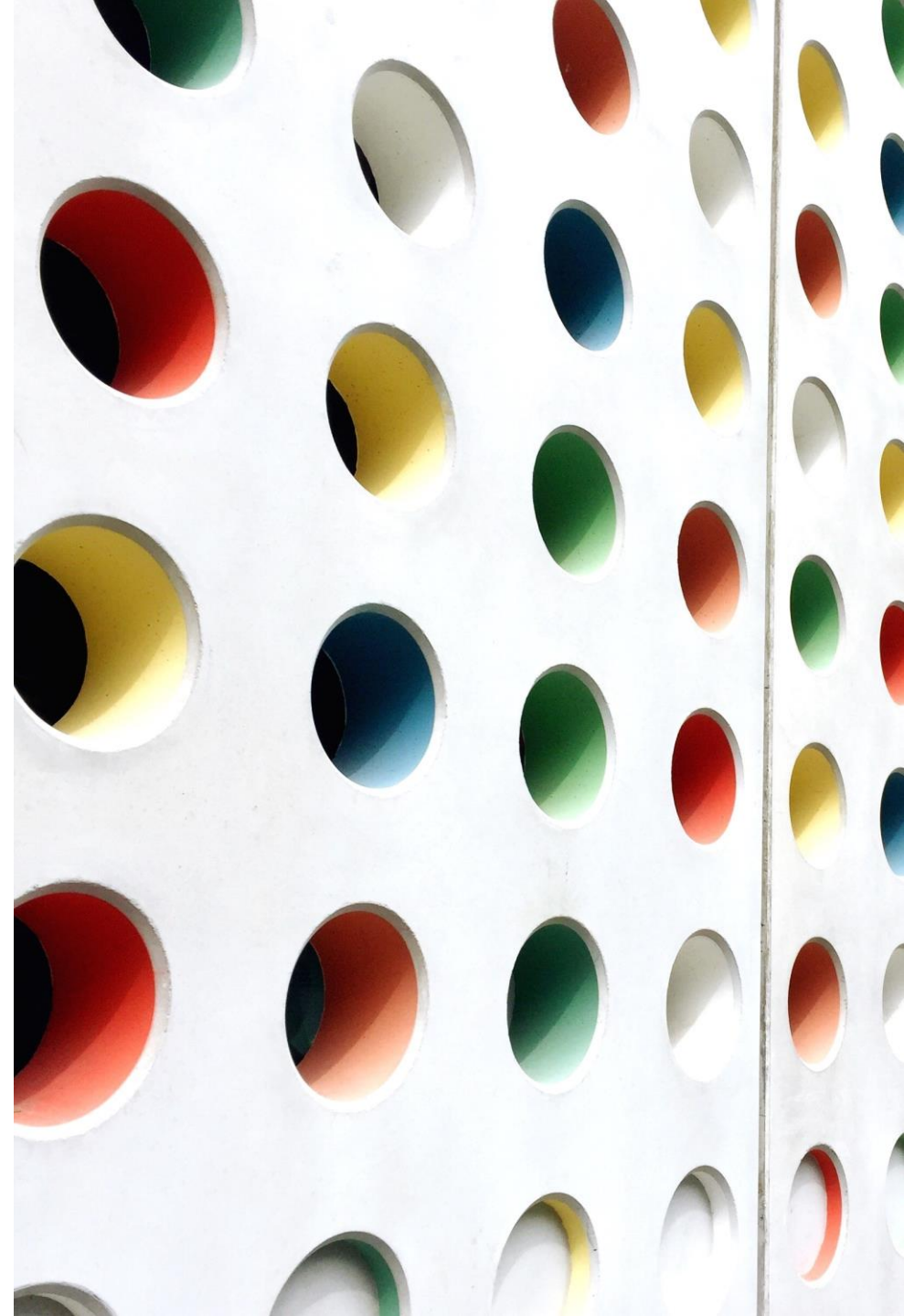


# Reimagining Middle Schools

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BELLEVUE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR  
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #6 (11/1/22)  
ODLE MIDDLE SCHOOL



