Engaging Your Community Through Counter-Storytelling

Your Presenters:

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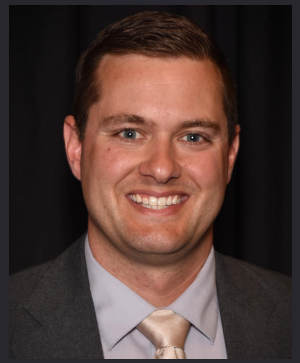

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What brings you here?

Take a few moments and write/think about why you are here and what you are hoping to get from this presentation?

Our Targets:

By the end of this session, here's what we hope you accomplish:

- Have a basic understanding of "Counter-Storytelling"
- Understand the importance of empathy data
- Begin the "systems" work of making interviews a reality

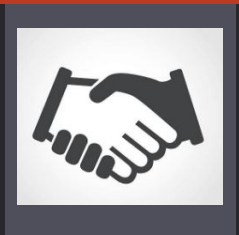
Our Why

How we got here and why we think it's important

“We have to stop doing things to our community and start doing things with our community.”

~Sonja Santelises
CEO Baltimore Public Schools

CRT and Counter Storytelling



Critical Race Theory (CRT)

Critical Theory: Critically look at society with the intent to **to** "liberate human beings from the circumstances that enslave them" (Max Horkheimer).

CRT = Looking at how our system is set up to disadvantage some and advantage others based on race/ethnicity.

Counter Storytelling

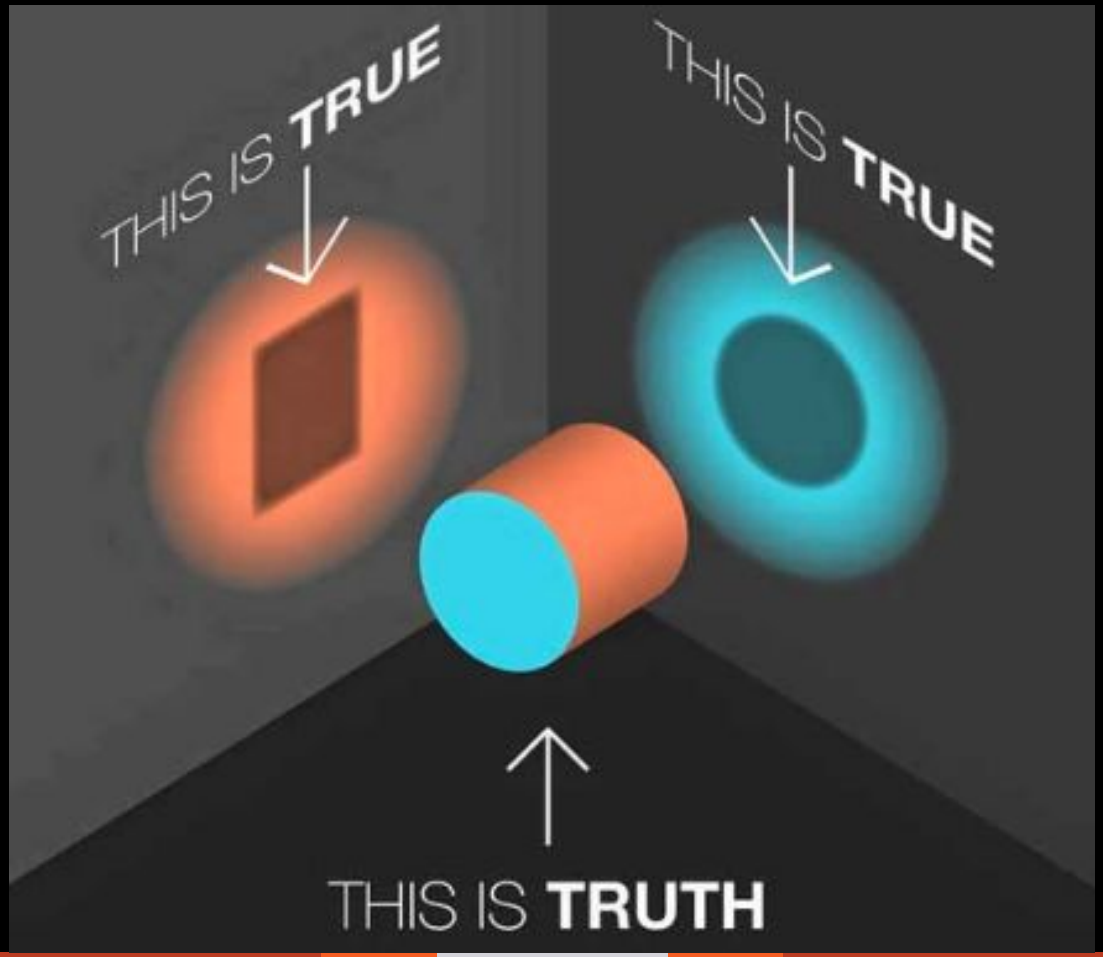
Consider This:

