

Better Together: School and Authorizer Collaboration



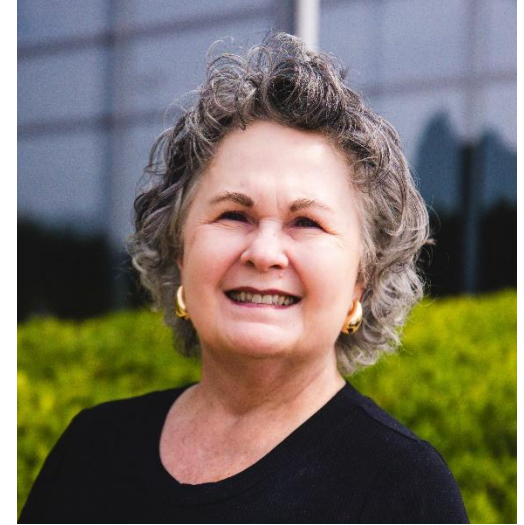
Presenters



Teresa Boardman
Executive Director
**Insight School
of Michigan**



Pieter Hoekstra
Academic Administrator
**Insight School
of Michigan**



Barbara Zeile
Deputy Director
**The Center for Charter
Schools at CMU**

Key Takeaways

- Strengthen the three levers of trust.
- Identify your mission-critical programs.
- Identify indicators of success.
- Identify data to share your story.



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Who We Are

CMU partners with:

- 69 schools.
- 29,000+ students.

Experienced authorizer:

- First university in the nation to authorize a charter public school.
- 30 years experience.

ISMI is a charter public school:

- Managed and supported by Stride/K12, an accredited leader in online education.
- Accredited by Cognia.
- Filling the 'alternative education' niche within the Stride/K12 education ecosystem.
- 10th year supporting up to 1,000 students across the state of Michigan.



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Lessons Learned

Relationships matter.

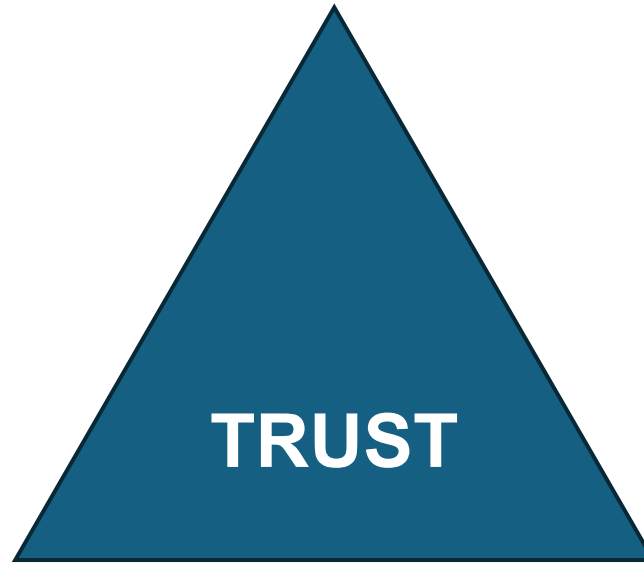
- *Internally* - Ensuring that leadership shares a vision.
- *Externally* - Building support and understanding with stakeholders.

Transparency matters.

- Willingness to share and discuss the good, bad, and ugly.
- Moving beyond 'admiring the problem'.
- Measure what really matters.

Authenticity
I experience the
real you.

Logic
I know you can do
it; your reasoning
and judgement are
sound.



Empathy
I believe you care
about me and my
success.

Source: "Begin with Trust," by Frances Frei and Anne Morriss, May-June 2020. Harvard Business Journal



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Seek first to understand.

AUTHENTICITY

How well do you:

- Share your mission, values, beliefs, hopes.
- Invite your authorizer to visit.
- Share new initiatives and goals.
- Share your successes.
- Share your challenges.

EMPATHY

How well do you:

- Understand your authorizer mission, vision and values.
- Seek to connect that mission with your school's.
- Know the persons in the office.
- Understand their limits and constraints.

LOGIC

How well do you:

- Meet compliance requirements.
- Meet financial obligations.
- Respond to concerns of the authorizer.
- Collect, analyze and report data.

