Data: What is it good for?

How to use data to tell our story
and inform our decisions

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THINGS WE'LL CONSIDER TODAY

- *Why* using data is important
- *What* our data include and may tell us
- *Where* you can obtain data
- *How* we can develop and embed a practice of using data
- *Who* needs to know *what* and *when* to make decisions

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CONTEXT

WHY USING DATA IS IMPORTANT

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WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

Data Use Theory of Action

Sustained | Systemic | Student Centered

Focused Results — Increased Student Achievement

Data-Driven Actions — Policy, Programs, Practice, Placement

Conditions for Data Use — Quality, Capacity, Culture
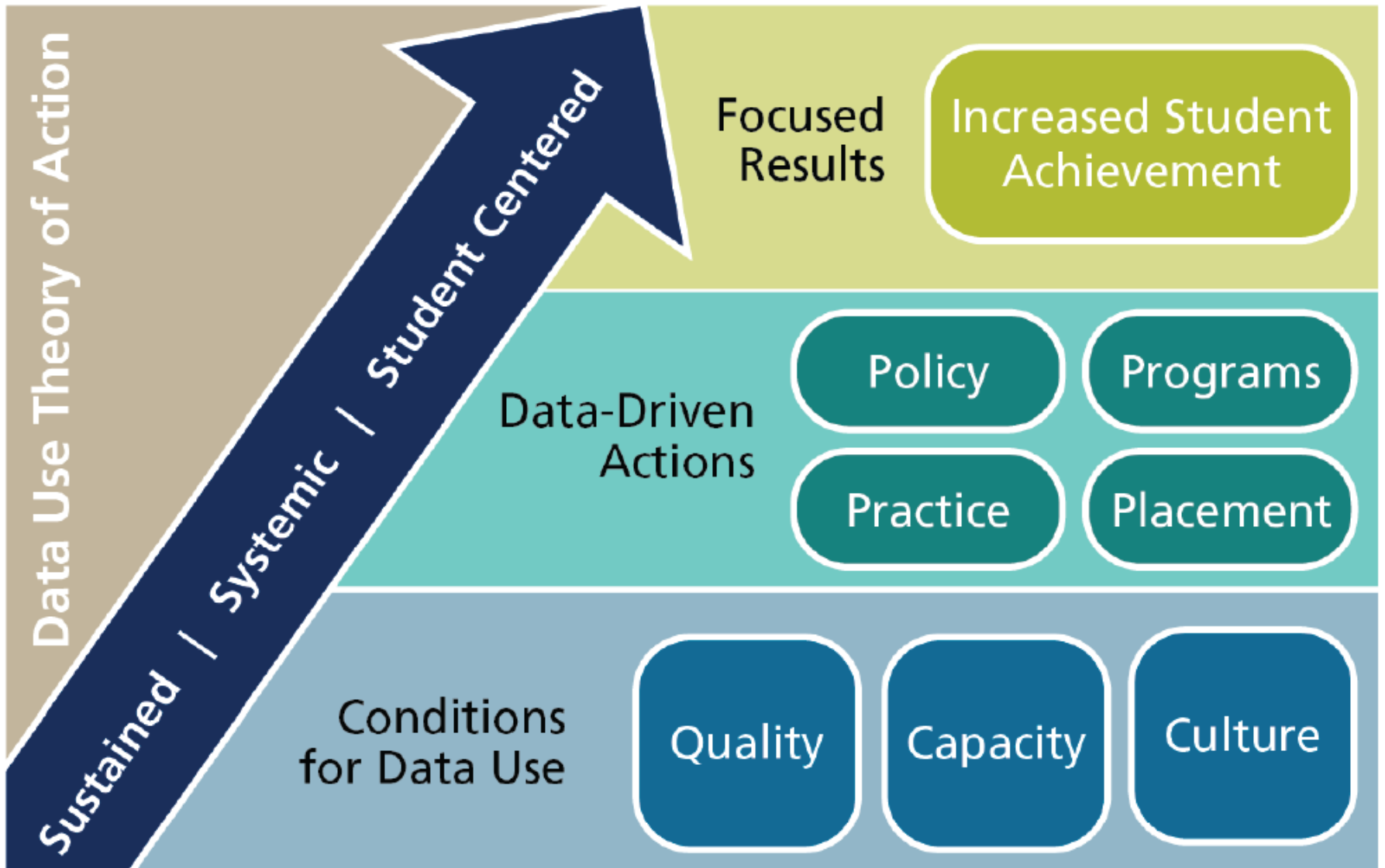
DATA FOR DUAL PURPOSES

Data can both serve as a window *looking out* to develop insights into students, schools, districts, and the region as a whole…

I See…

…and as a mirror to *look in* and gather insights about our own practices and systems.