# Mixed Groups

Table #1	Table #2	Table #3	Table #4	Table #5	Table #6-7
Anissa	Courtney	Valeri	Wen	Gaurav	Level 2 Members
Sahaj	Noelle	Hasini	Diego	Jessi	
Kim	Dan	Tori	Scott	Gabe	
Mariela	Danielle	Mathew	Melissa	Susie	
Gargi	Anna	Regen	Tom	Nellie	
Drew	Dee	James	Kalena	Susan	
Level 2 members can join one of the groups above or table #6 or #7					

Activity	Duration	Details
Inclusive Welcome	15 min <i>(4:30-4:45 PM)</i>	Welcome Agenda, Purpose, Roadmap, Roles for Today's Meeting, Feedback, Community Building
Content	55 min <i>(4:45-5:40 PM)</i>	WE IDEATE: Review our Steering Committee's overarching project vision Review Students' Needs Create "How might we..." questions Gallery Walk Group Debrief
Nuts & Bolts	10 min <i>(5:40-5:50 PM)</i>	Next Meeting- November 17 at Big Picture What is coming up: We IDEATE Potential "schools worth visiting" Data Preview Homework
Closing	10 min <i>(5:50-6:00 PM)</i>	Caring deeply for the social, emotional and mental well-being of each other

# Today's Objectives

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During the meeting, we will:

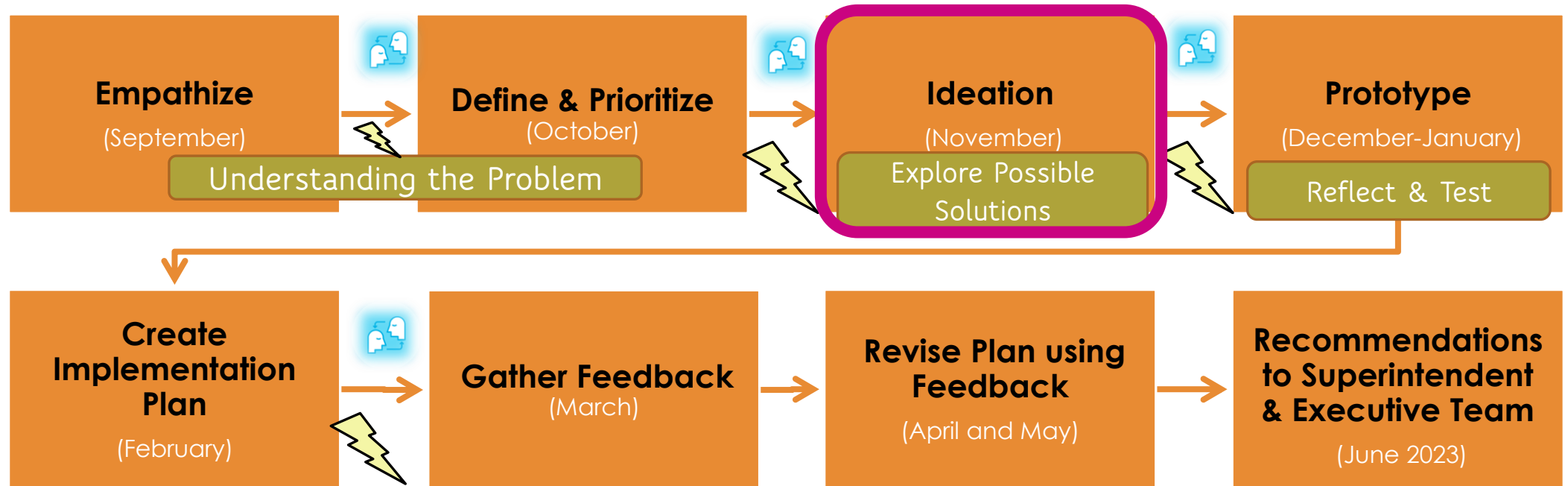
## Empathize:

- ❑ Build trusting relationships between committee members.

