

Raising Student Voice & Participation (RSVP) Imagining a Better Future

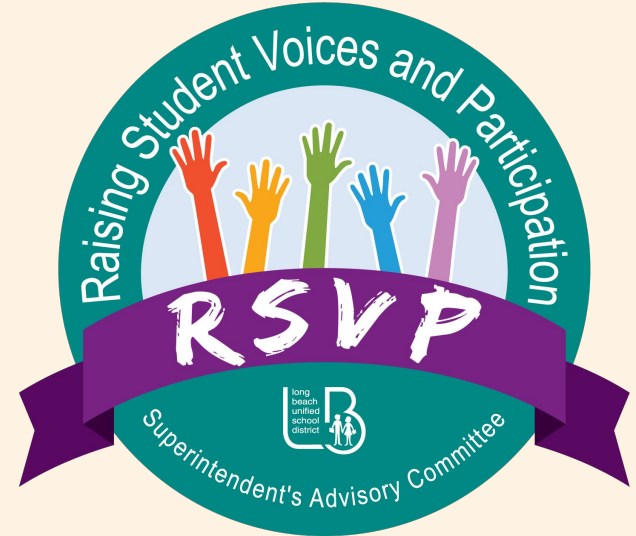


LONG BEACH
UNIFIED • SCHOOL • DISTRICT

Student Showcase
May 15, 2025
4:30 – 6:00 pm

Agenda

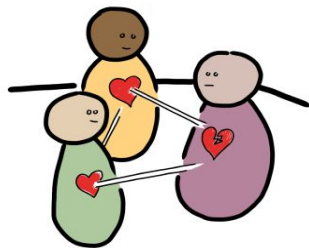
1. Welcome & Setting the Stage
2. Student Showcase
 - Break
3. Community Feedback and Shout Outs
4. Feedback and Closure



Overarching Purpose: RSVP

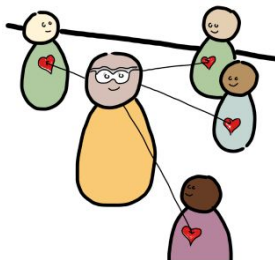
- Elevate student voice and student experience to inform school and district decision making (Core Values)
- Provide a structure for two-way communication and co-design partnerships between adults and students (System Portrait)
- Provide a safe place for students to activate the leadership skills that they are learning and/or developing in alignment with the Graduate Portrait
- Build relationships between adults and students where all voices are equal (Adult Portrait)

Community Agreements



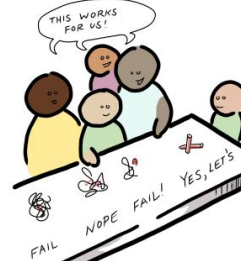
Build Relational Trust

Invest in relationships with intention, especially across difference. Honor stories. Practice empathetic listening.



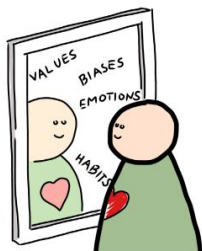
Focus on Human Values

Get to know the community we are designing with in as many different ways as possible. Anchor all of our decision-making in human values.



Take Action to Learn

The complexity of oppression must be addressed with courageous ongoing action. Experiment as a way to think and learn – without attachment to outcome.



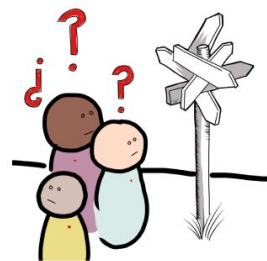
Practice Self-Awareness

Who we are determines how we design. Looking in the "mirror" reveals what we see, how we relate, and how our perspectives impact our practice.



Seek Liberatory Collaboration

Recognize differences in power and identity to design "with" instead of "for." Design for belonging.



Embrace Complexity

Recognize that equity challenges are complex and messy. Stay open to possibility. Powerful design emerges from the mess, not from avoiding it.

