



# **Creating the Future We Want with Our Communities**

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# Our Journey Together Today



# Meandering Journey of Life



# BEing before DOing



# Tap the Wisdom in the Room #1: Honoring & Valuing Each Other

- Share whatever you'd like from your meandering journey of life.
- What excites you about your community?
- What brought you to the work you do?
- Why did you choose to participate in this workshop session today?



# The Power of Assumptions



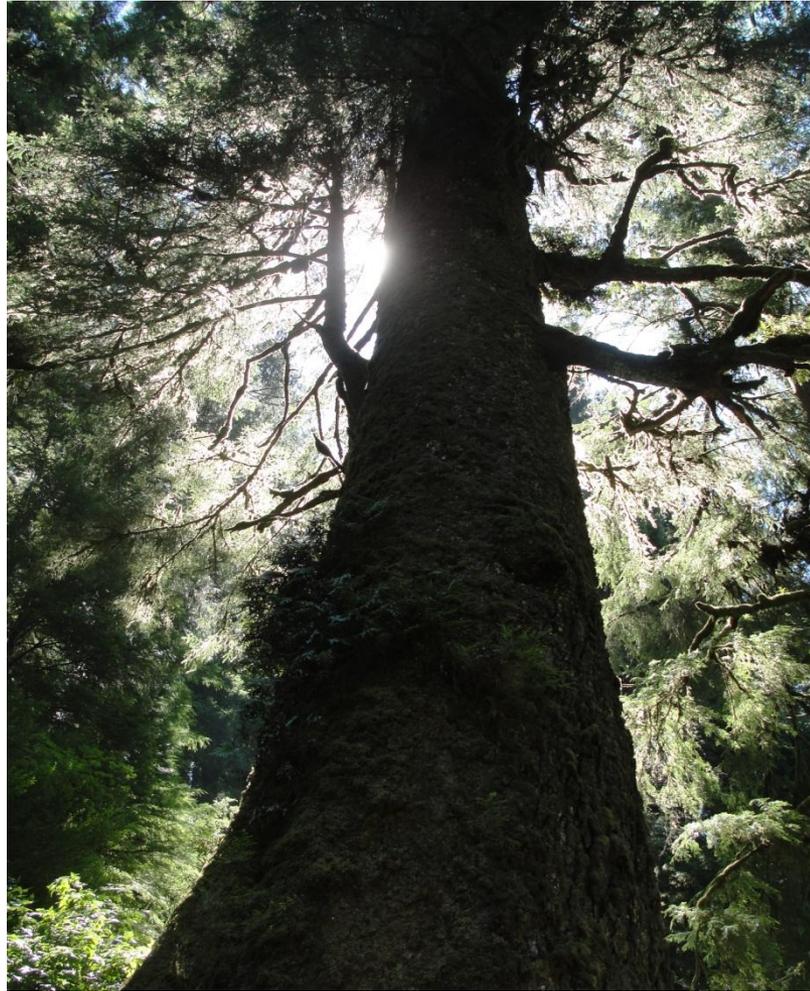
**WHAT IF THAT IS NOT TRUE?**



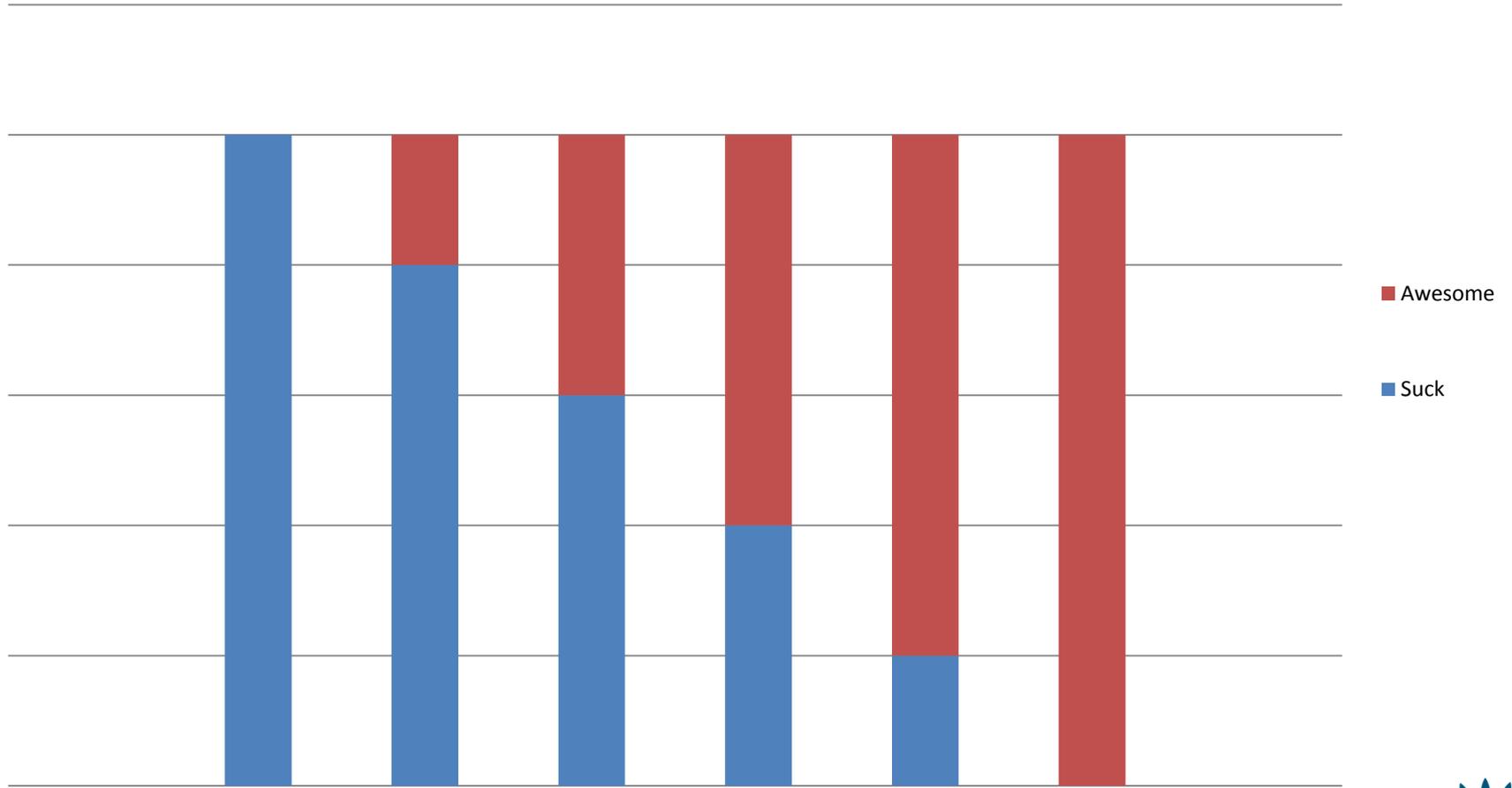
# CURRENT SYSTEMS & SILOS



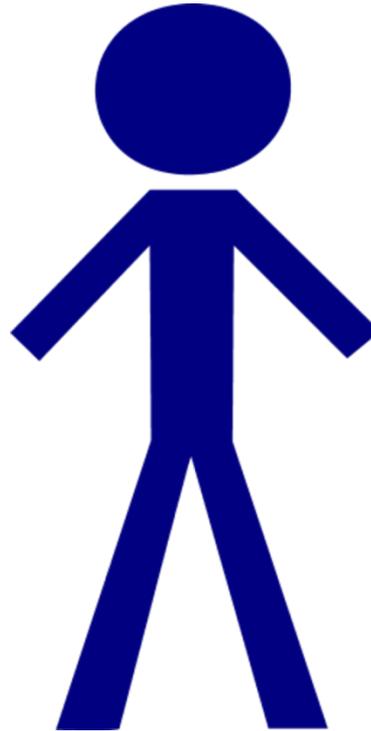
# LOOK UP



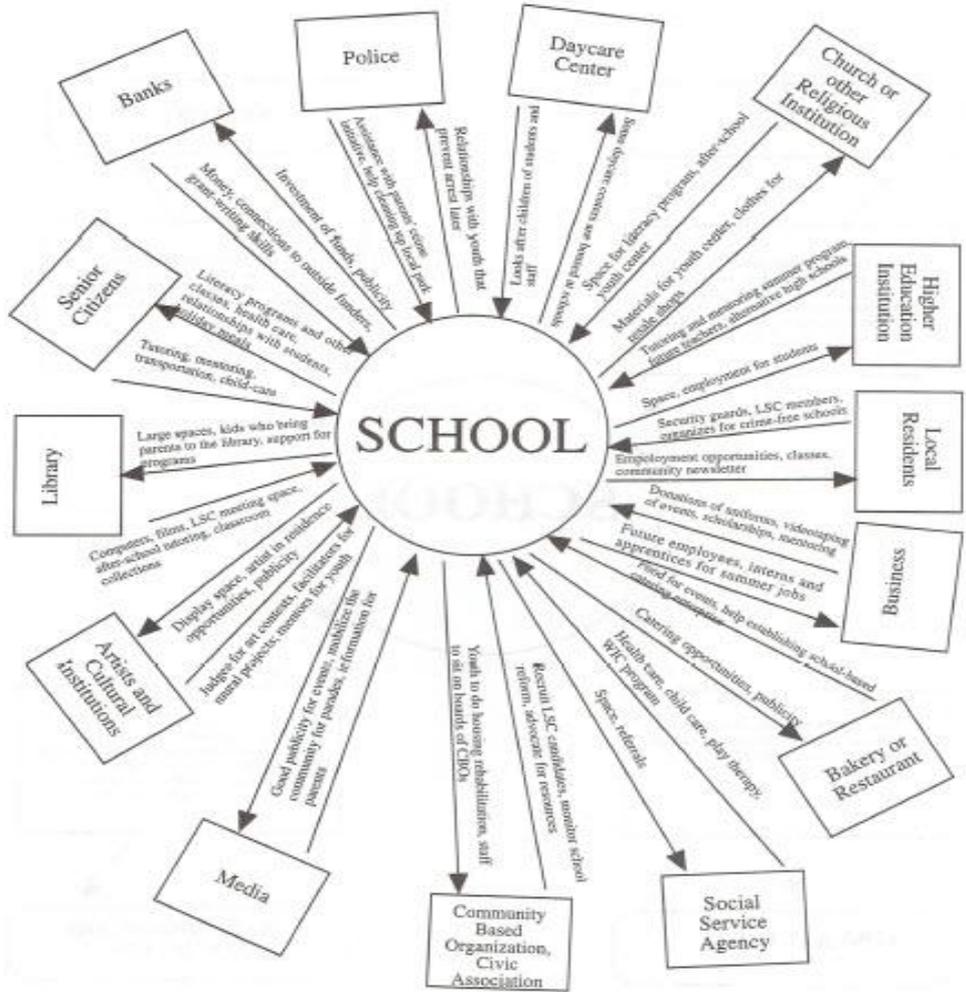
# Data: An Inverse Relationship



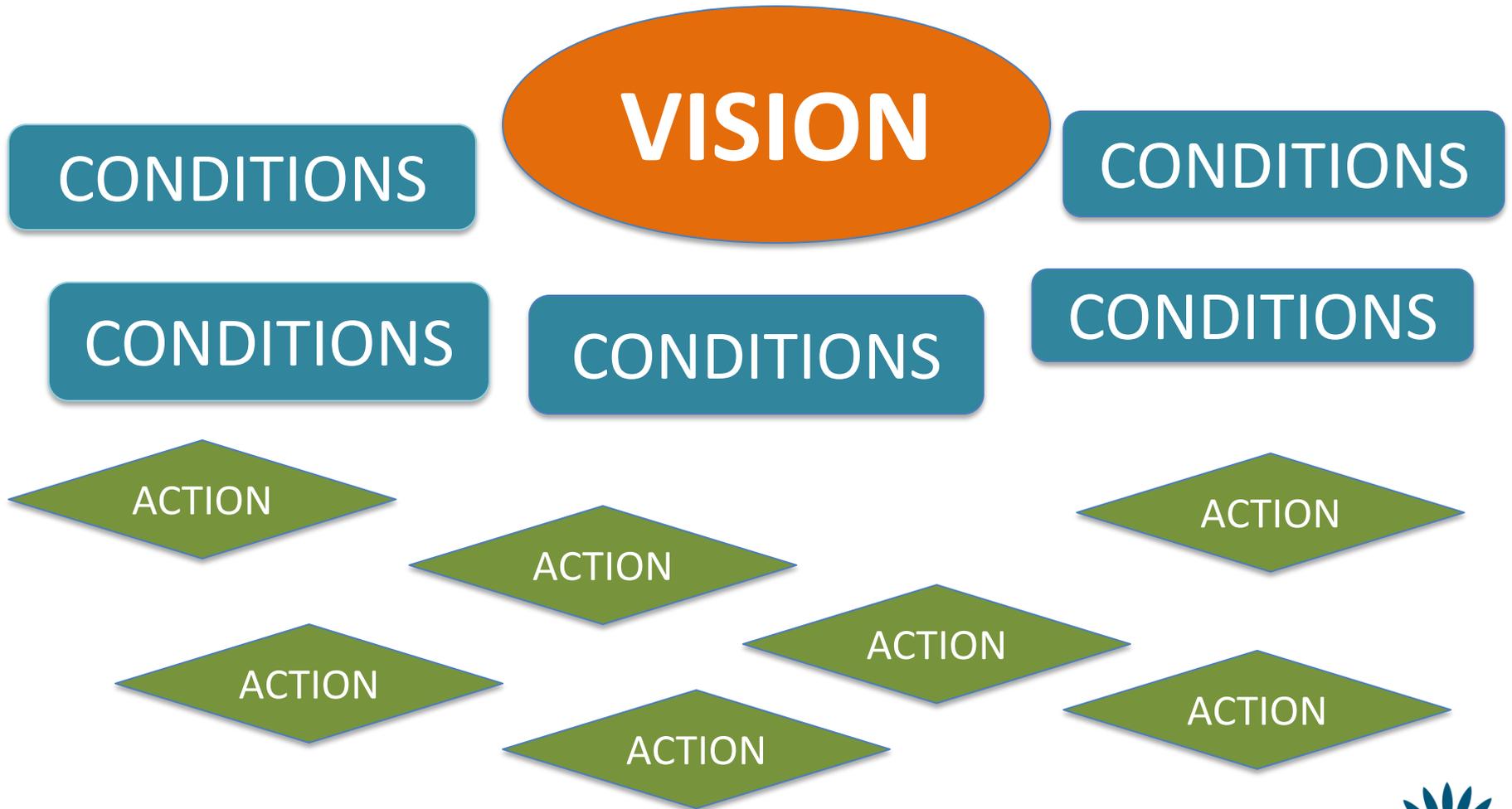
# Our Youth, Our Community



# SCHOOLS AS COMMUNITY HUBS



# Reverse Engineer to Create the Future We Want



# **Tap the Wisdom in the Room #2: Reverse Engineer Our Communities**

When you imagine your community with every possible resource, and all community members are able to be at their highest potential, what is different? And for whom?

What does the community look and feel like?