## Ideate:

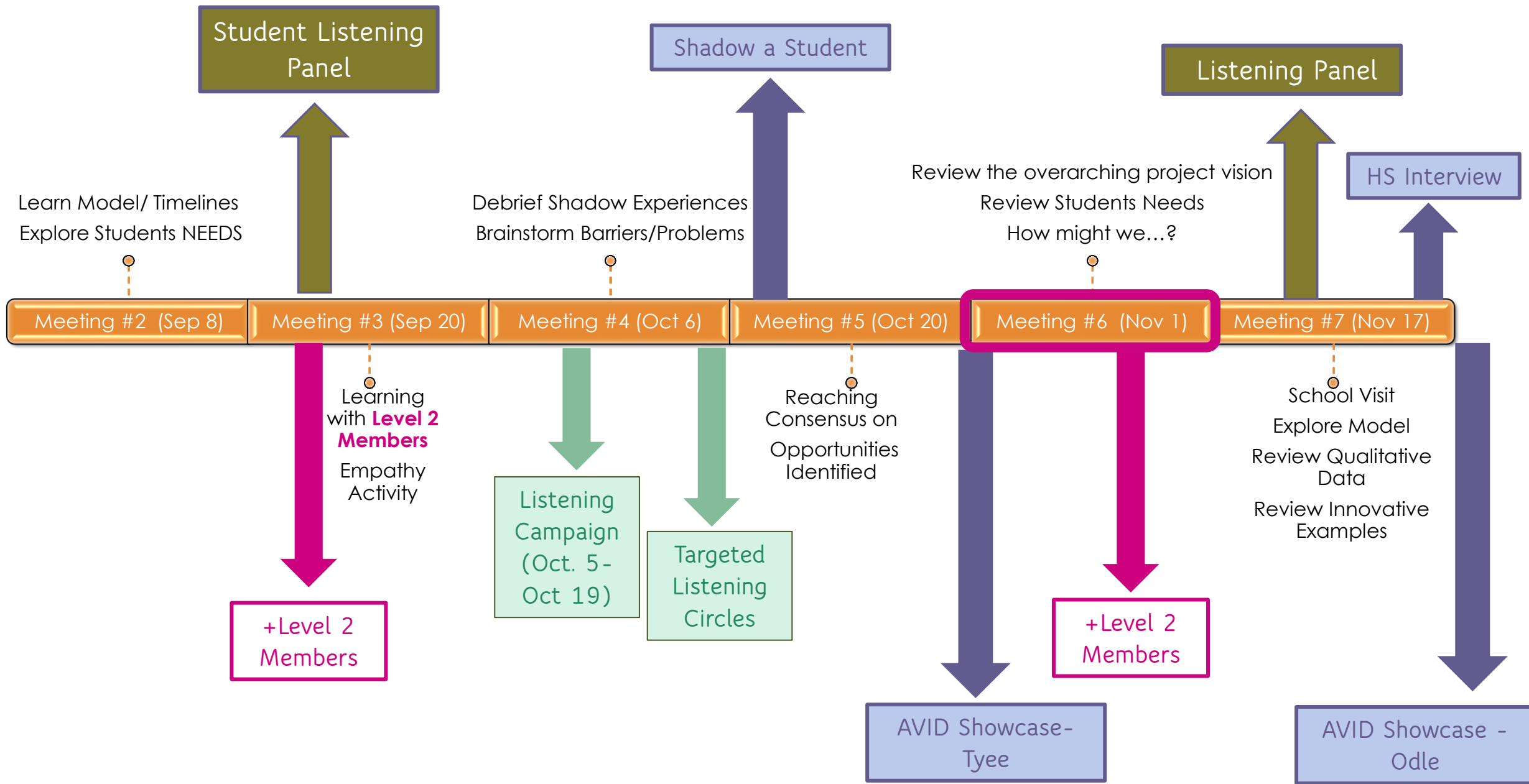
- ❑ Review our Steering Committee's overarching project vision "We will create middle schools that offer a developmentally responsive, student-centered education."
- ❑ Create and refine "*How might we . . .*" questions to guide ideation.