Equity Dilemma

Equity Dilemma Interview

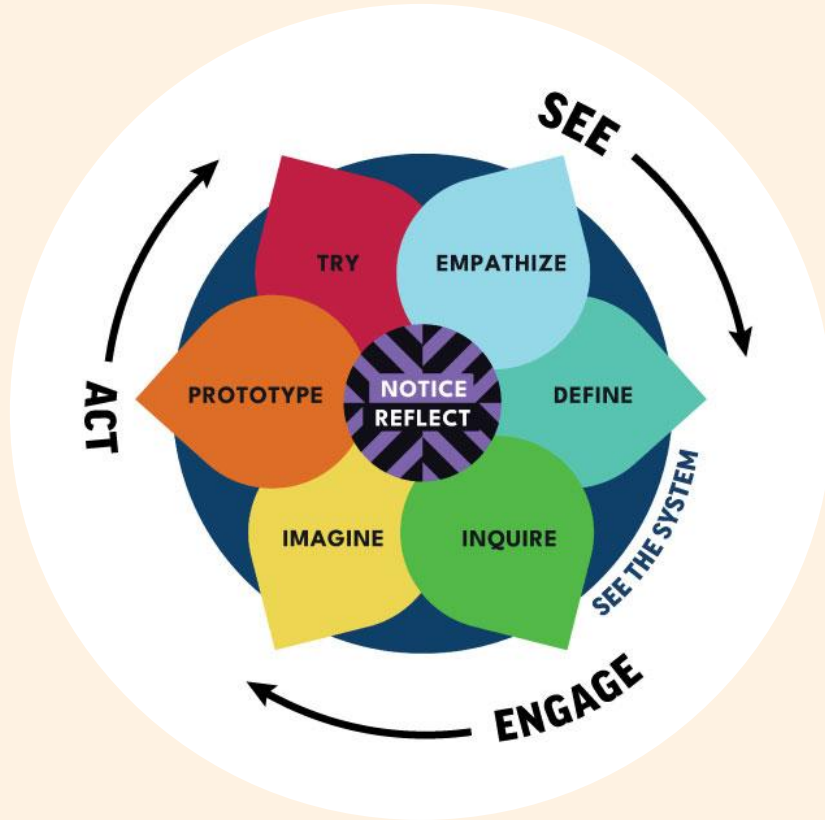
Schedule a meeting with your principal or their designee to learn more about the school site's "Equity Dilemma"

Interview the principal or designee using these three questions:

1. What is our school's equity dilemma?
2. How did you select this equity dilemma?
3. What do you want to know from a student's perspective that would help you learn more about (and perhaps even solve) your equity dilemma?



Liberatory Design – Designing “With”



NATIONAL
EQUITY
PROJECT

Source: [National Equity Project](https://www.national-equity-project.org/)

*Excellence
and Equity*

"By centering students' needs through the liberatory design process, we repositioned students as centers of knowledge. We listened to them in ways that shifted our practice, and we recognized that both teachers and students have the capacity to educate each other... Our students recognized that their voices and perspectives mattered, and they began to advocate for themselves in new ways."

Jessica Lee Stovall, Lamar Timmons-Long, Thomas J. Rodney and Taylor Hall
"Black Teachers' Use of Liberatory Design to Promote Literacies of Healing"
(Stovall 2023)