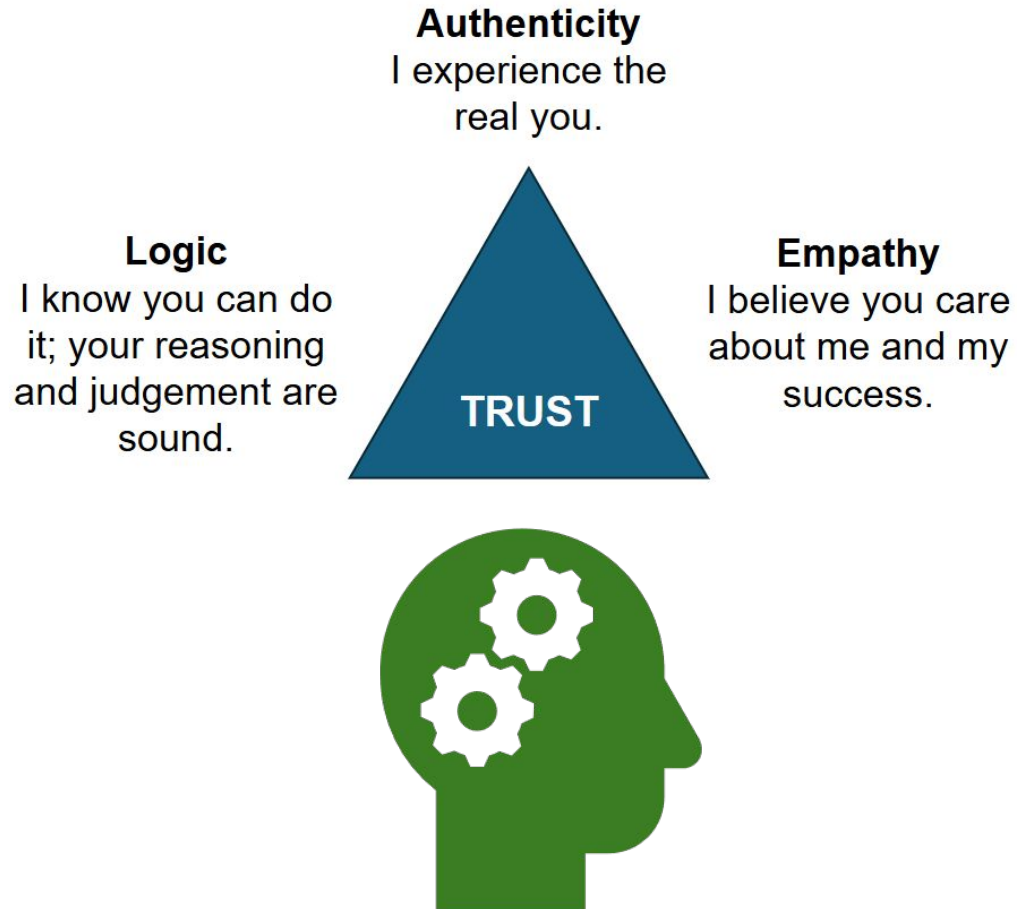


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Reflection



- **What side of the trust triangle is "wobbly" for you?**
- **What steps might you take to strengthen that side?**

On your note taking sheet.

ISMI – Mission and Vision

Mission

Empowering opportunity youth to take an active role in their education and build a personalized path toward post-secondary success.

Vision

Insight School of Michigan creates graduates prepared for their future.

Our Unique Story

What makes us unique:

- 100% online.
- Synchronous instruction.
- 16-22 years.
- 8 am – 8 pm live support.
- Serve the entire state.
- 60%+ students have multiple risk factors.

Indicators of success not in the accountability framework:

- Effort and due diligence.
- Benchmark assessments.
- Engagement with schooling.
- Credits earned per year.
- Incoming risk factors.



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Reflection



- **Identify essential elements of your program key to meeting mission outcomes.**
- **What are some indicators of success not captured in your accountability framework?**

On your note taking sheet.

What We Measure and Why

Insight School of Michigan

- Gathers data on multiple mission-critical elements that have varying degrees of importance to different stakeholders.
- Continues to work with stakeholders to identify Achievable and Relevant measures of success that align with the core mission.

- ✓ Student outreach
- ✓ Due diligence efforts
- ✓ Risk factors
- ✓ Credits recovered
- ✓ Attendance



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Reflection



- **What data do you collect as evidence of your program's success?**
- **What additional data could you collect?**
- **How do you connect this data to your mission?**

On your note taking sheet.

Sharing Our Story – Building Meaningful Measures

Sharing Our Story

- Regular meetings with stakeholders.
- Move from anecdotal data to measurable outcomes.
- Increased mutual understanding.

New Measures

- Growth on standardized assessments.
- 5 - 6 year graduation rate.
- Attendance.
- Credits earned.



