



Strategic Planning: Listening Circle

What are Story (Listening) Circles?

- An opportunity to gather people in a circle to listen and share
- Strengthen culture through authentic dialogue, to hear the absent narrative
- Practice that has been used in various cultures
- We views circles as a component of equity and has a goal that ALL staff AND students will participate in story circles

Rules of the Circle

- Only speak when you hold the talking piece
- Pass the talking piece to your left (over heart center)
- You can pass
- What is said in the circle stays in the circle
- Everyone gets the opportunity to speak
- Actively listen

Question

Which core value(s) resonate most with you regarding your experience with ISD 917?

Core Values

- **Collaboration:** Working together to achieve more collectively
- **Empathy:** Considering and respecting the perspective and needs of member districts, students, families, and staff
- **Innovation:** Ongoing improvement of programs and services
- **Stewardship:** Managing financial and human resources carefully and responsibly
- **Communication:** Multi-dimensional, transparent conversation focused on sharing information and creating a positive learning and working environment
- **Integrity:** Aligning our actions with our values and beliefs
- **Personalization:** Building on the strengths and addressing the unique needs of individual students
- **Equity:** Intentionally providing opportunities while removing barriers at all levels of the organization
- **Diversity:** Appreciating and valuing everyone's unique selves

Question

What 2-3 things are going well for Intermediate School District 917 and provided services?

Question

What 2-3 things need to be worked on or improved?

Question

What should ISD 917 take on as near -term priorities in the next 12-18 months?

Question

What should ISD 917 look like in 5 years?

Question

Is there anything else you would like to share as we develop our new strategic plan?



Thank you!