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SHARED MEASUREMENT HELPS US…

- Build a shared understanding of what's happening in the region
- Know how we're doing compared to benchmarks we've set
- Understand what's working or not working well
- Shine a light on areas for celebration, as well as for growth
- Construct narratives to share our work with a range of stakeholders
- Bring an equity lens to our work

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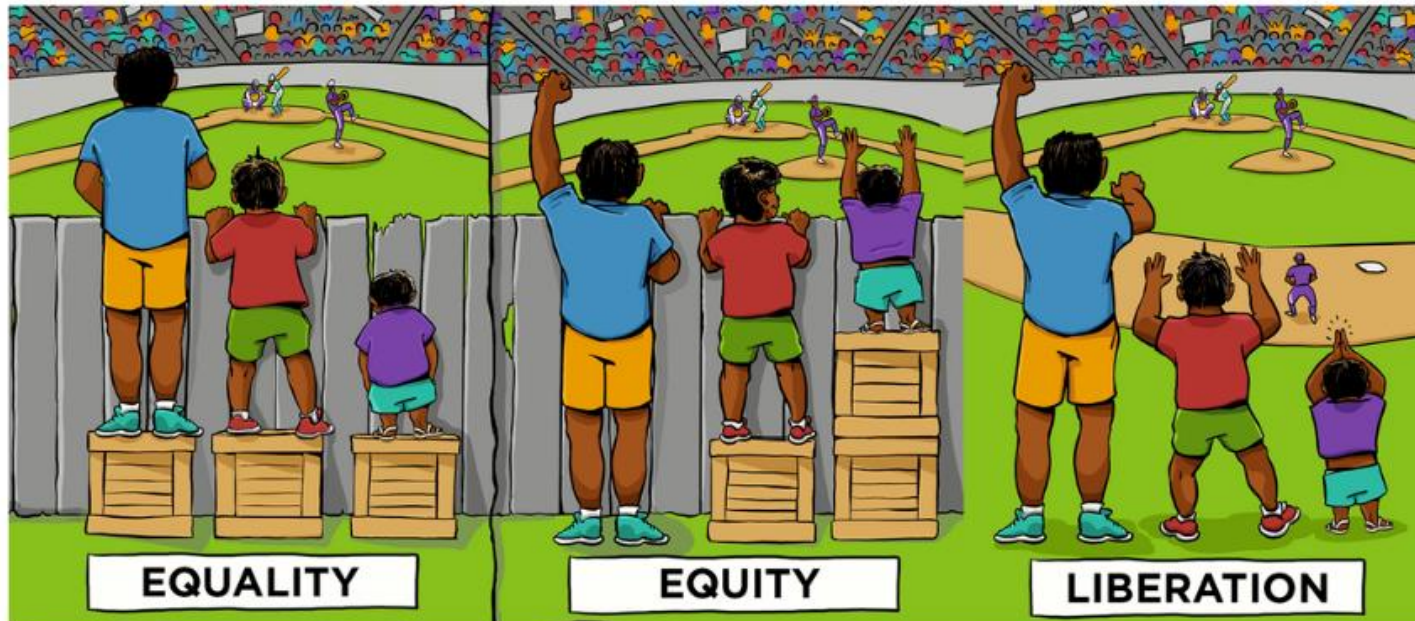*@advanceillinois*

BUILDING A COLLECTIVE DATA MUSCLE

To build a collective _culture_ of _engagement_ to _inform practice_:

- Commitment across all stakeholders
- Clearly articulated vision for data use
- Accountability
- Culture of collaboration and trust
- Modeling of data use by leaders at all levels
- Commitment to improvements in instruction and programming

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ENGAGING OUR EQUITY LENS

Any system produces what it was designed to produce.