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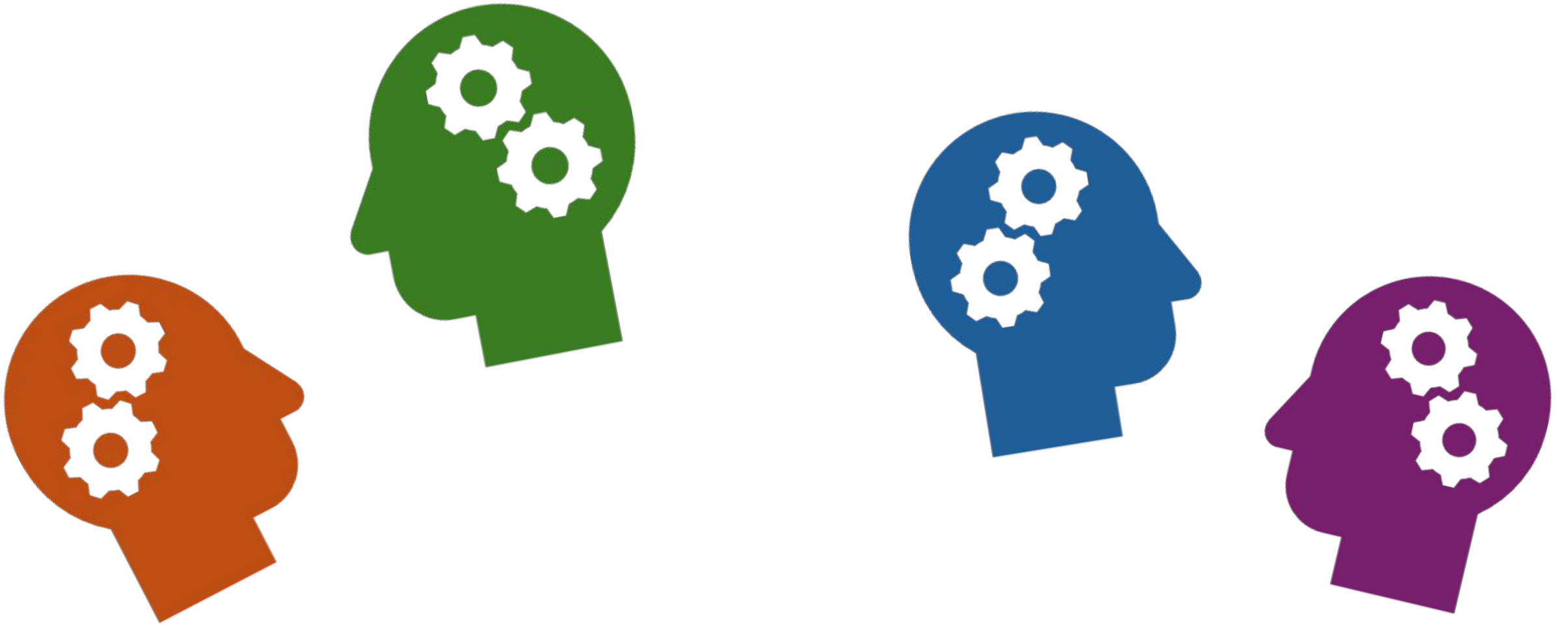
Reflection



- **How might you share your data story with stakeholders?**
- **What new measures might you build with your stakeholders?**

On your note taking sheet.

Time to Share



Which questions resonate with you?



What are some indicators of success not captured in your accountability framework? Why?

I can show success by...



How could you connect this data to your mission?

My mission encapsulates...



How might you share your data story with stakeholders?

I can tell my story by...

Contact Information and Resources



Teresa Boardman
Executive Director

Insight School of Michigan
tboardman@k12.com



Pieter Hoekstra
Academic Administrator
Insight School of Michigan
phoekstra@k12.com



Barbara Zeile
Deputy Director
**The Center for Charter
Schools at CMU**
bzeile@thecenterforcharters.org

Session Resources

**To access this session's resources,
please visit:**

www.thecenterforcharters.org/dlaconference

Available resources include:

- **Presentation Slides**
- **Attendee Worksheet**
- **ISMI Academic Performance Report**

Additional Resources – A-GAME Community

This process was influenced by our participation in the A-GAME: Measure What Matters Initiative.

Additional resources about that initiative, including becoming a community member at no cost, can be found at **www.charternetwork.org/AGAME**.