

Making Data an Ally (not an obstacle) in Program Improvement

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Deans for Impact















10,000 Steps a Day:

Measure what matters:
walk your way back to
health & energy.

Copyrighted Material

10,000 Steps a Day™



to Your Optimal Weight

Walk Your Way to Better Health

“Walking 10,000 steps a day offers numerous health benefits—from decreasing stress levels to lowering blood pressure.”



By *Celebrity Fitness* Trainer **GREG ISAACS**

Activity Level Defined by Steps per Day



Highly Active

12,500+

Active

10,000-12,499

Somewhat Active

7,500-9,999

Low Active

5,000-7,499

Sedentary (Limited Activity)

2,500-4,999



Sedentary (Basal Activity)

<2,500

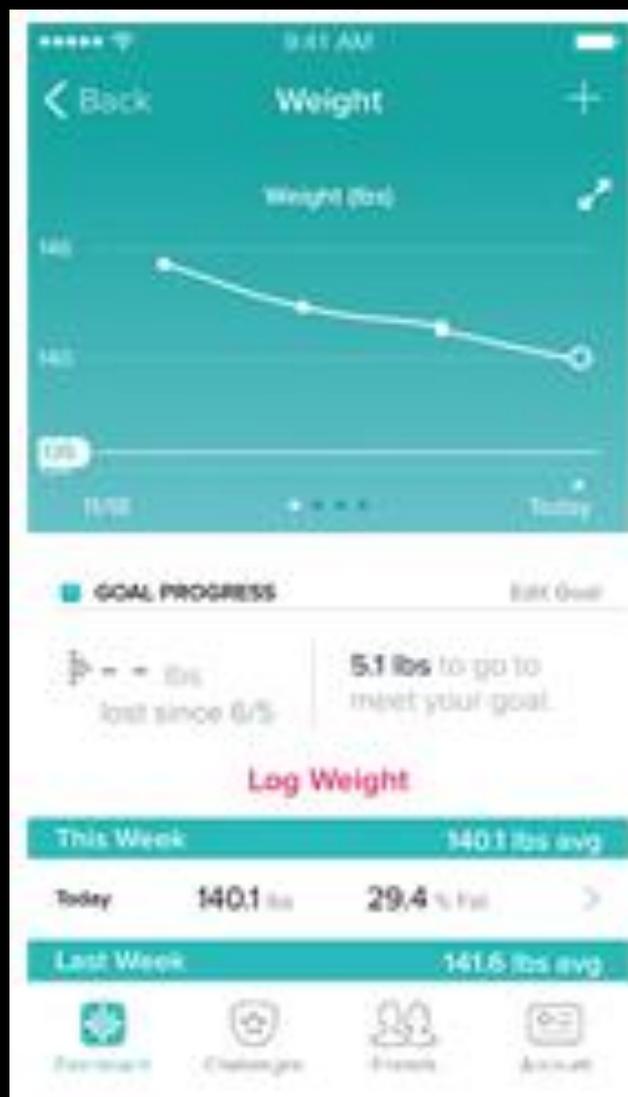












123 Search

FREQUENT RECENT CUSTOM

Eggs
Generic, 3 eggs, 400 cal

Spinach
Generic, 200 grams, 250 cal

Cheese
Sargento, 2 ct, 90 cal

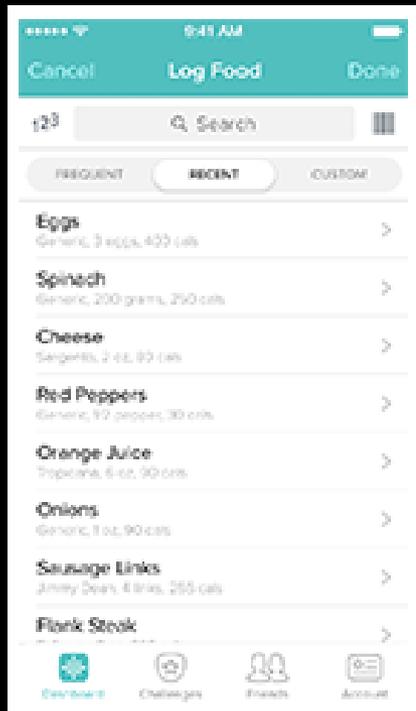
Red Peppers
Generic, 12 peppers, 30 cal

Orange Juice
Tropicana, 4 ct, 90 cal

Onions
Generic, 1 ct, 90 cal

Sausage Links
Jimmy Dean, 4 links, 260 cal

Flank Steak



Your Food Diary For: ◀ Tuesday April 16, 2013 ▶

Breakfast

	Calories	Carbs	Fat	Protein	Sugar	Sodium	
Darigold - Chocolate Low Fat Milk, 1.5 cup	285	47	4	15	44	345	⊖
Fried Egg - 2 Eggs Over Easy With Pam, 3.33 egg	233	1	18	21	1	463	⊖
Dennys - Country Fried Potatoes, 1.67 z	131	8	8	1	0	187	⊖
Hunter - Bacon, Hardwood Smoked, 2 slices	35	0	3	2	0	145	⊖
Nature's Own Honey Wheat Bread - Toast With Dab of Butter, 0.5 slice	35	7	1	2	2	68	⊖
Add Food Quick Tools	719	63	34	41	47	1,208	

Lunch

Mc Donald's - Unsweetened Iced Tea - Large, 32 oz	0	1	0	0	0	10	⊖
Lala's - Melrose Salad, 1/2 large salad	290	30	14	9	5	232	⊖
