Coherence: putting your inner drive into overdrive

MICHAEL FULLAN - 2015 Australia Workshop
Strategies that give you the freedom to change and the power to make a real difference – personally and in your organization.
Our team has been immersed in ‘whole system change’ for the past few years in Ontario, Canada; California; Australia and New Zealand; and elsewhere. Our main mode of learning is to go from practice to theory, and then back and forth to obtain more specific insights about how to lead and participate in transformative change in schools and school systems.

In this workshop we take the best of these insights from our most recent publications: *Stratosphere*, *The Professional Capital of Teachers*, *The Principal, Freedom to Change*, and *Coherence* and integrate the ideas into a single set of learnings.

The specific objectives for participants are:

1. To learn to take initiative on what we call ‘Freedom to Change’.
2. To Understand and be able to use the ‘Coherence Framework’.
3. To analyze your current situation and to identify action strategies for making improvements.
4. Overall to gain insights into ‘leadership in a digital age’.

We have organized this session around six modules:

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Please feel free to reproduce and use the material in this booklet with your staff and others.

2015
### Shifting to the Right Drivers

<table>
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<th>Right</th>
<th>Wrong</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity building</td>
<td>Accountability</td>
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<td>Collaborative work</td>
<td>Individual teacher and leadership quality</td>
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<td>Pedagogy</td>
<td>Technology</td>
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<td>Systemness</td>
<td>Fragmented strategies</td>
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### Freedom:

If you could make one change in your school or system what would it be? What obstacles stand in your way?

### Trio Talk:
- Meet up with two colleagues.
- Share your choice and rationale.
- What were the similarities and differences in the choices?
The Concepts of Freedom

- **Freedom to** is getting rid of the constraints.
- **Freedom from** is figuring out what to do when you become more liberated.

Seeking Coherence

- Within your table read the seven quotes from *Coherence* and circle the one you like the best.
- Go around the table and see who selected which quotes.
- As a group discuss what ‘coherence’ means.

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**Coherence: The Right Drivers in Action for Schools, Districts, and Systems**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Quote</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>There is only one way to achieve greater coherence, and that is through purposeful action and interaction, working on capacity, clarity, precision of practice, transparency, monitoring of progress, and continuous correction. All of this requires the right mixture of “pressure and support”: the press for progress within supportive and focused cultures. p. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Coherence making in other words is a continuous process of making and remaking meaning in your own mind and in your culture. Our framework shows you how to do this. p. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td><em>Effective change processes shape and reshape good ideas as they build capacity and ownership among participants.</em> There are two components: the quality of the idea and the quality of the process. p.14</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>… that these highly successful organizations learned from the success of others but never tried to imitate what others did. Instead, they found their own pathway to success. They did many of the right things, and they learned and adjusted as they proceeded. p.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Most people would rather be challenged by change and helped to progress than be mired in frustration. Best of all, this work tackles “whole systems” and uses the group to change the group. People know they are engaged in something beyond their narrow role. It is human nature to rise to a larger call if the problems are serious enough and if there is a way forward where they can play a role with others. Coherence making is the pathway that does this. p. ix</td>
</tr>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>What we need is consistency of purpose, policy, and practice. Structure and strategy are not enough. The solution requires the individual and collective ability to build shared meaning, capacity, and commitment to action. When large numbers of people have a deeply understood sense of what needs to be done—and see their part in achieving that purpose—coherence emerges and powerful things happen. p. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Coherence pertains to people individually and especially collectively. To cut to the chase, coherence consists of the shared depth of understanding about the purpose and nature of the work. Coherence, then, is what is in the minds and actions of people individually and especially collectively. p. 1-2</td>
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The Coherence Framework

- Focusing Direction
- Cultivating Collaborative Cultures
- Securing Accountability
- Deepening Learning
Module 1

Notes:

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Focusing Direction

Purpose Driven: Quick Write

Clarify your own moral purpose by reflecting and recording your thoughts about these four questions using the quick write protocol:

- What is your moral purpose?
- What actions do I take to realize this moral purpose?
- How do I help others clarify their moral purpose?
- Am I making progress in realizing my moral purpose with students?

