

Connector Newsletter



Building a Culture of Quality Data for Student Success

DATA4SS HOSTS SUCCESSFUL MAY SYMPOSIUM

On May 5 & 6, 2010, CISD presented a *Sustaining a Culture of Quality Data Symposium* in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Participants from 16 different ISDs and RESAs attended the event. Many of the 185 total participants had attended past Data 4 Student Success Launch Events; however, a high percentage of attendees were introduced to DATA4SS for the first time through this symposium. In Ann Arbor, participants were welcomed with a keynote presentation by Mike Schmoker and then had multiple opportunities to attend one of sixteen breakout sessions. Ann Arbor attendees said that the symposium helped them learn about Data4SS, data-driven decision making, data availability and use, and the use of inquiry tools.

Symposium Outcomes

One hundred eighty-five participants attended the May, 2010, symposium. At the event, participants were asked to provide feedback about the overall symposium as well as the sixteen individual breakout sessions they might have attended. The purpose of the two surveys was to determine the usefulness of the event in improving knowledge and awareness of Data4SS, data-driven decision-making, and the use of inquiry tools. About 50% of participants responded. Overall, participants were extremely pleased with the event.

"This is hands down one of the best workshops/ conferences I have ever been to!"

Overall Symposium Feedback

- 73.6% felt like the time allotted for the symposium was just right; an additional 12.6% wished more time was available
- 98.9% thought it was helpful in understanding the Data4SS project, learning about data-driven decision-making, and understanding data availability and use
- 95.4% said it would help them utilize data reports
- 94.3% said it would help them use dynamic inquiry tools

Participants at a Glance

- Where do you work?
 - District – 36.7%
 - ISD – 27.8%
 - State – 1.1%
 - School – 37.8%
- 16 different ISDs and RESAs were represented
- What is your primary responsibility?
 - Assessment - 31.8%
 - Curriculum - 36.4%
 - District Administrator - 12.5%
 - PLC Teacher/Leader - 13.6%
 - Process Mentor/Coach - 20.5%
 - School Administrator - 9.1%
 - School Improvement - 42.0%
 - Special Education - 11.4%
 - Teacher - 27.3%
 - Technology - 12.5%
 - Other - 21.6%
- Does your ISD have a data warehouse?
 - Yes – 61.1%
 - No – 11.1%
 - I don't know – 27.8%





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Additional Overall Feedback

Perhaps the best indicator of success of this Symposium is the fact that **88.4%** of respondents said it was Extremely or Moderately helpful to their everyday life. **87.2%** said they would attend another one (the remaining folks were unsure, mostly due to the need to know about what topics would be offered). And, **87.2%** would recommend a follow-up to their colleagues.

I think the information presented at Data4ss events is useful and necessary for everyone that works in education.

Breakout Session Feedback

One hundred and forty-one session surveys were completed. The session with the highest number of evaluations was the Schmoker Keynote (25.5%). Creating Conditions for Professional Learning, Data Conferencing, and Leadership were the next 3 with the highest number of evaluations. Participants thought that Data Conferencing, Examining Student Work, and Using the Inquiry Tools & PD resources were the most important topics. Assessment, Using the Inquiry Tools & PD resources, and Creating Conditions for Professional Learning were the three highest overall rated presentations. Finally, participants seemed very interested in learning more about many of the topics presented in the symposium.

A breakdown of the session feedback is listed here, including overall rating, rating of applicability to everyday life, and the participants' interest in

learning more about this subject. (Please note that 1=High, 5=Low.)

	Overall Presentation	Applicability to Daily Work	Interested in Learning
Keynote (Schmoker)	1.25	1.25	1.25
Assessment	1.00	1.22	1.11
Beyond Achievement Data	1.30	1.20	1.20
Creating Conditions for Professional Learning	1.17	1.08	1.00
Data Conferencing	1.25	1.00	1.08
Data Driven Continuous Improvement	1.56	1.44	1.38
Examining Student Work	1.50	1.00	1.00
Leadership	1.45	1.18	1.10
MME Module	1.29	1.29	1.00
Navigating the Inquiry Tools - Overview	1.71	1.43	1.00
Navigating the Inquiry Tools - MEAP	1.60	1.20	1.00
Navigating the Inquiry Tools - MI Access	1.67	2.00	1.33
Results - The Essential Elements of Improvement	1.20	1.20	1.20
Using the Inquiry Tools & PD Resources	1.00	1.00	1.00
Writing	1.20	1.30	1.20

As evidenced by the data here, the sessions were not only highly rated, but also applicable to everyday life. One of the major pieces of feedback was people wished they had more time!

I would like to be able to attend more of the workshops I couldn't fit in this time.