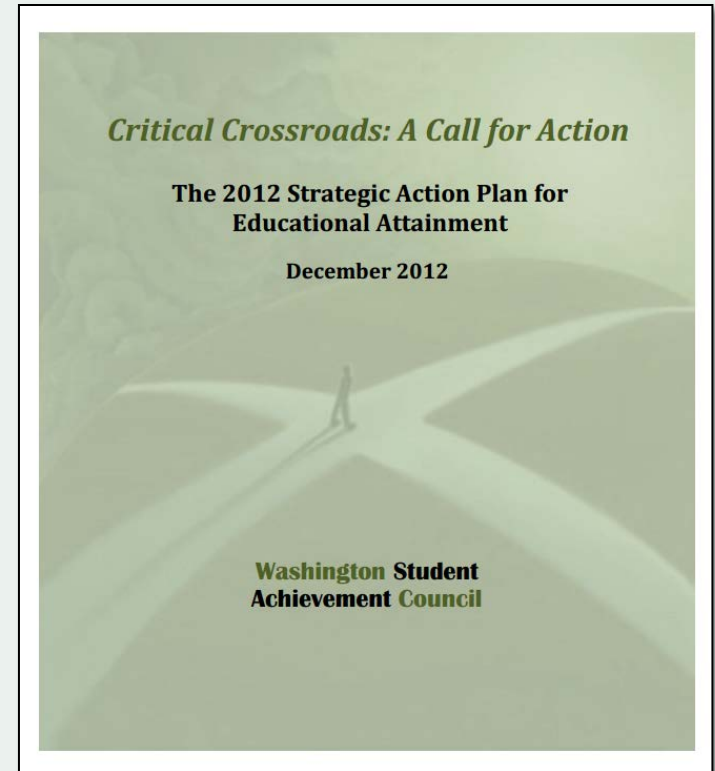
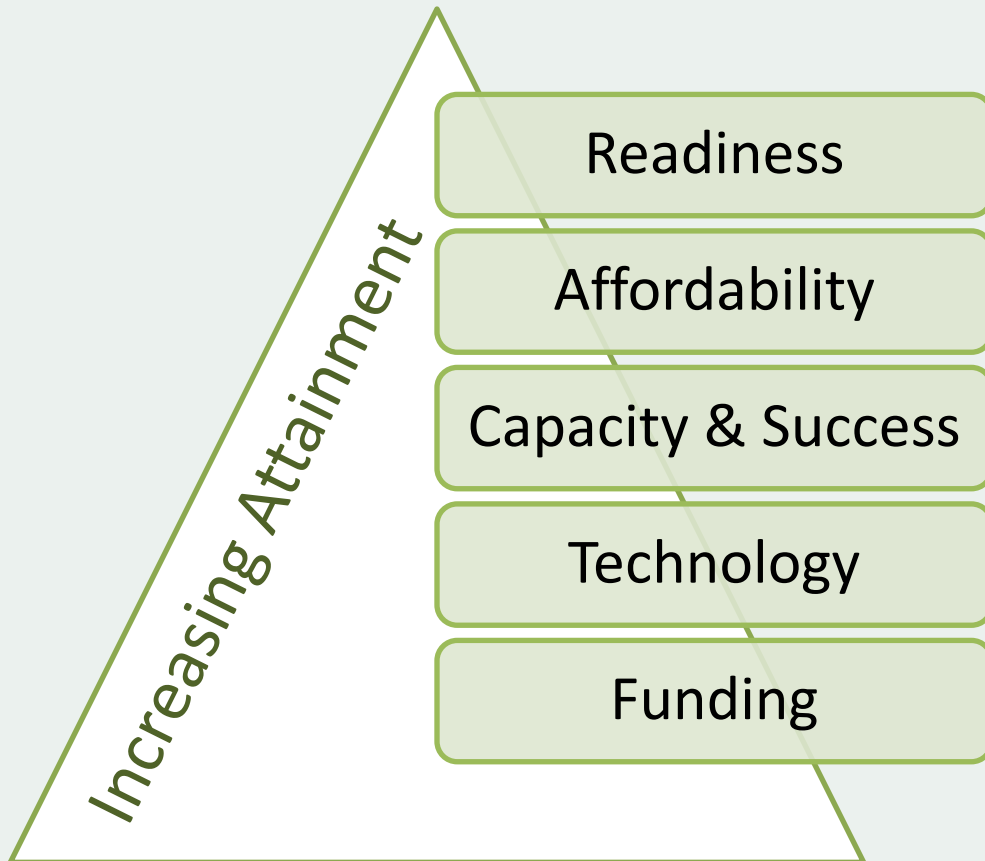


