNPS?*

The last data meeting I participated in was like.....

Because.....



**Data** have **no meaning**.  
**Meaning** is **imposed** through  
**interpretation**  
(Wellman & Lipton, 2004, pp. ix-xi).



**How do we bridge the gap between  
data and results?**

**Collaborative  
Inquiry**



Love, 2009

## Collaborative Inquiry

**Collaborative Inquiry** is stakeholders **working together** to uncover and **understand problems** and to **test out solutions together** through rigorous **use of data and reflective dialogue**.

**Assumption:** This process **unleashes the resourcefulness** of stakeholders to **continuously improve learning**.

Adapted from N. Love, K.E. Stiles, S. Mundy, and K.DiRanna, 2008

**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).



MNPS Collaborative Inquiry Community of Practice

# Collaborative Learning Cycle

## Organizing and Integrating

- What inferences, explanations, or conclusions might we draw?
- What additional data sources might verify our explanations?
- What solutions might we explore?
- What data will we need to guide implementation?

## Activating and Engaging

- What assumptions do we bring?
- What are some predictions we are making?
- What questions are we asking?
- What are some possibilities for learning?

Managing  
Modeling  
Mediating  
Monitoring

## Exploring and Discovering

- What important points seem to pop out?
- What patterns, categories, or trends are emerging?
- What seems to be surprising or unexpected?
- What are some ways we have not yet explored these data?



## Activating and Engaging

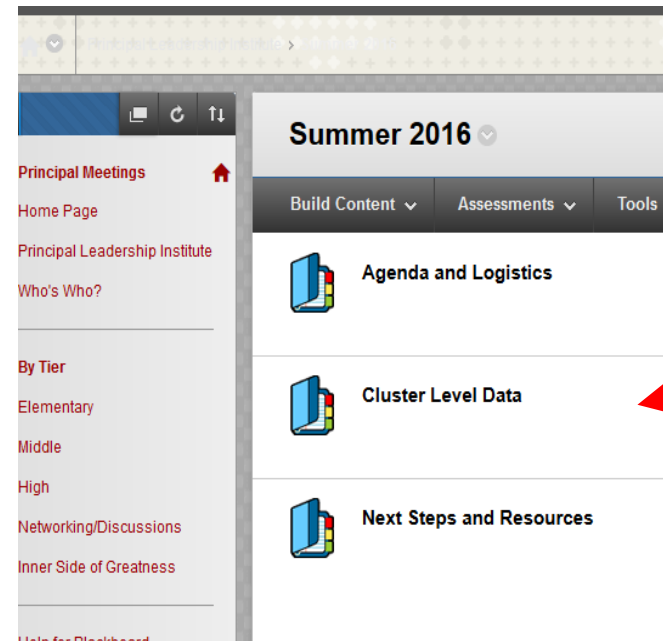
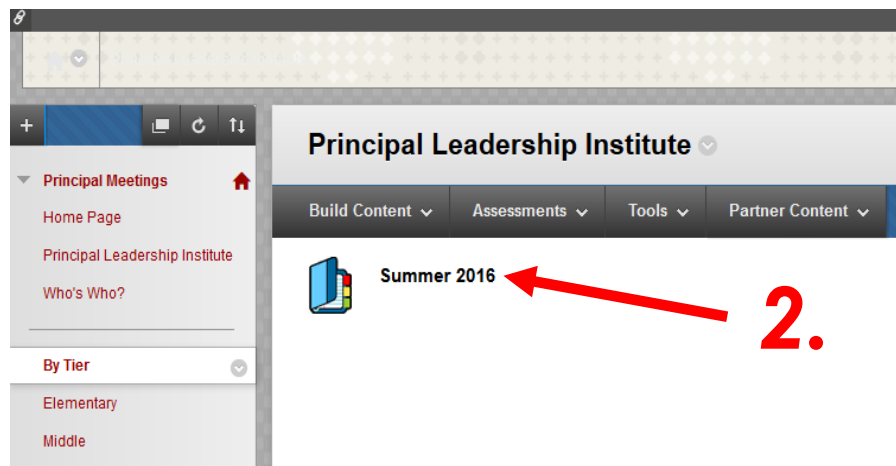
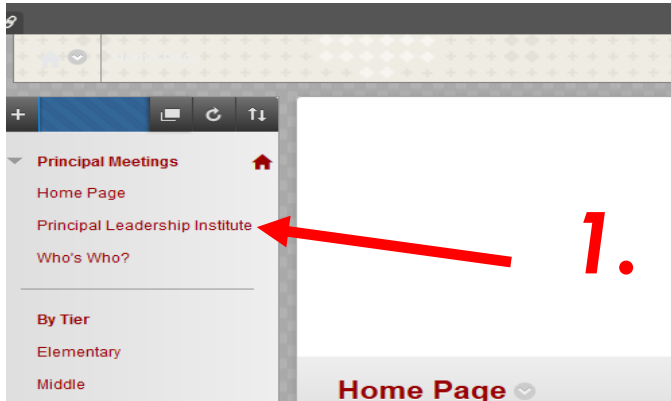


- The pair selects a student.
- Individually, write down 2-3 bulleted observations about the selected student.
- Share in the pair.