# RMS Roadmap



## EQUITY-CENTERED DESIGN THINKING PROCESS AND TIMELINES



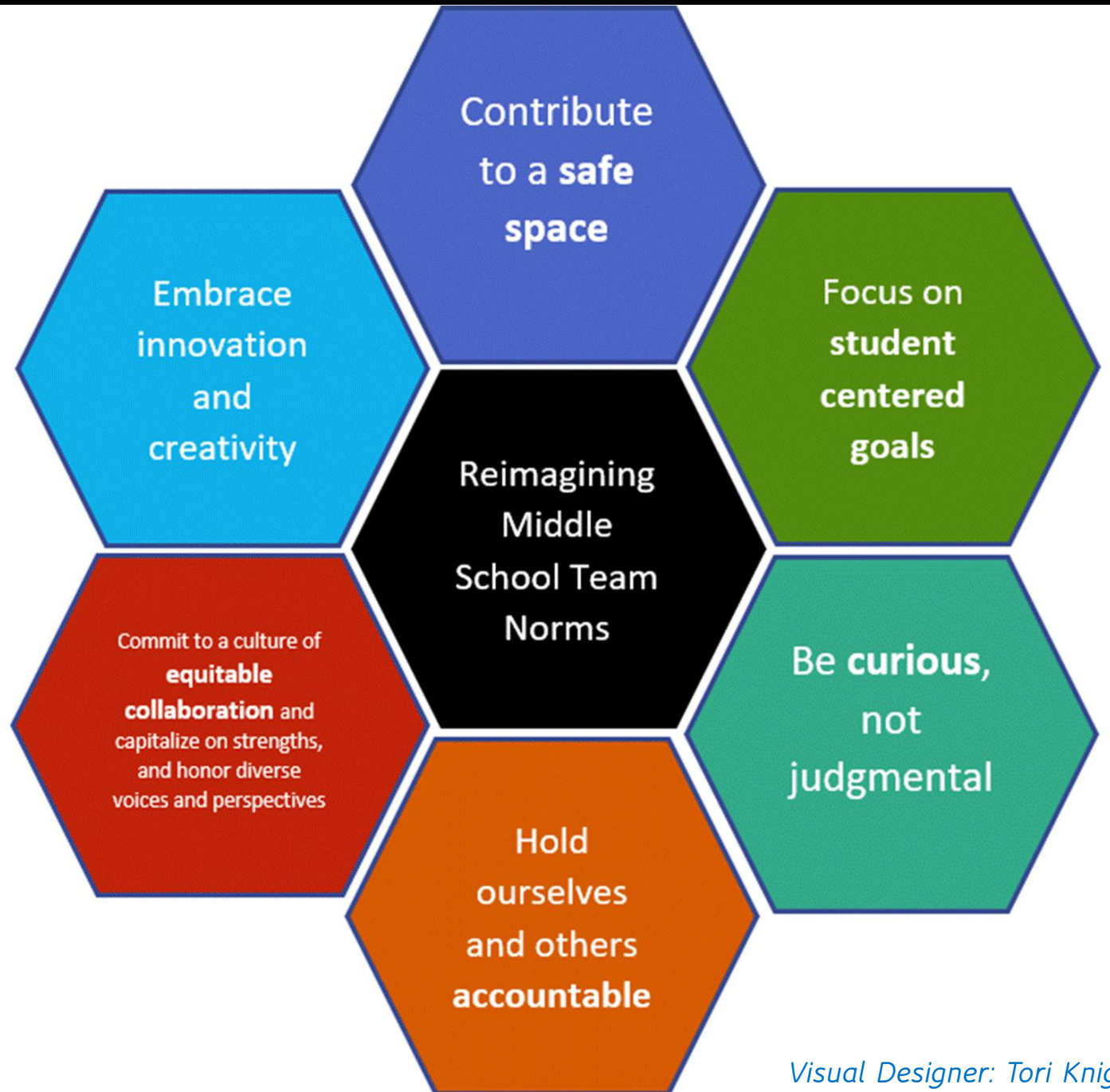


# Community Agreements

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## Roles

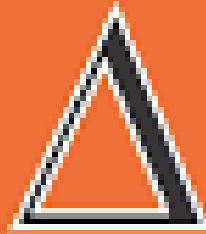
<i>Timekeeper</i>	<i>Note Taker</i>	<i>Process Monitor</i>
<b>Danielle</b>	<b>Susie Q</b>	Self-Reflection



Visual Designer: Tori Knight



What is  
going well?



What can  
we improve?



# Question Lot

1

2

3

4

Have A *Question?*  
Park It Here!





color code for type of questions

 questions that encourage  
**SELF REFLECTION**

 questions that are  
**FUN AND LIGHT**

 questions that are  
**A BIT DEEPER**



# RMS Vision

## Developmentally Responsive Student-Centered Education

We will redesign the middle school experience to offer a developmentally responsive, student-centered education.

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- Bend or break the **systems** & structures of MS (integration). What if...
- **Social** interactions - social emotional needs (social emotional)
- **Academic** interactions - Learning environment - instructions; Rooted in **relationships** - students get the centered
- Meet them where they are at - *socially & academically*
- Smooth **transitions** - breaks, bridges from elementary and to HS
  
