



# INTERACTIVE INSTITUTE 2021

BUILDING AND SUSTAINING A CULTURE OF HIGH-QUALITY DATA

## Mind the Virtual Gap! Make the Most of Your Stakeholder Collaborations

April 13–15, 2021



IDEA DATA  
CENTER

Collect, Report, Analyze, and  
Use High-Quality Part B Data





# Presenters

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# Agenda

- Warm-Up
- What is collaboration?
- Norms of Collaboration
- Working examples of using technology and norms for virtual collaboration
- State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) application

# Warm-Up



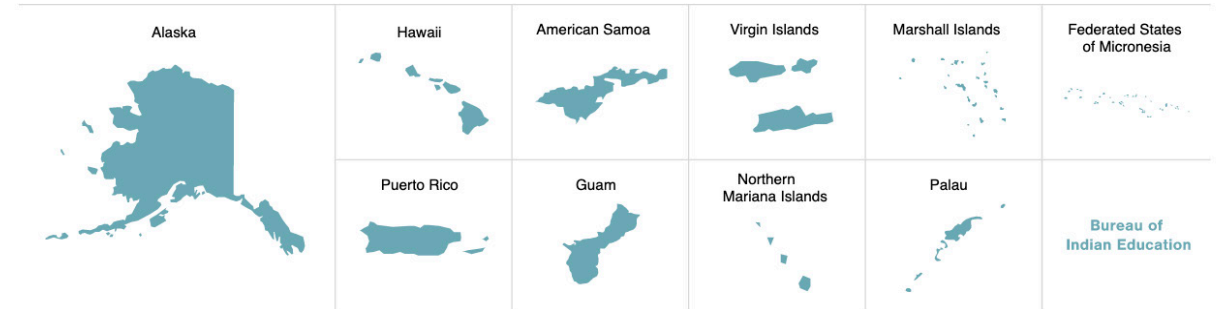
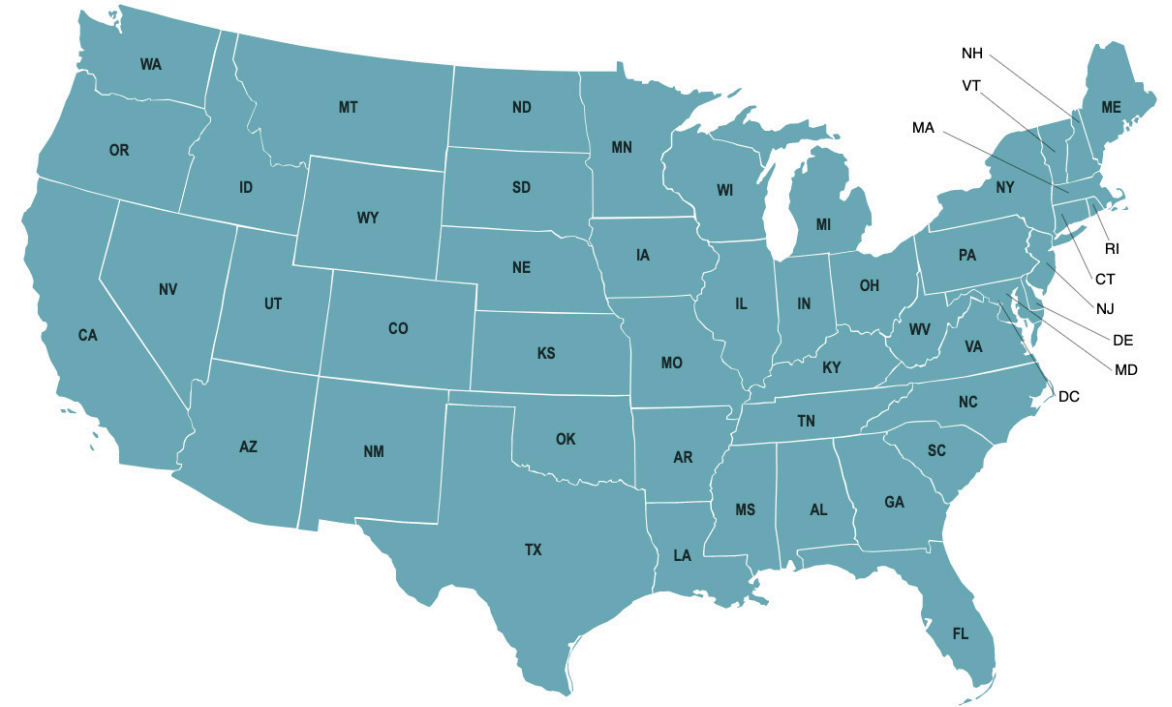
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# Who Is With Us Today?

