

MI-Excel Collaborative Partner Meeting Notes

Collaboration and Communication

11.13.19

Collaboration – What’s going well?

- Better communication between SWFT & ISD’s intentional
- Mutual respect demonstrated between SWFT and ISD’s
- Both face-to-face and Zoom
- Continue using the connector
- Continue using the website
- When Districts, ISD’s, MDE all work together to improve student achievement.
- Partnership Liaison’s support & presence
- Established meetings w/Partnership districts and schools
- Quarterly progress monitoring w/C.S.I. Alt Educ.; Established meetings w/Partnership districts and schools; Partnership Liaison’s support and presence
- Better connection to MI EXCEL, openness, transparency
- Partner meetings - getting to talk to peers about successes and challenges
- Joint meetings with SWFT & ISD & MDE Partners
- MDE Liaison and ISD must coordinate and collaborate (and attend District level meetings)
- ISD/SWFT/PAL’s making intentional efforts to communicate early and often
- Continued opportunities for collaborative conversation leveraging an “Appreciative Inquiry” lens
- One SWFT partner for all school districts
- SWFT/ISD partnership to support districts
- An appreciation for everyone’s role and support to districts
- Good conversations and willingness to work together
- created a cohort of CSI alternative schools to work collaboratively on common challenges
- Team development
- Emails from Heather have topics listed-nice addition
- We are meeting regularly to produce a weekly agenda; conversations are taking place

Collaboration – What is still challenging?

- Communication from OPD to districts not shared with ISDs
- Regularly being on the same page
- Changing mindsets
- All information not shared with ALL partners
- ISD Leadership Network - sometimes Leadership/Admin at ISD level are disconnected from the work
- ISD level access to Data Warehouse input visualization tools
- Messages to districts differ depending on the liaison
- Not having a SWFT partner for non-identified districts
- Supporting districts when they are out of focus
- Without a partnership agreement a district may not have as much success. MDE partnership helps
- Communication between some ISDs and districts
- PALS-roles-expectations-communication
- Collaborative & Communication--Use these meetings as an opportunity to connect
- Capacity (understanding of what everyone can physically do...)
- Collaboration meetings
- Communication between district & ISD getting better
- Timeline for grant is confusing and schools do not want to for instance adding additional staff for fear it will not get approved
- Still feels like there is a disconnect between MI Excel-MDE & OPD; Some info is still only going to Superintendents-Huge problem. They don't check it!
- Building relationships with struggling districts