

Protocol #6

Chalk Talk

Having discussed with your team the purpose and structure of a personalized learning program, it's almost time to focus on designing a project. Still, some reflection at this point can help your team and others get issues out into the air that can interrupt program design if left unattended.

Synthesis

Use a blackboard or a large piece of butcher paper pasted to the wall to elicit a dialogue about setting purposes and defining structures for personalized learning. Write on it the following question:

Can high schools adapt to support personalized learning?

Stand in a semi-circle around the butcher paper, holding a colored marker. Think about what thoughts you have had about school structures and student exploration of their own purposes.

- Any person can write an idea or question on the paper.
- When others have read what is written, they, too, may attach their ideas, either connecting or contrasting.
- One after another, individuals should feel free to add their ideas to the growing dialogue, connecting their ideas to others with lines or arrows.
- After the flow of ideas has abated, stand back and try to "read" the whole display to make sense of what is there.

Reflection

When this activity is over, the whole group may discuss the comments and questions suggested about the process of designing personalized learning.

- What themes are dominant?
- What issues attract attention?
- What solutions need to be explored?

Personalized Learning