- Click “View Options” at the top of your screen and choose “Annotate.”
- Choose a stamp (a check mark or a heart) and click on the map to show us where you are joining from today!



# Interaction

- Of all your colleagues' pets, which have you gotten to know the best over this past year?
- Have you attended a virtual conference this past year?

# What Is Collaboration?

- It's simply working together to accomplish a task
- Simple enough?
- Virtual and data considerations

# What Is Collaboration? (cont.)

Pushing the conversation to the center of the table



# Seven Norms of Collaboration



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# Seven Norms of Collaboration

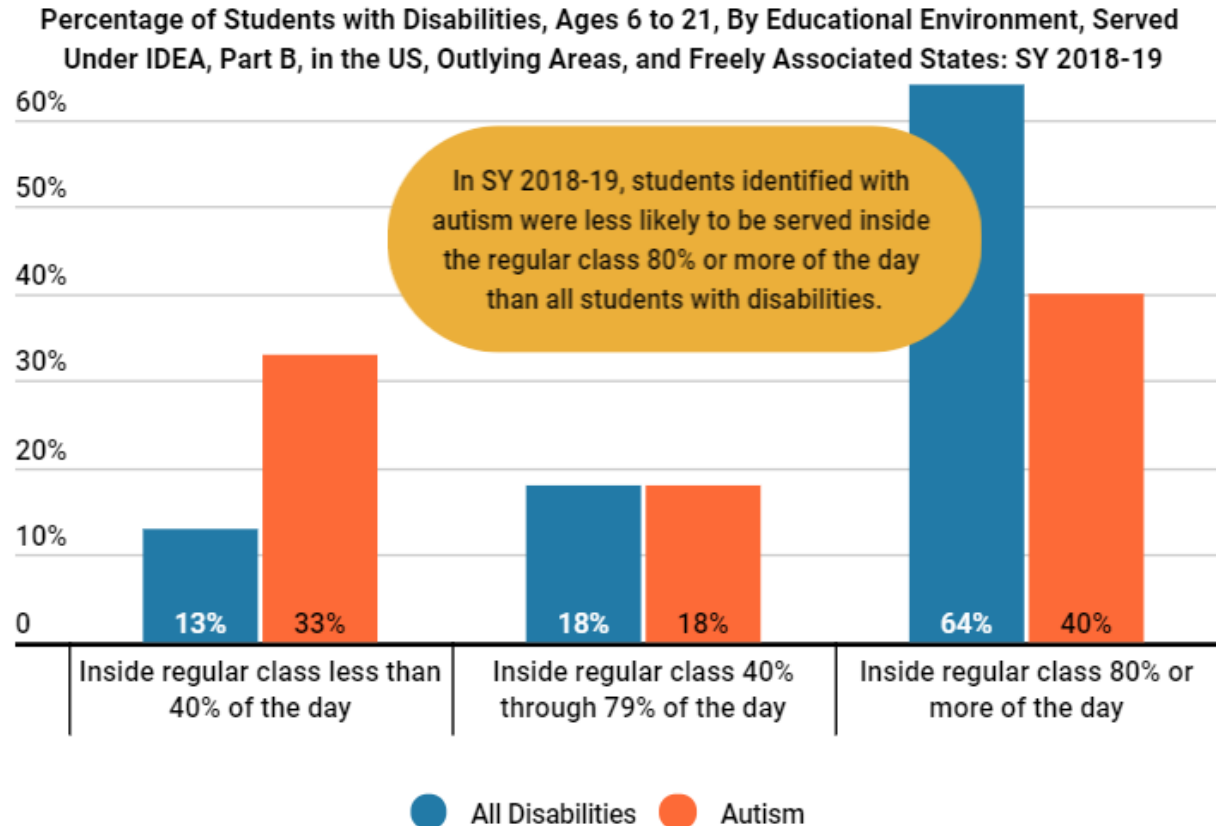
- Pausing
- Paraphrasing
- Putting Inquiry at the Center
- Probing for Specificity
- Putting Ideas on the Table
- Paying Attention to Self and Others
- Presuming Positive Intentions

# Norms of Collaboration: Pausing

**Virtual Considerations:** Pauses are harder to identify in a virtual setting. Be explicit and intentional! Create a “Pause” slide!