Share your thoughts with other members of your team and discuss themes that emerge.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
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<tr>
<td>What is my moral purpose?</td>
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<td>What actions do I take to realize this moral purpose?</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am I making progress in realizing my moral purpose with students?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Focusing Direction

Clarity of Strategy

- Successful change processes are a function of shaping and reshaping good ideas as they build capacity and ownership.
- Clarity about goals is not sufficient. Leaders must develop shared understanding in people’s minds and collective action. Coherence becomes a function of the interplay between the growing explicitness of the strategy and the change culture. The two variables of explicitness of strategy and quality of the change culture interact creating four different results.

Change Quality Protocol

1. Superficiality
   When the strategy is not very precise, actionable or clear (low explicitness) and people are comfortable in the culture, we may see activity but at very superficial levels.

2. Inertia
   This quadrant represents the history of the teaching profession—behind the classroom door, where teachers left each other alone with a license to be creative or ineffective.
   Innovative teachers receive little feedback on their ideas, nor do these ideas become available to others and isolated, less than effective teachers get little help to improve.

3. Resistance
   When innovations are highly prescribed (often detailed programs bought off the shelf) but culture is weak and teachers have not been involved sufficiently in developing ownership and new capacities, the result is pushback and resistance. If the programs are sound, they can result in short term gains (tightening an otherwise loose system), but because teachers have not been engaged in shaping the ideas or the strategy there is little willingness to take risks.

4. Depth
   A strong climate for change with an explicitness of strategy is optimal. People operating in conditions of high trust, collaboration, and effective leadership, are more willing to innovate and take risks. If we balance that with a strategy that has precision, clarity, and measures of success, changes implemented will be deep and have impact.
Change Quality Quadrant

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<th>Low</th>
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<td>Low</td>
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<td>High</td>
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### Change Climate (vertical axis):
- Describes the degree to which a culture supports change by fostering trust, nonjudgmentalism, leadership, innovation, and collaboration.

### Explicitness (horizontal axis):
- Describes the degree of explicitness of the strategy, including precision of the goals, clarity of the strategy, use of data, and supports.

Change Quality Protocol

1. Brainstorm individually all the changes you are implementing in your school or district and place each idea on a post-it along with your initial.

2. Consider evidence of explicitness of the strategy and the strength of the culture for each initiative. Mark the post-it as belonging to quadrant 1, 2, 3 or 4.

3. When the first two steps are completed, all peers should place their post-its on the quadrants at the same time.

4. Review each post-it looking for similarities or differences. Discuss the evidence that led to the placement.

5. Select two or three important changes and discuss:
   - What is effective/ineffective about the explicitness of the strategy?
   - What is effective/ineffective about the culture for change?
Three Keys to Maximizing Impact

The Lead Learner: The Principal’s New Role

To increase impact, principals should use their time differently: they should direct their energies to developing the group.

The Principal’s New Role

To lead the school’s teachers in a process of learning to improve their teaching, while learning alongside them about what works and what doesn’t.
Within-School Variability

- Variability of performance between schools is 36%, while variability within schools is 64%.

—OECD (2013)

Turn and Talk

- Read the excerpt from John Hattie and discuss what the meaning of ‘within school variability’ is.

Introduction


The Largest Barrier to Student Learning: Within-School Variability

If we are to truly improve student learning, it is vital that we identify the most important barrier to such improvement. And that barrier is the effect of within-school variability on learning. The variability between schools in most Western countries is far smaller than the variability within schools (Hattie 2015). For example, the 2009 PISA results for reading across all OECD countries shows that the variability between schools is 36 per cent, while the variance within schools is 64 per cent (OECD 2010).