# Change the Questions

Are you asking questions that...

## **FOCUS ON DRAMA AND PROBLEMS?**

- react to what we do NOT want?
- are rooted in scarcity?
- that reinforce the worst in each other?

## **OR AIM FOR WHAT IS POSSIBLE?**

- create the future we DO want?
- are rooted in “Collective Enoughness” ?
- that bring out the best in each other?



# CREATING THE FUTURE WITH CALDWELL

## A Snapshot of the Caldwell Community Hub as of April 2015:

- Close to 200 community members, and growing every week
- Representation from school district; federal, state, and local agencies; community benefit organizations; post-secondary institutions; faith-based organizations; local businesses; engaged community members
- Collectively meeting every other Monday, 2-4 pm at locations all over the community since June 2014
- Sharing knowledge and resources, learning, partnering, co-locating, and disseminating information
- Documenting and building on community change as it occurs in the 13 short days between meetings

## SO, HOW DID WE GET HERE?

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# Community Engagement: A Practical and Simple Framework

- **INVITE** every community member to join the journey – aim for what is possible together, not to solve problems or fix what we don't like
- **GET OUT** in the community – uncover existing assets
- **HONOR** relationships, building trust, shared wisdom – embed in your culture and every conversation
- **CHANGE** the questions you ask of yourself and others – pay attention to how you feel and others respond
- **CREATE** the systems that support what you are aiming for together – stop using what isn't working



# In Their Own Words

“Humbling and heartening , a **new vision for the community** is born in this group.”

“Without partners we can’t get anything done.”

“It’s the **principle of abundance**. Just didn’t know what each already have, and there are gold nuggets here to mine.”

“Think about transportation from the lens of **what is possible together**, not just as a bus company.”

“I am able to connect community members to other programs and resources **beyond where I work.**”

“We were pastors in a vacuum until we came to these meetings”

““Before the HUB I was totally discouraged. Now I am encouraged. I have knowledge, resources and supports.”

“**The best two hours I spend.**”

“We get stuff done! **It’s all about relationships.**”

“It’s not just where we work. We **bring what ever else we are involved in.**”

“**Be present where you live.**”



# Three Questions to Keep Front & Center

1. What do we want life to be like in and with our community?
  - What will it take to get there?
2. Who else cares about this?
  - What can we accomplish together that we can't on our own?
3. What resources do we have together that we don't have on our own?



# From the Heart of One Community



# Tap the Wisdom in the Room #3: Reflections

- What stood out to you today?
- What resonated?
- What excited you?
- What will you do differently for yourself and others?
- What systems can you challenge and participate in changing?
- How can you lead from the middle?



Infinite gratitude for all things past.

Infinite service to all things present.

Infinite responsibility for all things future.

- *Daisetz Suzuki*



# Continue the Conversation

**SHARE** your thoughts! What happened when you change the questions you ask of yourself and others? Please join our learning and sharing community. Visit our blog post “Dipping Your Toe” at <http://tiny.cc/ipsc>

**CONNECT, LEARN & GROW** with us:

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