the WorldCafé

Purpose: enable groups of people to participate together in evolving rounds of dialogue with three or four others while at the same time remaining part of a single, larger, connected conversation. Small, intimate conversations link and build on each other as people move between groups, cross-pollinate ideas, and discover new insights into questions or issues that really matter in their life, work or community.

World Café process was adapted from resources found at: www.theworldcafe.com

SPDG National Meeting World Café Discussion Process

1) Setting: Create a space for the conversation. For our purposes, we'll assign rooms and specific tables for each Café Discussion Topic. A "talking stick" item will be used at each table. There should be eight chairs at each table. If there are more than eight individuals interested in participating in a conversation, then a new group will form on the same topic. Ideally, split the group in half, ensuring different states are represented within the different table discussions.

Timeline in Minutes
World Café Conversation

00-10 Select host, participants to read and review discussion questions, and agree on question to frame the discussion.

10-55 Discussion focused on a question. Use the 'talking stick' to go from person to person.

55-60 Individuals jot down insights, questions, or actions they will take based on the conversation.

2) Welcome and Introduction: Someone in the group volunteers to host the discussion. The host begins with a warm welcome and an introduction to the World Café process, setting the context and putting participants at ease.

3) Two 60-minute Small Group Rounds: The process will host two 60-minute rounds of conversations. The first round on Day One at 4:00 pm and the second round at the beginning of Day Two at 8:30 am. If there's a topic that you would like to see repeated on Day 2, please see Leslie Crysler at the registration desk. She can add repeated or additional topics to the morning line-up and assign a table number.

4) *Questions*: Each round is prefaced with a **question** designed for the specific context and desired purpose of the session. The same questions can be used for more than one round, or they can be built upon each other to focus the conversation or guide its direction.

5) Large Group Report Out: After the small groups (and/or in-between rounds, as desired) individuals are invited to share insights or other results from their conversations with the rest of the large group. These results are reflected visually in a variety of ways, most often using graphic recorders in the front of the room.

World Café Topics
2012 SPDG National Meeting

March 6 – Day One – 4:00-5:00 pm Eastern			
No.	Topic	Host	Question/Description
1	Collaboration within State Departments of Education		
2	Common Core States		
3	Early Learning/Early Intervention		
4	ESEA Reauthorization and Students with Disabilities States with Large Urban Districts		
5	Evaluating Scale-Up		
6	Sustainability of SPDG Projects and Activities		
7	Improvement Grant/Turnaround States		

March 7 – Day Two – 8:30-9:30 am Eastern			
No.	Topic	Host	Question/Description
8	Multi-Tiered Systems of Support States		
9	Race to the Top States		
10	Rural States		
11	Serving All Students in Core Instruction		How to integrate services for all marginalized groups?
12	Striving Readers		
13	Implementation and Application of implementation Science Principles		
14	The Technology Driven Data Deluge	David Merves, SPDG Evaluator, Evergreen Evaluation & Consulting, Inc	Where are we headed and is it a good thing? Evidenced-based practices and research-based practices are familiar terms to our SPDG community. At the recently concluded World Economic Forum, technology and data were hot topics. *Jan Hesthaven, Professor of applied mathematics at Brown University* stated, "We are on the cusp of data-driven research, innovation and discovery." What are the implications of this statement to our work? This session will offer a perspective and discussion of how the digitalized, global economy may impact and shape the future of educational curriculum, creativity and innovation.
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