There are many causes of this variance within schools, but I would argue that the most important (and one that we have some influence to reduce) is the variability in the effectiveness of teachers. I don’t mean to suggest that all teachers are bad; I mean that there is a great deal of variability among teachers in the effect that they have on student learning. This variability is well known, but rarely discussed, perhaps because this type of discussion would necessitate potentially uncomfortable questions. Hence, the politics of distraction are often invoked to avoid asking them.
Overcoming Variability Through Collaborative Expertise

There is every reason to assume that by attending to the problem of variability within a school and increasing the effectiveness of all teachers there will be a marked overall increase in achievement. So the aim is to bring the effect of all teachers on student learning up to a very high standard. The ‘No Child Left Behind’ policy should have been named ‘No Teacher Left Behind’.

This is not asking teachers and school leaders to attain some impossibly high set of dream standards; this is merely asking for all teachers to have the same impact as our best teachers. Let’s consider some analogies: not all doctors have high levels of expertise, and not all are in an elite college of surgeons; not all architects are in royal societies; and not all engineers are in academies of engineers. Just because a doctor, architect or engineer is not a member of these august bodies, however, does not mean that they are not worth consulting. They may not have achieved the upper echelon, but they will still have reached a necessary level of expertise to practise.

Similarly, the teaching profession needs to recognise expertise and create a profession of educators in which all teachers aspire to become members of the college, society or academy of highly effective and expert teachers. Such entry has to be based on dependable measures based on expertise. In this way, we can drive all upwards and not only reduce the variability among teachers and school leaders but also demonstrate to all (voters, parents, politicians, press) that there is a ‘practice of teaching’; that there is a difference between experienced teachers and expert teachers; and that some practices have a higher probability of being successful than others. The alternative is the demise of teacher expertise and a continuation of the politics of distraction.

So, my claim is that the greatest influence on student progression in learning is having highly expert, inspired and passionate teachers and school leaders working together to maximise the effect of their teaching on all students in their care. There is a major role for school leaders: to harness the expertise in their schools and to lead successful transformations. There is also a role for the system: to provide the support, time and resources for this to happen. Putting all three of these (teachers, leaders, system) together gets at the heart of collaborative expertise.

> Human Capital
> Social Capital
> Decisional Capital

What has a greater impact on teaching and learning?

- Teacher appraisal?
- Professional Development
- Collaborative Cultures
### Cultivating Collaborative Cultures

| **School Cultures** | ▪ Talented schools improve weak teachers  
▪ Talented teachers leave weak schools  
▪ Good collaboration reduces bad variation  
▪ The sustainability of an organization is a function of the quality of its lateral relationships |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Freedom To Means</strong></td>
<td>▪ Autonomy &amp; Cooperation</td>
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| **Balancing Autonomy & Cooperation** | ▪ If you choose being on your own you lose the human connection necessary for life.  
▪ If you succumb to the extreme of being absorbed in a group, you lose your identity. |
| **Struggle between Autonomy and Cooperation** | ▪ Countries granting schools independent status freer from traditional bureaucracies find pockets of innovation among a larger number of pockets of failure.  
▪ What is needed for success is to combine flexibility with requirements for cooperation. |
| **Forms of Cooperation** | ▪ Building collaborative cultures  
▪ Participating in networks of schools or districts to learn from each other  
▪ Relating to state policies and priorities |
| **Groupthink** | ▪ ...situations where groups are cohesive, have highly directive leadership, and fail to seek external information. Such groups strive for unanimity, failing to consider alternative courses of action. |
Point & Go?

Meet up with a colleague from another table group.

- Discuss a time you were part of groupthink. What impact did it have on the group and you personally?
- What is the power of autonomy?
- How do you balance autonomy and cooperation?

Notes:
Deepening Learning

The 6C’s provides an advance organizer for thinking about Deep Learning Competencies as identified by New Pedagogies for Deep Learning. The placemat organizer can be used to activate prior knowledge about the 6C’s or to look for examples of the 6C’s using video exemplars.