An Overview of the 2013 Listening Tour



**Aaron Wyatt
Communications Director**

Focused Attention



Taking Stock



Attendees



Active Listening

February 20, 2013
WSAC Listening Tour – Seattle
Session Summary Notes

What's working well, what needs improvement?

On Wednesday, February 20, the Student Achievement Council heard from over 30 educators, school administrators, students, and community leaders in Seattle. Key themes discussed include:

Theme Area #1: Socio-economic disparities influence educational outcomes, but educational institutions can remedy socio-economic disparities.

Throughout the Listening Tour, the Council has heard about the profound effect that socio-economic factors have on educational outcomes throughout the educational system. What is becoming clear, however, is that we can turn that situation on its head by partnering higher educational institutions with communities, K-12 schools, and community support services to deliver an integrated support structure that enables communities to improve educational outcomes.

Programs such as the Seattle University Youth Initiative have already proven the potential of this approach, having helped Bailey Gatzert Elementary — which has a 96% Free/Reduced Lunch population — achieve the greatest test score gain in the Seattle Public School system last year.

This supports the goals of the University as well: about 1,000 Seattle University students are involved in the program, and school administrators cite the tremendous benefit this has had on their educations.

Theme Area #2: Educational structures must be coordinated so we can deliver services that will otherwise fall through the cracks.

Many services that are essential for student success have distributed responsibility throughout the education system, and when nobody is "in charge" of them, they are likely to be delivered inconsistently. For instance, the more graduating high school students who fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the more federal education dollars that are likely to flow into our state. But, as Mary Jean Ryan of the Road Map Project put it, "Whose job is it to help? Nobody's job. We need coordinated structures so we can deliver these services that fall in the grey area."

Takeaways from each stop:

1. Attendees
2. Themes
3. Programs

A Spotlight on the Issues



The Columbian logo is on the left, followed by the text "The Columbian". To the right is a weather icon showing clouds and the text "57° Clark County, Weather Blog". Below this is a navigation menu with links: News, Sports, Business, Life, Opinion, Blogs, Community, Obituaries, Local, Northwest, Politics, Schools, Crime, Nation & World, Weather, and T. At the bottom of the header is a news snippet: "New Student Achievement Council strives to maximize the many positives".



The Seattle Times logo is on the left, with the text "Winner of Nine Pulitzer Prizes" below it. To the right is the page title "Editorials / Opinion". Below the logo is a navigation menu: Home | News | Business & Tech | Sports | Entertainment | Food | Living | Homes | Trav. Below the menu is the text "Originally published Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 4:00 PM". The main headline is "Washington's new Student Achievement Council promising for higher ed". To the right of the headline is a share section with icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and a plus sign, followed by a "Recommend" button with a counter showing "0". Below the share section are icons for "Comments (4)", "E-mail article", and "Print". Below the headline is a short paragraph: "The state Legislature's intended replacement for the Higher Education Coordinating Board is a governing body with more legislative muscle and connection to the Legislature and colleges and universities." At the bottom left of the article is the text "Seattle Times Editorial".