Add Food Quick Tools	290	31	14	9	5	242	

Dinner

Add Food | Quick Tools

Snacks

Add Food | Quick Tools

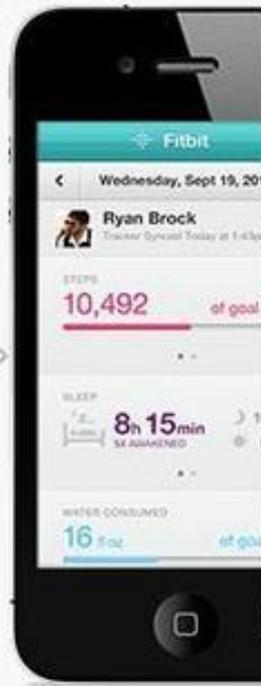
Totals	1,009	94	48	50	52	1,450	
Your Daily Goal	1,200	165	40	45	24	2,500	
Remaining	191	71	-8	-5	-28	1,050	
	Calories	Carbs	Fat	Protein	Sugar	Sodium	



YOU'VE
ACHIEVED
80% OF
YOUR GOAL



BLUETOOTH

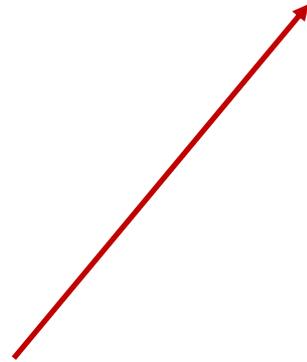
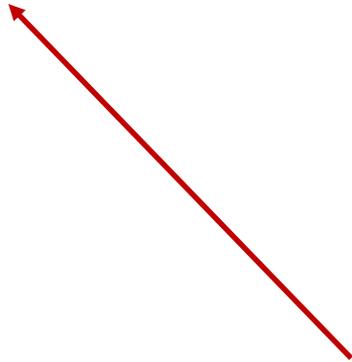




Me



Friends



Making Data an Ally

An Institutional Perspective

Background

- People
 - “People who work incredibly hard because they care.”
- Passion
 - “The goal was not to be more research-based and data-driven. The goal was to simply to increase student performance.”
- Proof
 - “Professional judgement and anecdotes aren’t enough. People want proof.”

Background

- Data became an ally in
 - Attracting students and increasing their achievement
 - Continuously improving programs and practice
 - Telling our story
 - Garnering the respect that faculty deserved
- Now, I am committed to helping other institutions along this daunting but rewarding journey

Indicators of Healthy Behavior

FitBit

- 10,000 steps
- 10 Flights of stairs
- 2 Hrs of rigorous activity
- 8 hrs of sleep
- 1350 Calories
- 64 Ozs of water

School of Ed

- Content knowledge (Praxis II passage rates)
- Instructional practice
- Professional dispositions
- Mutually beneficial Pk-12 partnerships
- etc.

Data Helps Monitor Performance on Indicators

FitBit App

- Activity Monitor
- Scale
- Food Journal
- Tape Measure

School of Ed

- Standardized Test Scores
- Course Assignments
- Observations in the field (multiple assessors)
- Self Assessments
- Surveys

But, data can . . .