Exciting new learning needs to be:

- Irresistibly engaging
- Elegantly efficient
- Technology ubiquitous
- Steeped in real life problem solving
- Involves deep learning
The 6C’s Protocol

- Form groups of six with each peer assigned one of the 6C’s.
- Review the descriptors of the six deep learning competencies. Each group member will take one competency and provide an example of what that competency might look like and sound like in practice or how it is being developed in their classroom or school.
- Share the examples within the group of six.
- Select a video of classroom practice and analyze it for examples of how the six deep learning competencies are being developed. Use the same graphic organizer to record evidence.
- Discuss ways to incorporate one or more competencies in future learning designs.

The 6C’s Protocol

1. Communication
   - Coherent communication using a range of modes
   - Communication designed for different audiences
   - Substantive, multimodal communication
   - Reflection on and use of the process of learning to improve communication

2. Critical thinking
   - Evaluating information and arguments
   - Making connections and identifying patterns
   - Problem solving
   - Meaningful knowledge construction
   - Experimenting, reflecting, and taking action on ideas in the real world

3. Collaboration
   - Working interdependently as a team
   - Interpersonal and team-related skills
   - Social, emotional, and intercultural skills
   - Management of team dynamics and challenges

4. Creativity
   - Economic and social entrepreneurialism
   - Asking the right inquiry questions
   - Considering and pursuing novel ideas and solutions
   - Leadership for action

5. Character
   - Learning to learn
   - Grit, tenacity, perseverance, and resilience
   - Self-regulation and responsibility
   - Empathy for and contributing to the safety and benefit of others

6. Citizenship
   - A global perspective
   - Understanding of diverse values and worldviews
   - Genuine interest in human and environmental sustainability
### The 6 C’s of Learning Goals

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<th>Communication</th>
<th>Creativity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Character</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration</td>
<td>Citizenship</td>
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My Learning

The first element refers to the need for students to take responsibility for their learning and to understand the process of learning, if it is to be maximized. This requires students to develop skills in learning to learn, giving and receiving feedback, and enacting student agency.

- Learning to learn requires that students build metacognition about their learning. They begin to define their own learning goals and success criteria; monitor their own learning and critically examine their work; and incorporate feedback from peers, teachers, and others to deepen their awareness of how they function in the learning process.

- Feedback is essential to improving performance. As students make progress in mastering the learning process, the role of the teacher gradually shifts from explicitly structuring the learning task, toward providing feedback, activating the next learning challenge, and continuously developing the learning environment.

- Student agency emerges as students take a more active role in codeveloping learning tasks and assessing results. It is more than participation; it is engaging students in real decision-making and a willingness to learn together.

Deepening Learning

My Belonging
The second element of belonging is a crucial foundation for all human beings who are social by nature and crave purpose, meaning, and connectedness to others.

- **Caring** environments help students to flourish and meet the basic need of all humans to feel they are respected and belong.

- **Relationships** are integral to preparing for authentic learning. As students develop both interpersonal connections and intrapersonal insight, they are able to move to successively more complex tasks in groups and independently. Managing collaborative relationships and being self-monitoring are skills for life.

My Aspirations
Student results can be dramatically affected by the expectations they hold of themselves and the perceptions they believe others have for them (see also Quaglia & Corso, 2014).

- **Expectations** are a key determinant of success, as noted in Hattie’s research. Students must believe they can achieve and also feel that others believe that. They must codetermine success criteria and be engaged in measuring their growth. Families, students, and teachers can together foster higher expectations through deliberate means—sometimes simply by discussing current and ideal expectations and what might make them possible to achieve.

- **Needs and interests** are a powerful accelerator for motivation and engagement. Teachers who tap into the natural curiosity and interest of students are able to use that as a springboard to deeply engage students in tasks that are relevant, authentic, and examine concepts and problems in depth.

Teachers, schools, and districts that combine strategies to unlock the three elements in their students will foster untapped potential and form meaningful learning partnerships.