- *Note: these are all part of one system (one cup); decisions made will have consequences that impact stakeholders. What is unique about this RMS work? We are trying to reimagine but still using the same tools (industrial production line). Operate within constraints (RCWs, etc.) but don't let them be the drivers. Going to a new place...how do we get there?*

# RMS Vision

Rooted in relationships

Meet students where they are

Social interactions & social-emotional needs

We will redesign the middle school experience to offer a **developmentally responsive, student-centered** education.

Learning environment & academic interactions

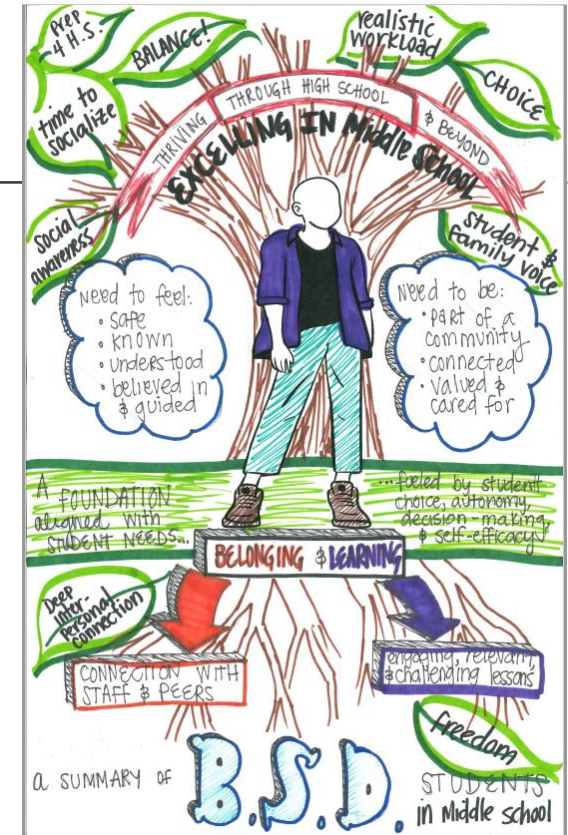
Bridge between elementary and high school



"Shadow A Student"



Student Panel



Level 2 Members



RMS Steering Committee Members



# Our Middle School Students' Needs

## *Two Key Areas that Emerged from "Empathize" Design Phase*

### Well-Being:

Students' social-emotional, belonging, and personal needs are foundational to learning.

Middle school students want to belong and be valued members of their school community. To make this a reality, **students need sufficient, intentional time and opportunities** throughout the day to **socialize, build deep, meaningful relationships** with peers and school staff, as well as **take care of their personal needs** (e.g., bathroom, water, food, movement, relaxation, etc.).