- overwhelm
- confuse
- misdirect
- oversimplify
- lead to data overload

“Measure What Matters”



Data Collection Considerations

FitBit App

- Activity Monitor
 - Scale
-
- Food Journal
 - Tape Measure

**FitBit for One,
FitBit for ALL!**

School of Ed

- Standardized Test Scores
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Data Collection Considerations

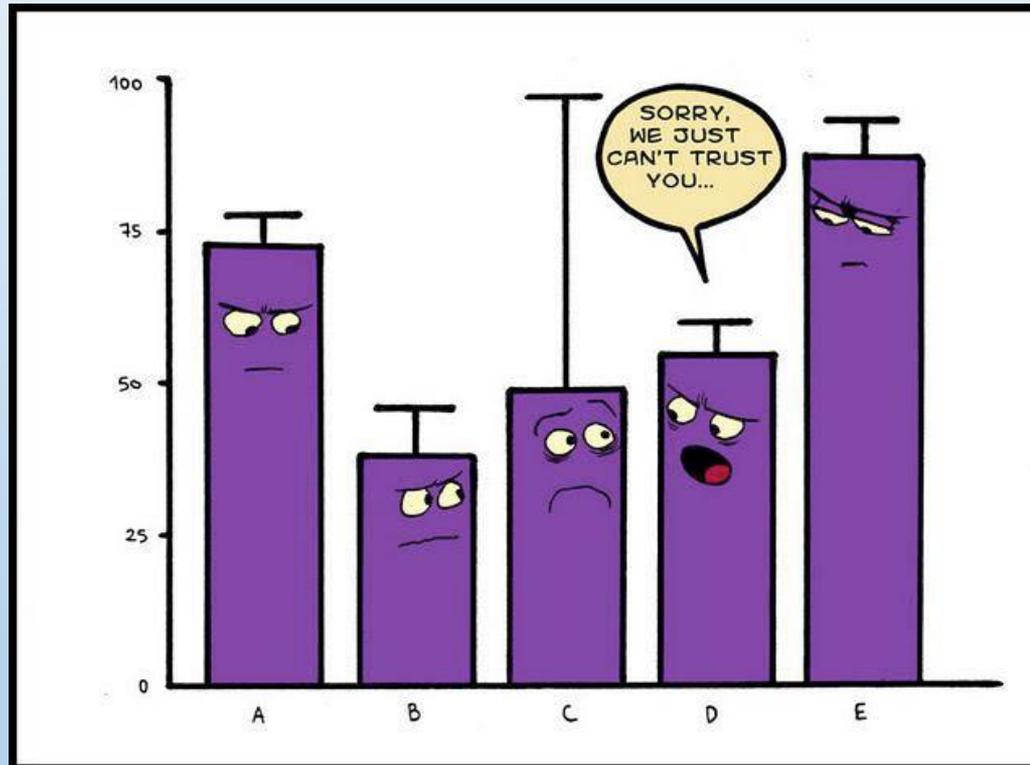
Data Silos



Data Compatibility

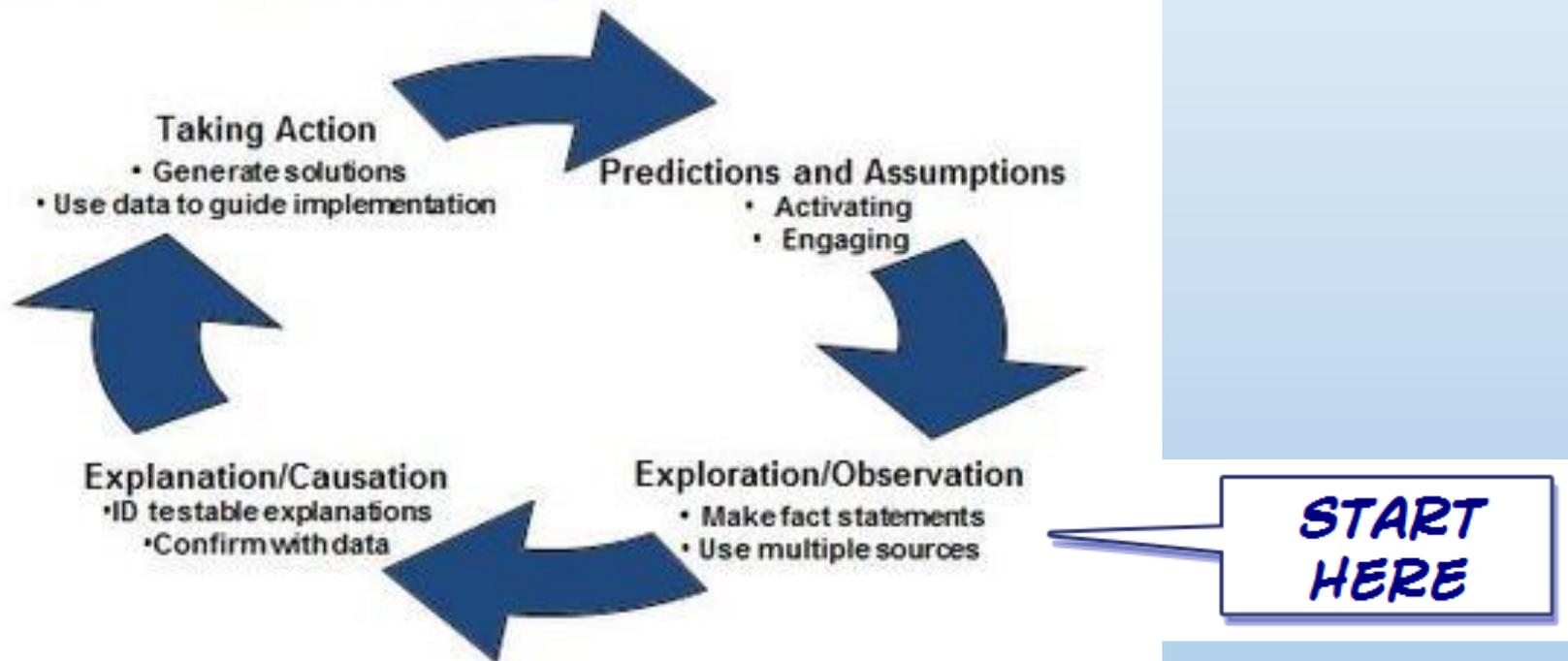


Data Trust Precedes Value



Data Provides a Language for Improvement Discussions

Data-Driven Dialogue

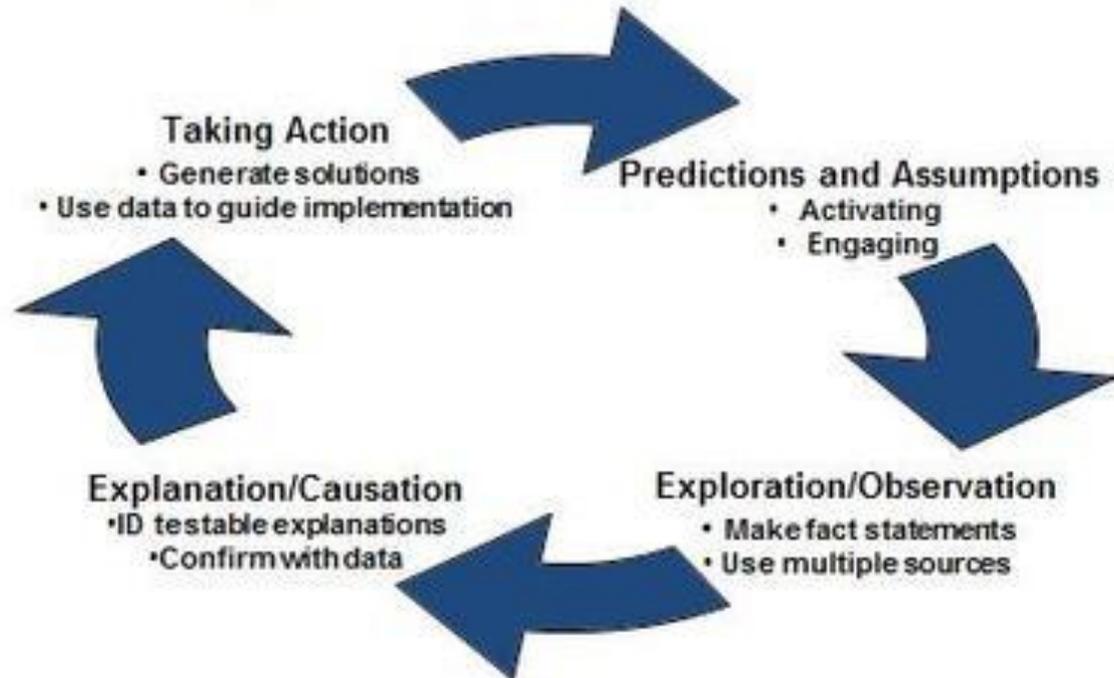


Data Language is Powerful when Shared with Stakeholders



No value is created by insights if they are not acted upon. No Action, No Value.