**How good is your school at addressing the three ‘mys’?**

| My learning (scale 1-10) | = __________ |
| My belonging (scale 1-10) | = __________ |
| My aspirations (scale 1-10) | = __________ |

Reflect on what you can do to accelerate meaningful learning partnerships with students in you school.
WHAT IS DEEP LEARNING?
Six deep learning competencies define what it means to be a deep learner. Deep learning experiences are engaging, relevant, authentic and build the 6 C’s.

CREATIVITY
Having an entrepreneurial eye for economic and social opportunities, asking the right inquiry questions to generate novel ideas, and leadership to pursue those ideas and turn them into action.

CRITICAL THINKING
Critically evaluating information and arguments, seeing patterns and connections, constructing meaningful knowledge, and solving it in the real world.

COMMUNICATION
Communicating effectively with a variety of styles, modes, and tools (including digital tools), tailored for a range of audiences.

CHARACTER
Learning to deep learn, armed with the essential character traits of grit, tenacity, perseverance, and resilience; and the ability to make learning an integral part of living.

CITIZENSHIP
Thinking like global citizens, considering global issues, based on a deep understanding of diverse values and worldviews, and with a genuine interest and ability to solve and tackle, and contribute, real-world problems that impact human and environmental sustainability.

COLLABORATION
Work interdependently and synergistically in teams with strong interpersonal and team-related skills, including effective management of hyperdynamics and challenges, making collaborative decisions, and learning from and contributing to the learning of others.

How do we shift from Traditional to Deep Learning?
Four elements combine to create the new pedagogies and foster deep learning.

LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS
Learning partnerships are cultivated between and among students, teachers, families and the wider environment.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS
Learning environments foster 24/7 interaction in trusting environments where students take responsibility for their learning.

PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES
Pedagogical practices are used to design, monitor and assess learning.

LEVERAGING DIGITAL
Leveraging digital accelerates access to knowledge beyond the classroom and cultivates student driven deep learning.

DEEP LEARNING
Deepening Learning

Tools and Processes

Progressions, protocols and rubrics support the design of deep learning and ways to provide conditions that foster deep learning.

The Learning Design Protocol guides the design of deep learning experiences through a series of prompts. It anchors discussion about design elements for the deep learning process.

The Learning Design Rubric is a tool to assess the quality of the learning design and make improvements in design that will accelerate or deepen future learning.

The Deep Learning Progressions provide a description of the dimensions of each competency and possible pathways for student progress. The progression is used to assess strengths and needs for designing the learning. They are also used to monitor progress and to evaluate development along the progression.

The School Conditions Rubric identifies the conditions that need to be in place to shift practices to deep learning.

The Cluster Conditions Rubric identifies the conditions that are needed to support a transformation to deep learning across all schools.

Students, Computers, and Learning

• Countries that invest more heavily in ICT do less well in student achievement.
  —OECD, 2015

Early Insights about Leadership for NPDL: Direction, Letting Go, Consolidating

• A cycle of trying things and making meaning
• Co-learning dominates
• Leaders spent a lot of time listening, learning, asking questions
• Leaders help articulate what is happening, and how it relates to impact
• The role of tools is to provide focus and shape without suffocating context
• Ultimately you need people to take charge of their own learning in a context of individual and collective efficacy
Simply stated, accountability is taking responsibility for one’s actions. At the core of accountability in educational systems is student learning. As City, Elmore, Fiarman, and Teitel (2009) argue, “the real accountability system is in the tasks that students are asked to do” (p. 23). Constantly improving and refining instructional practice so that students can engage in deep learning tasks is perhaps the single most important responsibility of the teaching profession and educational systems as a whole. In this sense, accountability as defined here is not limited to mere gains in test scores but on deeper and more meaningful learning for all students.