### Academic Learning:

Ideally defined by student voice, choice, and responsibility in relevant, challenging, interactive, engaging, empowering environments.

Middle school students want **choice** and **autonomy** in their academic learning. They need learning that is **accessible, important, relevant, interactive, engaging, and empowering**. They want to feel **excited, inspired, and challenged** to learn, grow, and be **responsible**. They want to feel like their learning is going somewhere—that it serves a purpose and is preparing them for their futures.

## Identify student needs

*"Empathize"*  
(design phase)

September-October 2022

## Craft RMS vision

*"We will redesign the middle school experience to offer a **developmentally responsive, student-centered** education."*

October 20, 2022

*"Define & Prioritize & Ideate"*  
(design phase)

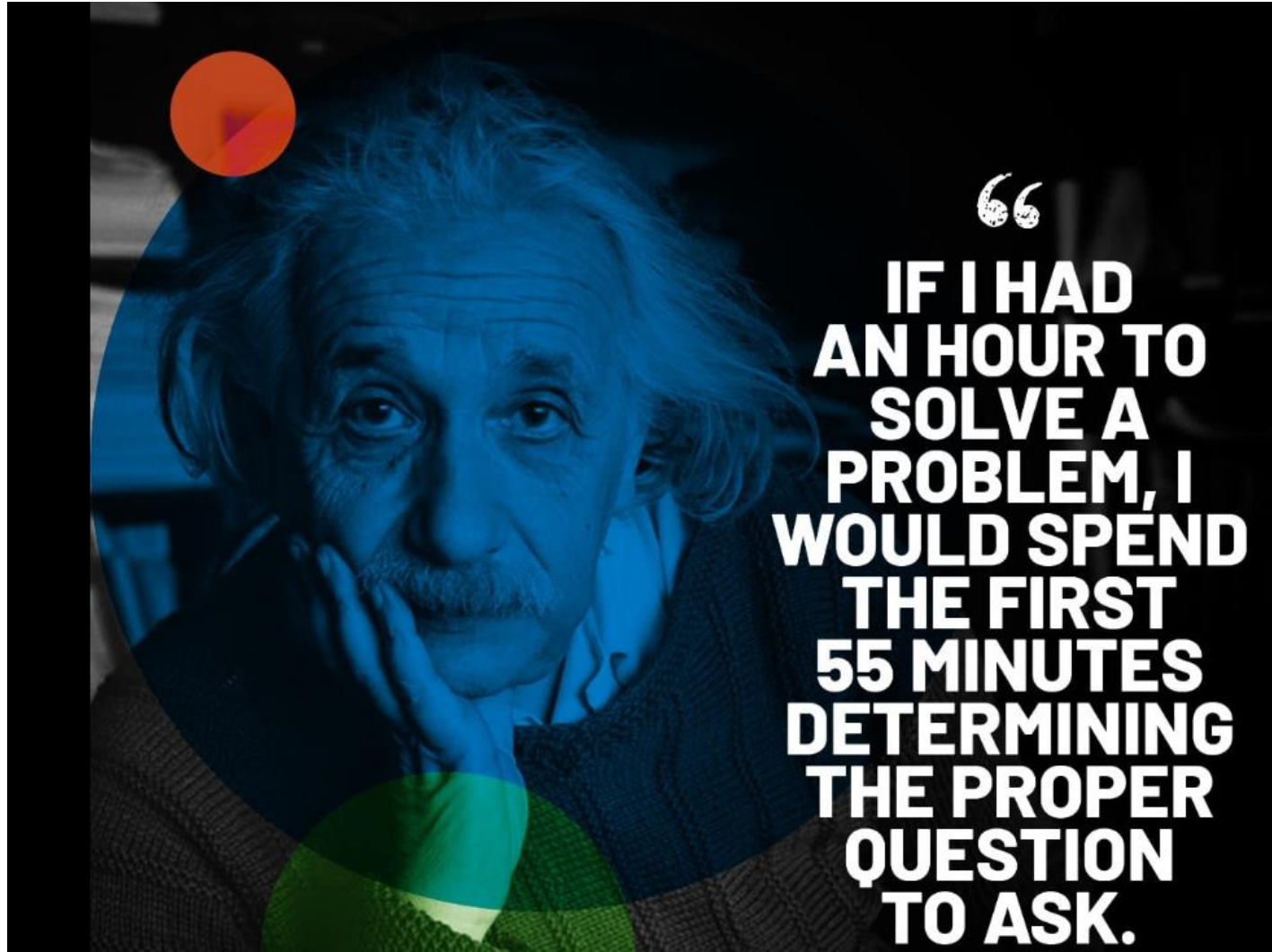
November 1, 2022

## Generate potential solutions

*"Ideate"*  
(design phase)

November 17, 2022

*"How Might We . . . ?" Questions*



“

**IF I HAD  
AN HOUR TO  
SOLVE A  
PROBLEM, I  
WOULD SPEND  
THE FIRST  
55 MINUTES  
DETERMINING  
THE PROPER  
QUESTION  
TO ASK.**

# How Might We (HMW) questions are seeds for ideation!



**How:** Helps us believe the solution is out there, but we don't have the answer yet and should explore.



**Might:** Recognizes uncertainty, doesn't promise anything. Proposed solutions may or may not work and that's OK.



**We:** It's about teamwork and working collaboratively. There's no "I", only "we".

**Summary:** Constructing how-might-we questions generates creative solutions while keeping teams focused on the right problems to solve.



HMW questions should set us up for productive ideation (=moving from broad RMS vision of BSD middle schools that offer “*a developmentally responsive, student-centered education*” to implementable ideas of how this can be done)

Better written HMWs = Better ideas!

### Criteria for high-quality HMW questions

Is the HMW:

- based on **student need**?
- aligned with our **RMS vision**?
- written **positively** (e.g., invites action)?
- broad enough** to ensure many creative ideas?