"Have you ever had the experience of hearing one story and being completely convinced, then hearing an exactly opposite story, equally well told, and being left unsure of your convictions?"

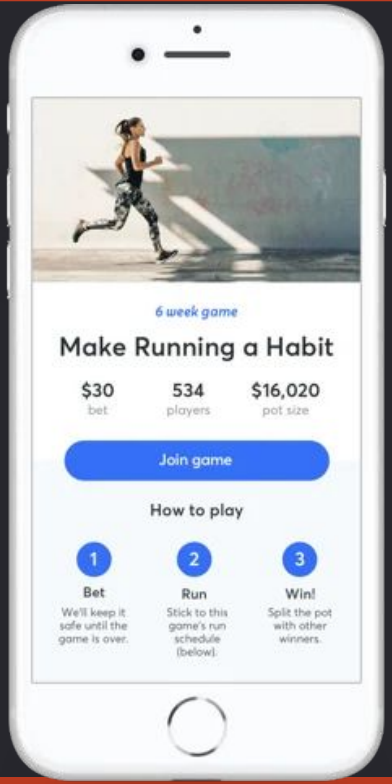
Counter Storytelling

We are compelled by the stories we hear.

In order to change our own practices, we must be compelled by counter stories (stories that challenge what we believe to be true).


THIS IS TRUE
THIS IS TRUE
THIS IS TRUTH

Counter Storytelling



What accountability system have we set up for to ensure that we are compelled to action?

“Be Human Centered”

Collecting “Empathy Data”

“Be Human Centered” Article

Private Reasoning Time:

- **Read pg. 1-3**

  Annotate the text as needed

- **Skim/Read pg. 4-10**

  Annotate the text as needed

underline = main ideas

!!! = new/exciting info.

? = confusion/disagreement

What stands out to you?

How can storytelling and interviews impact your school community?

Which elements seem exciting? Terrifying?

Use the text as a guide…

Write three questions you'd like to ask families in your school…

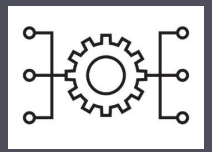
Question #1

Question #2

Question #3

Categorize/Group your questions

Create a rationale or heading for each category



CHANGE IDEAS

- What do you wish you could change about a child's education?
- Suppose you had three wishes to make school different: what would they be?
- If you could change one thing about middle school what would it be?
- What is something you wonder about school?

What is this category trying to get at?	2nd Draft Questions
~What needs to change? ~Innovation from parents	Suppose you had three wishes to make school different: what would they be?

Planning for the interviews

What we learned along the way
Letter, follow-up, the practice, known people

Next Steps for Us

- Conduct 20+ interviews this school year
- Develop a system to code themes we see emerge
- Use this information to guide our decision-making processes

Whose story do you want to hear?