**Internal accountability** occurs when individuals and groups willingly take on personal, professional, and collective responsibility for continuous improvement and success for all students (Hargreaves & Shirley, 2009). “ p. 110-111

**External accountability** is when system leaders reassure the public through transparency, monitoring, and selective intervention that their system is performing in line with societal expectations and requirements. The priority for policy makers, we argue, should be to lead with creating the conditions for internal accountability, because they are more effective in achieving greater overall accountability, including external accountability. Policy makers also have direct responsibilities to address external accountability, but this latter function will be far more effective if they get the internal part right.
<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accountability is now primarily described as an accountability for student learning. It is less about some test result and more about accepting ownership of the moral imperative of having every student learn. Teachers talk about “monitoring” differently. As they engage in greater sharing of the work, they talk about being accountable as people in the school community know what they are doing and looking to see what is changing for students as a result. And as they continue to deprivatize teaching, they talk about their principal and peers coming into their classrooms and expecting to see the work [of agreed-upon practices] reflected in their teaching, their classroom walls, and student work. (Anonymous, personal communication, November 2014)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Teachers and administrators talk about accountability by deprivatizing their practice. If everyone knows what the other teacher or administrator is working on and how they are working on it with students, it becomes a lot easier to talk about accountability. When everyone has an understanding of accountability, creating clear goals and steps to reach those goals, it makes it easier for everyone to talk and work in accountable environments. (Elementary principal, personal communication, November 2014)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>We are moving to define accountability as responsibility. My district has been engaged in some important work that speaks to intrinsic motivation, efficacy, perseverance, etc., and accountability is seen as doing what is best for students . . . working together to tackle any challenge and being motivated by our commitment as opposed to some external direction. (Superintendent, personal communication, November 2014)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>I do believe that a lot of work remains to be done on building common understanding on the notion of accountability. Many people still believe that someone above them in the hierarchy is accountable. Very few take personal accountability for student learning and achievement. There are still those who blame parents and students’ background for achievement. (Consultant, personal communication, November 2014)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>In one school, the talk about accountability was pervasive as the school became designated as underperforming. The morale of the school went down significantly, and the tension was omnipresent at every meeting. The team switched the conversation to motivation, innovation, and teamwork and the culture changed. The school is energized and the test scores went up in one year. The team is now committed to results and continuous improvement. (Consultant, personal communication, November 2014)</td>
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Three Step Interview

1. Form teams of three and letter off A, B, and C.
2. Read the excerpt on ‘Accountability’ from Coherence above and the five quotes. Think about the responses to the questions below.
3. Begin the cycle with person A as the Interviewer, B as the Respondent and C as the Recorder using the Advance Organizer.
4. Provide five minutes for each Respondent to respond and then continue the cycle until all participants have been interviewed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Person A</th>
<th>Person B</th>
<th>Person C</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. How would you distinguish between Internal and External Accountability?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Describe strategies your school/district uses to build Internal Accountability?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. What steps will you take to ensure the effective implementation of External Accountability?</td>
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Know They Impact

Turn and Talk:
- Read the excerpt from John Hattie. What does your school specifically do to develop a culture of evidence?

Know They Impact!


The model advanced here is that the school leader is responsible for asking on a continual basis about the impact of all the adults on the learning of the students. Of course, I am not forgetting that the students are players in improving their learning. But that is the bonus, the compound-interest component. What is requested is that school leaders become leaders in evaluating the impact of all in the school on the progress of all students; the same for teachers; and the same for students.

School leaders need to be continually working with their staff to evaluate the impact of all on student progression. Leaders need to create a trusting environment where staff can debate the effect they have and use the information to devise future innovations. And leaders need to communicate the information on impact and progression to the students and parents. Schools need to become incubators of programs, evaluators of impact and experts at interpreting the effects of teachers and teaching on all students.

In short, we need to develop an evaluation climate in our education system.

Experience has shown that ten- to twelve-week cycles of evaluation are about optimal. Fewer weeks tend to lead to over-assessment or insufficient time to detect change; more weeks and the damage or success is done. We should know this and react appropriately. It does mean asking teachers to be clear about what success or impact would look like before they start to teach a series of lessons.