- one that avoids suggesting a **particular solution**?

# HMW Examples

## HOW MIGHT WE design a middle school experience that:

- supports deep, meaningful connections between students and staff (peer-to-peer and student-to-adult) so that students feel safe, known, understood, believed in, and guided?
- is engaging, relevant, and challenging while simultaneously honoring student choice and autonomy and building decision-making and self-efficacy skills?
- centers the needs and experiences of our students farthest from educational justice?
- fully supports and engages our students who are in the process of learning English?
- helps students gain an understanding of the world and the role they can play in it?



- Based on student need?
- Aligned with our RMS vision?
- Written **positively** (e.g., invites action)?
- Broad enough** to ensure many creative ideas?
- Avoids suggesting a **particular solution**?

20 min.

**Time's Up!**

## "HMW" Activity

You will work collaboratively with your group to write "*How Might We*" (HMW) questions.

- 1) Take 5 minutes to read/process the HMW examples. Add new HMWs on sticky notes.
- 2) Share your HWMs with your table group. Have everyone contribute a HMW.
- 3) As a team, use the criteria checklist to refine/improve the HMWs.
- 4) Select 5 - 10 HMWs to include on chart paper as your team's proposals. These will be reviewed by the larger group in a galley walk.





10 min.

**Time's Up!**

## Gallery Walk

- Visit Chart Papers at your own speed (individually)
- Vote with your STARS



= I support moving forward with this HMW!

10 min.

**Time's Up!**

# Sharing Time

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What challenged or expanded your own thinking?





# Nuts and Bolts

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Next meeting 11/17 at Big Picture

What is coming up: We IDEATE

- Release Day- November 17<sup>th</sup>
- Data Preview Homework

Friendly Reminders:

- Provide Feedback
- Sign in

Closing: Dan Sakaue



# Pack Your Bags

"Of all the ideas that were shared at our meeting today, which one are you "putting in your suitcase" for your journey back to your destination and why?"