Publication

Summary

1. Attendees
2. Themes Synthesis
3. Best Practices

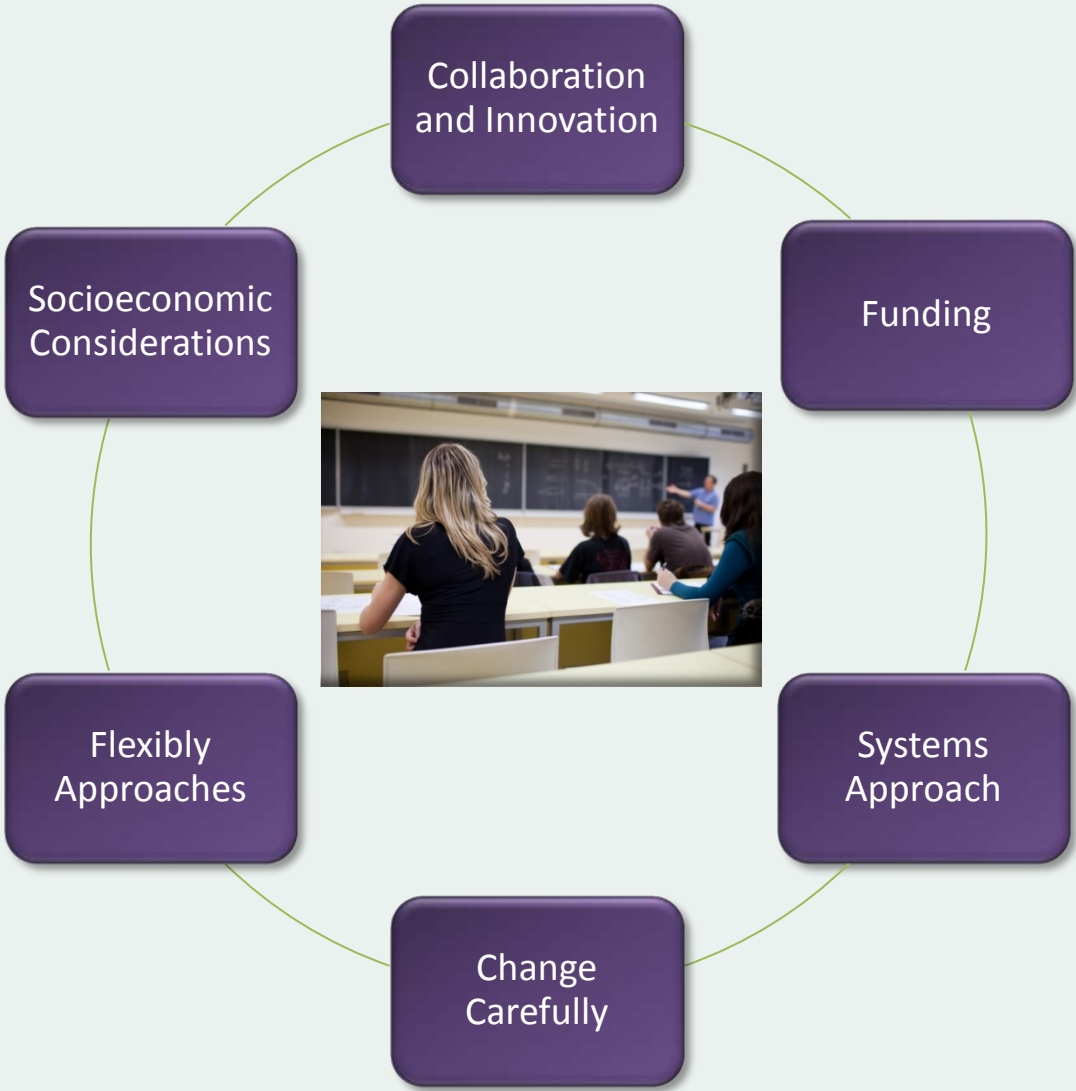
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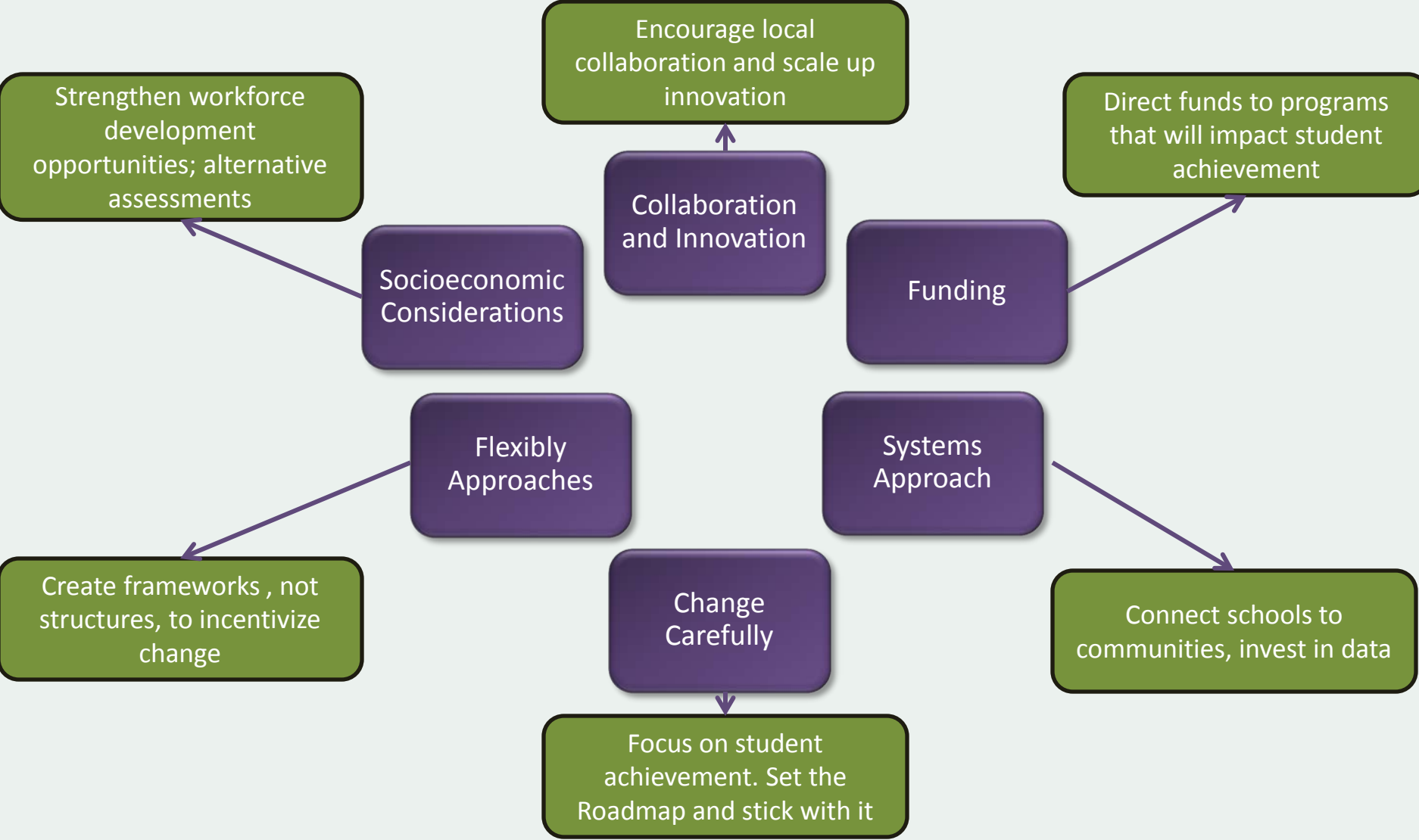
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Listening Tour Summary