Of course, this must start by asking the questions, ‘Impact on what? To what magnitude? Impact for whom?’ Evaluating impact requires analyses of what a year’s growth looks like, and it is likely it may differ depending on where the student begins in this growth. Evaluating impact asks schools and systems to be clearer about what it means to be good at various disciplines, to be clearer about what a year’s progress looks like and to provide staff with collaborative opportunities to make these decisions.

This is the hardest part of our work, as teachers we have been so ingrained to wait and see what the students do, to see which students attend and then to pick out examples of successful progress. Our alternative model asks that teachers be clearer about what success would look like and the magnitude of the impact, and we ask them to prepare assessments to administer at the end – before they start teaching. The bonus of this latter preparation is that it ensures that teachers understand what success is meant to look like before they start teaching, and it increases the likelihood that teachers communicate these notions of success to the students.

There is also a need to include the student voice about teacher impact in the learning/teaching debates; that is, to hear the students’ view of how they are cared about and respected as learners, how captivated they are by the lessons, how they can see errors as opportunities for learning, how they can speak up and share their understanding and how they can provide and seek feedback so they know where to go next. As the Visible Learning research has shown, the student voice can be highly reliable, rarely includes personality comments and, appropriately used, can be a major resource for understanding and promoting high-impact teaching and learning.
Developing a culture of evidence

Janet Clinton and I have used the theories of empowerment evaluation to spell out many of these mind frames (in Clinton and Hattie 2014). Empowerment evaluation is based on the use of evaluation concepts, techniques and findings to foster improvement. It increases the likelihood that programmes will achieve results by increasing the capacity of stakeholders to plan, implement and evaluate their own programmes. We argued that we need to teach educators:

- to think evaluatively;
- to have discussions and debates in light of the impact of what they do;
- to use the tools of evaluation in schools (such as classroom observations of the impact of teachers on students, interpreting test scores to inform their impact and future actions, and standard setting methods to clarify what challenge and progression should look like in this school);
- to build a culture of evidence, improvement and evaluation capacity-building;
- to develop a mind frame based on excellence, defined in multiple ways, and for all;
- and to take pride in our collective impact.

Empowerment evaluation helps to cultivate a continuous culture of evidence by asking educators for evidence to support their views and interpretations and to engage in continual phases of analysis, decision-making and implementation.

Note to Self

How would I describe our evidence based culture?
Freedom as Learning

Feedback: A Gold Mine of Potential Growth

1. People don’t like feedback and want to be free from it.
2. Feedback is one of the key interacting simplifiers for individuals and groups wanting to change.
3. To think in terms of active seeking means to think first and foremost in terms of what receivers of feedback need and can do.
4. Giving and taking feedback are both challenging.

Feedback Forum

Meet up with another colleague from a different district. Use the following questions as the basis for your discussion

- Think of a time when you received powerful feedback. Why was it powerful? What did you learn from it?
- What are the challenges of giving feedback?
- Describe feedback that inspires growth.

Notes
Securing Accountability

Freedom To World

- If we recast its role, feedback can become one of the most powerful forces for the betterment of the individual and the organization.

Best Advice

- Take a risk and seek feedback, both because you will be worse off if you do nothing and because you will learn from it.

Cultures that Value Feedback

An overarching and inspiring sense of purpose

Respect for Autonomy

Quality Interaction

Candor of feedback

Good transparent data

Turn and Talk

Does our organization have a culture to support providing/receiving feedback?

What, if anything, could we do to improve the culture for feedback?