NATIONAL EQUITY PROJECT

EQUALITY   EQUITY   LIBERATION

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WHERE TO LOOK

HIGHLIGHTING DATA RESOURCES

WHERE TO LOOK FOR DATA

Some Public Sources

- Illinois 60 by 25 Network Dashboard (Link)

- Advance Illinois Data Desk (Link)

- IL Report Card (Link)

- ILCollege2Career (Link)

- *Coming Soon*: Illinois Postsecondary Profiles
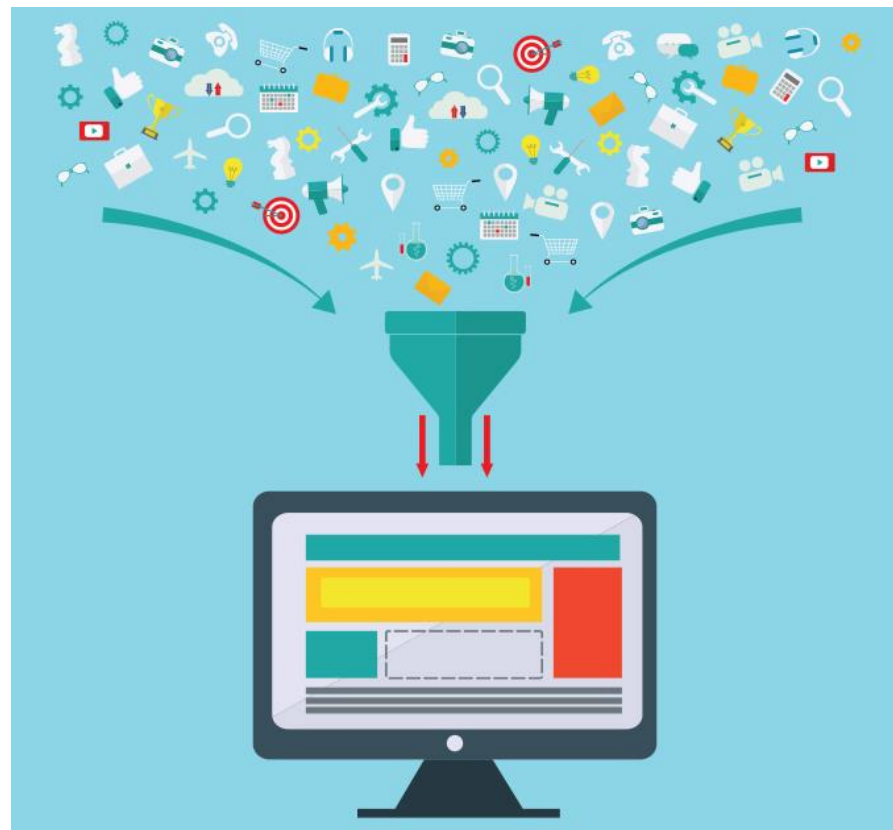
YOU'VE GOT DATA, NOW WHAT?