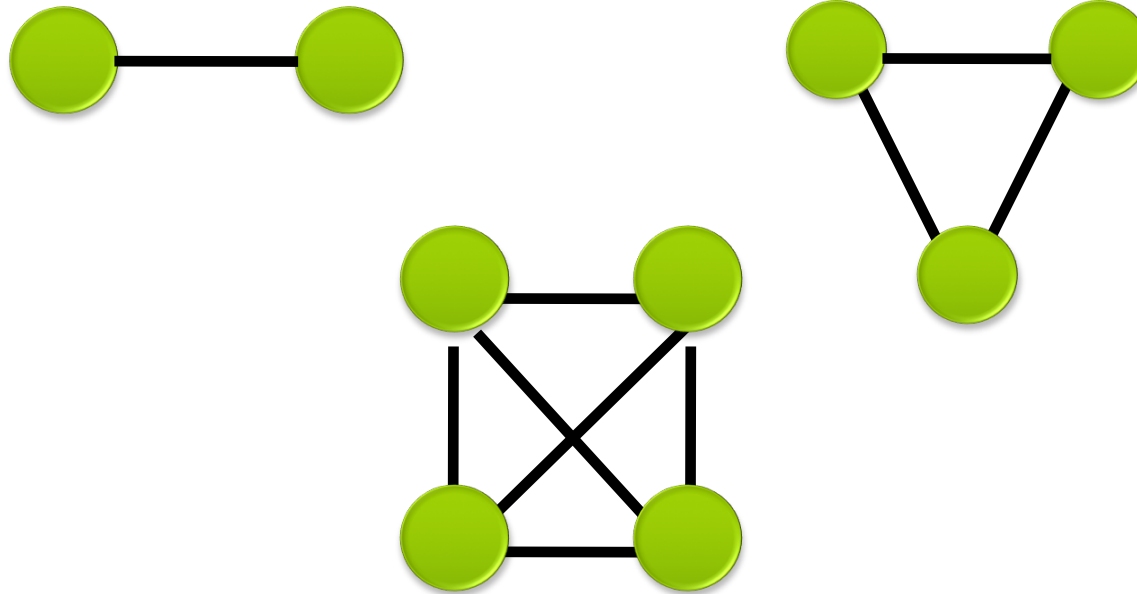


- Employee Retention Data
- TELL Survey Data
- Employee Attendance Data

## Accessing the Data



## The “Relational Load”



## Determining the “Relational Load”

$$\frac{N \times (N-1)}{2}$$

Group of 2 = 1

Group of 3 = 3

Group of 4 = 6

Group of 5 = 10

Group of 6 = 15

Group of 7 = 21

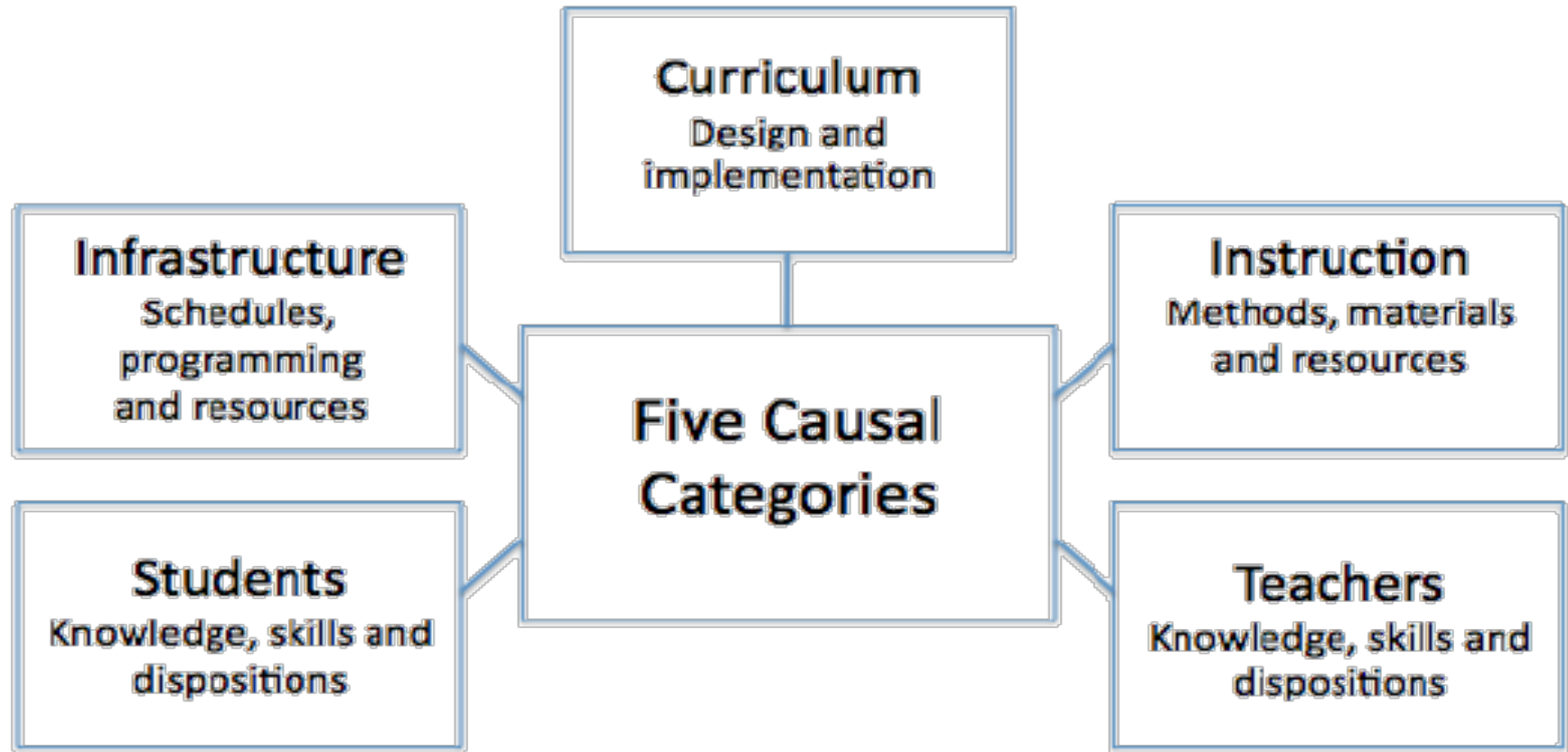
Group of 8 = 28

## Guiding Questions

- What important points seem to pop out?
- What patterns, categories, or trends are emerging?
- What seems to be surprising or unexpected?
- What are some questions this data generates?

**BEC** ~~**BECAUSE**~~ **USE**

## Organizing and Integrating

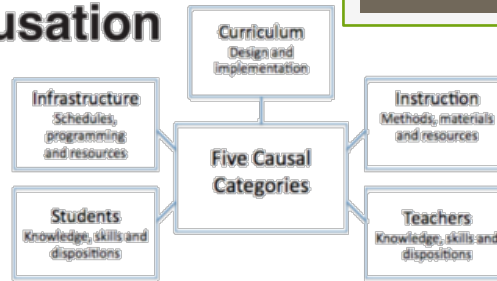


--Lipton, L. & Wellman, B. (2012). *Got data? Now what?* Bloomington, IN: Solution Tree, Inc.

## Organizing and Integrating

### Theories of Causation

Observation:



Use this space to record three possible theories of causation related to your observation:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Circle one theory to test. In the space below, record at least three sources of data that you could use to confirm this theory.

- Looking at the observations made by the table, individually generate a couple of theories of causation.
- Then, share in your pairs and come to consensus on no more than two theories.
- Share and write the theories on chart paper for the table.





## Spend A Buck for Consensus

- **Review** the list generated.
- **Independently, use Post it Notes to score** each one with a score between **0 – 100**. Your total should **not exceed 100**.