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Themes



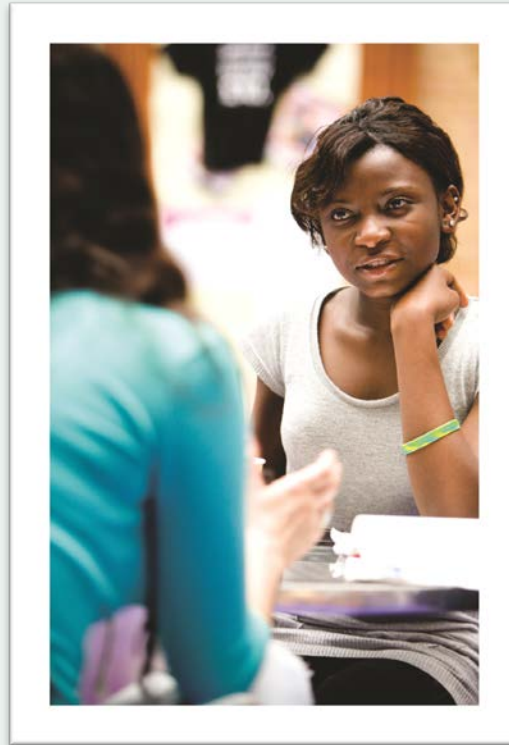
Themes



Discussion and Questions

Visit the Roadmap website:

www.wsac.wa.gov/PlanningAndResearch/Roadmap



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