Data-Driven Dialogue





Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

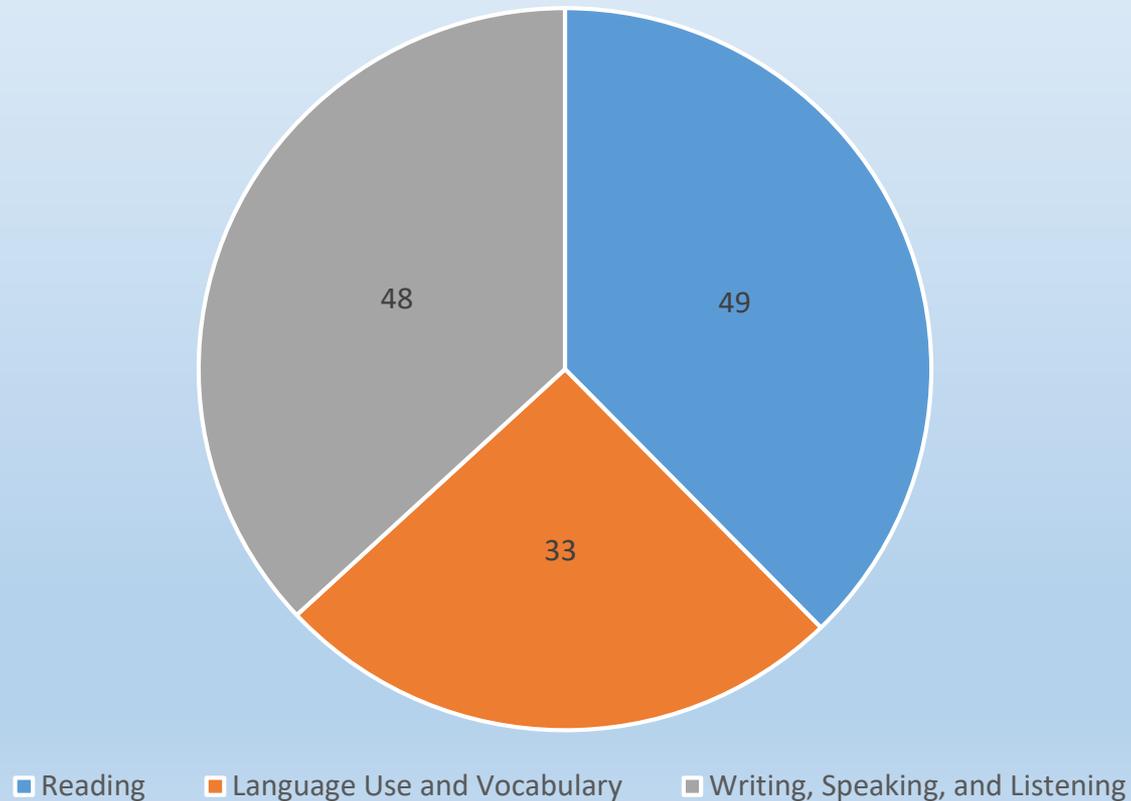
- Do our candidates have command of the content knowledge they need to be effective in the classroom? Indicator: Praxis II Scores
 - 100% of our graduates pass Praxis II content knowledge assessments
 - Every semester, students in the Secondary English program came to my office to appeal the policy requiring passage of Praxis II before they entered student teaching

Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

- There was a disconnect, so we had to dig deeper into the data.
 - We started to track at first-time passage rates, instead of ultimate passage rates
 - We engaged our stakeholders, specifically content area faculty, in discussions about the expectations that candidates were not meeting
 - We wanted to design and target interventions, together

Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

Composition of Praxis II for English Language Arts



Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

- Our strategy was to look at the scores of students who failed the exam on their first attempt.
- Identified a pattern that our students were failing the reading portion of the test.
 - Imagine the headlines.
- We did not stop there. We dug deeper.

Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

- Looked at the test specifications for reading. The test specifications describe the knowledge and skills measured by the test.
 - Informational Texts and Rhetoric
 - Literature

Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

- Literature

- Knows the major works and authors of United States, British, World (including non-Western) Literature, and young adult literature.
- Knows the historical, cultural, and literary contexts of the major works and authors of United States, British, and World literature.

