

Often we are asked to put our support behind one thing or another, to fight for or against this or that, but NOT actually asked WHAT we want. The goal of the charette/visioning session is to do just that - to use this rare gathering of students, parents, educators to create a vision for what we want in schools. The steps are as follows:

1. Brief introductions: Your name, what you do, something funky about you
2. Explain the process and preview the questions: Since we are coming from the interactive art space, say something like, "now that we have opened up our minds and started thinking about the schools we deserve let's record some of our thoughts and talk to each other about these three questions:"

QUESTIONS

1. What should students know, learn, and do before they graduate from high school?
2. What needs to happen in the classroom and in the entire school to achieve this vision?
3. How do you think we can get there?

3. Explain the process for the first question: "We are going to answer the first question by silently writing on these sticky notes. We will then place these notes onto this chart paper for everyone to see. Please only put one idea on each sticky note. Take **3 minutes** to do this." Again the question is: **What should students know learn, and do before they graduate from high school? (3 minutes to write on sticky notes)**

POSSIBLE PROMPTS FOR 1ST QUESTION

"Think about what you missed out on when you were in high school. What do you wish happened there?"

Share out Try to read all the sticky notes and place them on the chart paper. After all the stickies are placed you can ask 2-3 people to talk about any sticky note that struck a chord with them. **(7 minutes to read and share out)**

4. Explain the process for the second question: "We are going to answer the second question by drawing and writing on this butcher paper on our table. First, talk with the person next to you and then draw your vision, draw your favorite school, draw/write whatever comes to mind." Again the question is: **What needs to happen in the classroom and in the entire school to achieve this vision? (5 Minutes for talking and drawing/writing)**

POSSIBLE PROMPTS FOR 2ND QUESTION

"What is going on the cafeteria? What is going on in the main office? What is happening in the classroom? What is going in the hallways, bathrooms, etc?"

After **5 minutes** have participants share out. Spend about **7-10 minutes** sharing out drawings and writings.

5. Explain the process for the third question “For the last question we want to talk to someone next to us and record our thoughts on sticky notes. Remember just one thought per sticky note” Again the question is: How do you think we can get there? (**4 minutes total time for talking and writing**)

POSSIBLE PROMPTS FOR 3RD QUESTION

“What is a way that you have created change in the past? How do we move forward with these ideas? Where would you take this process? To your church? Your school? Your community center? Who needs to hear these ideas to create change?”

Spend 6 minutes sharing out the sticky notes, placing them on the chart paper, and asking participants if there are any ideas that want to talk about further.

6. Pledge Cards: Ask people to pledge to one of three options:

1. *I'll do this charrette/visioning process with my group or friends* – it can be in your living room at a school, wherever.
2. *I'll come to a BBQ in June to help put together all the ideas from the conference and plan next steps.*
3. *I will _____ (fill in the blank; a wide open option)*

Make sure people put down their email addresses so that we can email them later and remind them of their pledge. Don't be afraid to put a little bit of pressure on folks either J We can't do this work alone! Collect the pledge cards.

7. As a way of closing out the process and hearing from different groups ask your group to agree on a way to finish the phrase/fill in the blank:

“The schools we deserve are/have _____”

This should be a short sentence. For example, “The schools we deserve are democratic and value the voices of the community it serves.” A lead facilitator will ask each group to share out this sentence to the larger group.

Thank You for volunteering and contributing to this visioning process. If you have any questions please email:

Collique Williams: wcollique@gmail.com

Lily Huang: lily@massjwj.net

Ross Kochman: rosskoch@gmail.com