Our Process to Tackle the Dilemma: Timeline

Timeline Overview

Introduction & Orientation

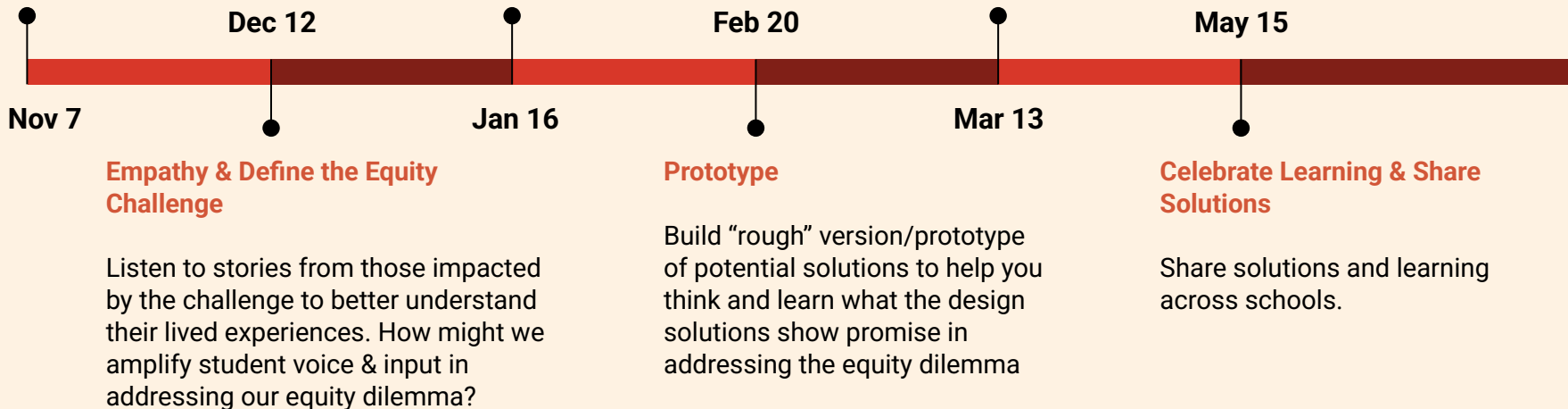
Define purpose of the group and build a shared understanding of the co-design partnership to support site equity dilemma

Define the Dilemma & Imagine Solutions

Involve our peers and adult liaison in coming up with creative solutions to the equity dilemma

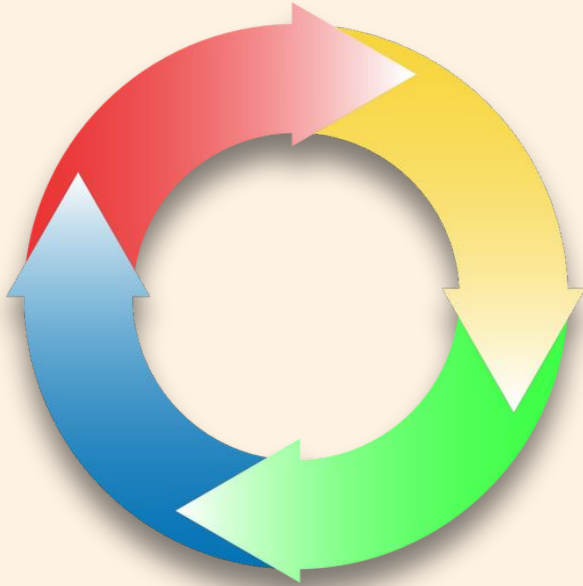
Try

Share the prototype in rough form with others to get feedback on what's promising so you can improve your design.



Student Showcase

Process



- ❏ 3 Cycles (15 minutes each)
- ❏ Make sure that all schools have at least 1–2 adults for each cycle

Protocol

- ❑ Student(s) present (8 min)
- ❑ Ask clarifying questions (2 min)
 - ❑ Tell me more about...
 - ❑ What do you mean by....?
 - ❑ How did you...?
- ❑ Ask probing questions (2 min)
 - ❑ Why did you...?
 - ❑ Had you considered...? Why? Why not?
 - ❑ What did you learn when...?
- ❑ Celebrations, Insights, and Comments (3 min)



Community Feedback and Shout Outs

Feedback and Shout Outs

Invite voices from the community to share highlights across schools, appreciations for student work, and dreams for further student engagement.

Give students an opportunity to share their learnings, insights, and shout outs.