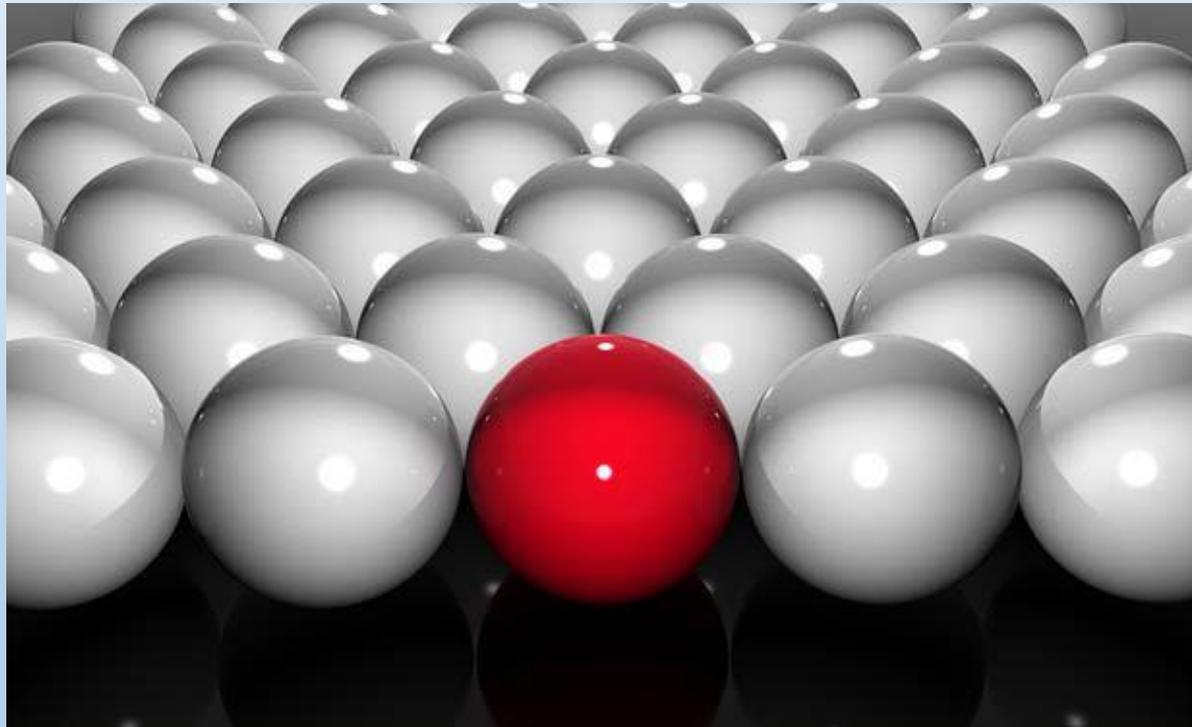
Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

- Discovered the deficiency
 - Test – United States, British, and World Literature
 - Curriculum – Prominent African American Literature
 - Students did not have the opportunity to learn, limited exposure to the texts to the depth required to be successful on the exam

Data Helps Programs Fix Problems

- Created a reading list that would expose candidates to the major works that they would encounter on the exam
- Education could not change the English curriculum, so we created a book club during which faculty and students could engage around the works that were listed on the reading list.

We fixed the problem and increased our first-time passing rate.



We learned that data can . . .

- Help define goals and focus efforts
- Transform conversations
- Confirm/Dispute perceptions
- Reveal blind spots
- Help pinpoint specific needs
- Add nuance to understanding
- Impact practice

Culture of Evidence

- Use of data is everyone's job
- Use of data is routine
- Use of data for improvement, not merely compliance
- Data as an ally, not a magic bullet

Making Data an Ally

Considerations for the State Perspective

Take-Aways

- Asking programs to do things differently
- Variations among institutions in their readiness to do this work; technical assistance is needed, particularly for those institutions that are facing the greatest lift
- Repurposing data points
- Plan for data use, not just collection
- Data for improvement differs from accountability
- Dialogue is as important as data

Data not only measure progress; Data inspire progress.

- To know where we need to go, we need to know what we have achieved – where progress is being made and where major challenges remain.
- Despite the best intentions, strong programmatic work, and impassionate debate, without reliable data on the gains and gaps, it is nearly impossible to accelerate and sustain lasting progress.



Data do not magically
make things better.

Making Data an Ally furthers Program Improvement efforts.

Thank you!

Dr. Cassandra Herring