- **Tally** the score and identify the top theory. If there is a tie, then Spend A Buck again to break the tie.

## Feedback & Reflection

Using a post it note, create an exit slip assessing the collaborative inquiry process used during this time of today's meeting and offering +/ $\Delta$  feedback.

How might you use this process in the future?

HOW WAS THE MEETING?

+

$\Delta$

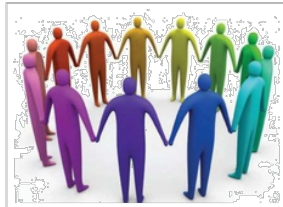
[www.mnpscollaboration.org](http://www.mnpscollaboration.org)

## Collaborative Inquiry Toolkit

[Home](#) [Meeting Structures and Strategies](#) [Collaboration Corner Blog](#) [Feedback](#) [more...](#)

### *An MNPS REL Appalachia Partnership*

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 teams (fostering a culture of trust, maintaining a clear focus, taking collective responsibility and data-informed decision making).



**Workshop Warehouse**

MNPS Collaborative Inquiry Toolkit

## Collaboration Corner Blog

### Email Subscription

Click [HERE](#) to  
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posts.

## Wrap Up



## References

Lipton, L. & Wellman, B. (2012). *Got data? Now what?* Bloomington, IN: Solution Tree.

Lipton, L. & Wellman, B. (2011). *Groups at work: Strategies and structures for professional learning*. Sherman, CT: MiraVia, LLC.

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Wellman, B. & Lipton, L. (2004). *Data-driven dialogue: A facilitator's guide to collaborative inquiry*. Sherman, CT: MiraVia, LLC.