Freedom To: Accountability

If you are seeking feedback and using feedback as an opportunity to learn with respect to important goals, you are already on the path of accountability: a willingness to accept responsibility for your own actions.
Exploration vs Engagement

- What’s out there?
- Who should we partner with

—Pentland, 2014

Criteria for Effective Networking

1. A small number of ambitious goals (pre-school to tertiary)
2. Leadership at all levels
3. Cultures that produce ‘Collective Efficacy’
4. Mobilizing data and effective practices as a strategy for improvement
5. Intervention in a non-punitive manner
6. Being transparent, relentless and increasingly challenging

—Rincón-Gallardo & Fullan, in press

New Zealand: Joint Initiative Agreement

Read the Joint Initiative Agreement

- What do you like about it?
- What questions do you have?
- Discuss implications for your work.

—Rincón-Gallardo & Fullan, in press

New Zealand Education Institute, Ministry of Education
Following up to Working Party Report

Working Party Report – Overarching Principles

1. Children are at the centre of a smooth and seamless whole of educational pathway from earliest learning to tertiary options.
2. Parents who are informed and engaged are involved in their children’s education and part of a community with high expectations for and of those children.
3. Teachers and education leaders, supported by their own professional learning and growth, and those of their colleagues will systematically collaborate to improve educational achievement outcomes for their students.
4. Teachers and education leaders will be able to report measurable gain in the specific learning and achievement challenges of their students.
5. Teachers and leaders will grow the capability and status of the profession within clearly defined career pathways for development and advancement.

Key Learnings From the Working Group Were:

1. Self-identified Communities of Learning should form around clear learner pathways from early childhood to secondary education and may, over time, extend to include tertiary learning.
2. Each Community of Learning’s purpose is to enhance student achievement for educational success as set out in the Vision of the National Curriculum documents; and the Community of Learning should define its own achievement challenges, learning needs and areas of focus that enable it to support that purpose.
3. Self-identified Communities of Learning should form around clear learner pathways from early childhood to secondary education and may, over time, extend to include tertiary learning.

4. Each Community of Learning’s purpose is to enhance student achievement for educational success as set out in the Vision of the National Curriculum documents; and the Community of Learning should define its own achievement challenges, learning needs and areas of focus that enable it to support that purpose.

5. Each Community of Learning will be able to use data, evidence and research to target their efforts and resources and demonstrate impact on the learning growth of its students.

6. Each Community of Learning should determine its own leadership and teaching, collaboration and support functions that align with its achievement challenges, making the best use of its own and new resourcing. Some leadership and teaching roles and their functions will be required for all Communities of Learning; other functions may be particular to the Community.

7. Any appointment to a leadership role with the required functions will be made by the Community of Learning in conjunction with an external professional adviser.

8. Successful collaboration changes and evolves, and Communities of Learning must have sufficient flexibility to enable this rather than limit it.

9. In recognising these factors, each Community of Learning will access its own and new resources to support the attainment of its goals.

10. A Community of Learning’s success will be dependent on ‘whole of Community of Learning collaboration’. Therefore, allocation of sufficient time and resources to support participants in the Community of Learning is critical.

11. The parties commit to undertake further work on Māori, Pasifika, Early Childhood Education, Support Staff, Special Education and Professional learning and Development to build on the work begun in the Working Group in the next and final stage of the Joint Initiative Development. The parties acknowledge this may lead to additional changes in future collective agreement bargaining rounds.

12. Leadership, teaching, collaboration and support roles within Communities of Learning should align with career pathways for principals, teachers, support and specialist staff to ensure continuous development of leadership and teaching capacity.

Leadership from the Middle

- Where is the coherence—where is the glue?
  - We find it “in the middle”.

What Actions are you going to take home as a result of this workshop?


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Fullan has won numerous awards for his more than thirty books, including the 2015 Grawemeyer prize with Andy Hargreaves for Professional Capital. His books include the best sellers Leading in a Culture of Change, The Six Secrets of Change, Change Leader, All Systems Go, Motion Leadership, and The Principal: Three Keys to Maximizing Impact. His latest books are Coherence: The Right Drivers in Action (with Joanne Quinn), Evaluating and Assessing Tools in the Digital Swamp (with Katelyn Donnelly), Leadership: Key Competencies (with Lyle Kirtman), and Freedom to Change.

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