PRACTICING PROTOCOLS

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PROTOCOL PRACTICE GOALS

- *Develop* shared understanding of some metrics of interest

- *Practice* observing and interpreting data

- *Consider* the narratives we may begin to construct around these data

- *Practice* identifying strategies in response to data

- *Consider* implications for how to bring data into decision-making processes
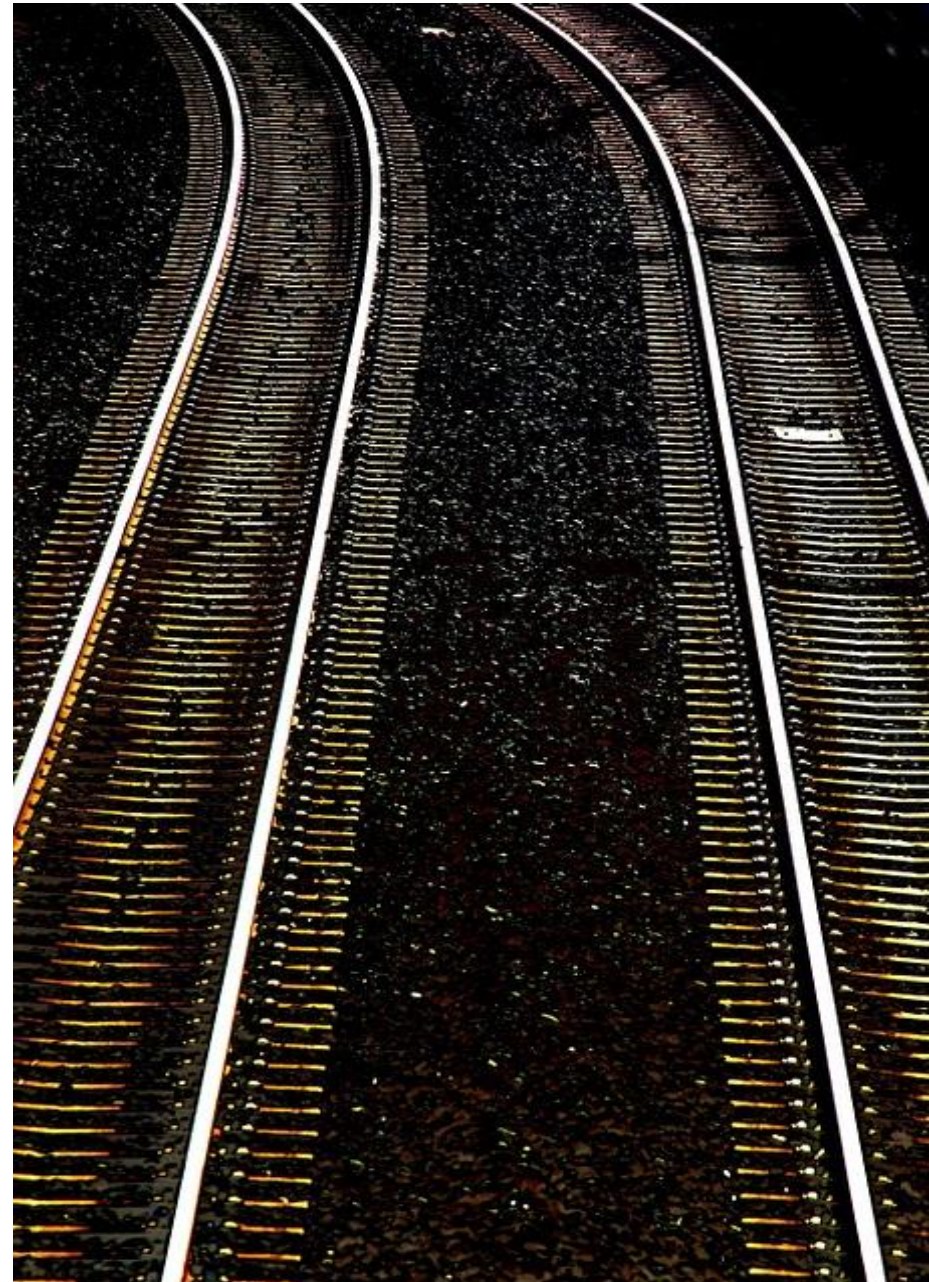
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GUIDING QUESTIONS WHEN REVIEWING DATA

- What are the stories/narratives you might tell/understand from these data?
- What questions will various stakeholders have?
- What can each district learn from one another?
- What do these data invite us to celebrate?
- What's important to us as a region?
- How do we understand success as region? How do we know when we're on track?
- How do we act on our data?
- What implications for equity arise?
- Who needs to know what? When?

GROUND RULES FOR COLLABORATIVE DATA REVIEW

Think of using data like a **flashlight**…

…instead of a **hammer**.

ONE MORE USEFUL RULE

PROTOCOL PRACTICE

What are we using today?

Placemat Protocol

Great for internal meetings

Can be used with one dataset or more

Useful for building collective understanding

Here's What, So What, Now What

Great for newbies

Simple and adaptable

Can be used for individual and/or collective reflection

Data Walk

Great for larger groups
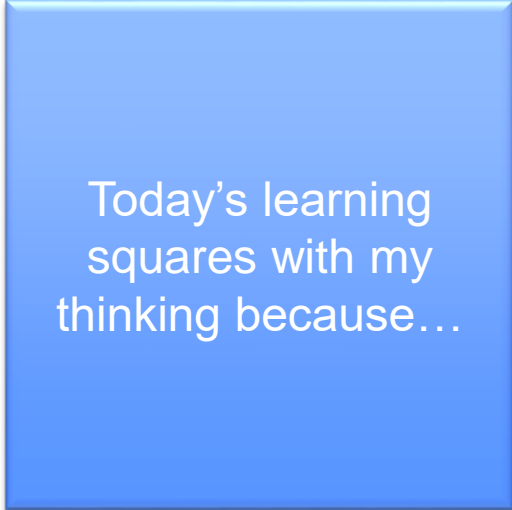
Works well with multiple datasets/visuals

Useful for public reporting and reflection

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REFLECTING ON THE WORKSHOP

Something still circling in my head is…

Today's learning squares with my thinking because…

Three important points from today are…

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THANK YOU

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