**Data Considerations:** Data are information that require processing. To any degree, this will require some pause. Make space for that!

# Norms of Collaboration: Pausing Example



Source: U.S. Department of Education, ED Facts Data Warehouse (EDW): "IDEA Part B Child Count and Educational Environments Collection," 2018-19. <https://go.usa.gov/xdp4T> Percentages do not equal 100% due to not including the counts of children who receive services in a separate school, residential facility, homebound/hospital, or correctional facility.

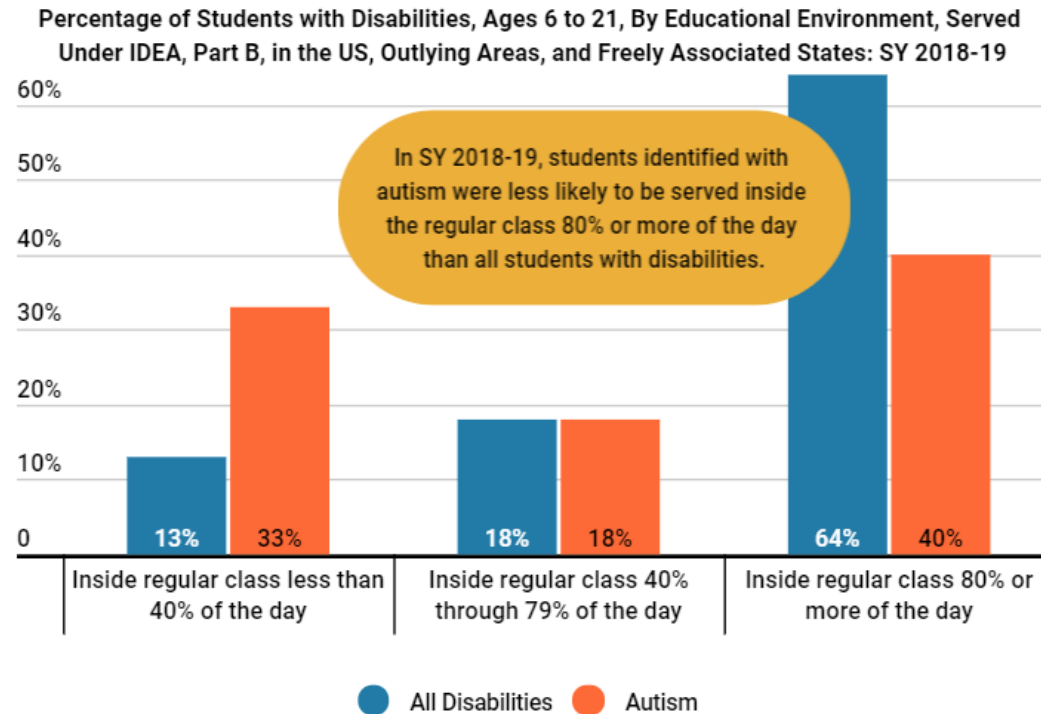
# Norms of Collaboration: Paraphrasing

**Virtual Considerations:** Paraphrasing is a way to check for and communicate understanding. Often this comes with non-verbal communication.

**Data Considerations:** In your data use process, document your data story throughout your presentation. Encourage others to articulate with precision.

# Paraphrasing

Think back to the last chart. What types of things did you learn?



Source: U.S. Department of Education, EDData Data Warehouse (EDW): "IDEA Part B Child Count and Educational Environments Collection," 2018-19. <https://go.usa.gov/xdp4T> Percentages do not equal 100% due to not including the counts of children who receive services in a separate school, residential facility, homebound/hospital, or correctional facility.

# Norms of Collaboration: Putting Inquiry at the Center

**Virtual Considerations:** We're in this together! Invite others to question your assumptions. Together, challenge ideas before people. Clearly communicate and don't depend on visual communication cues.

**Data Considerations:** Add structure to your collaboration with a formatted data inquiry cycle.

# Data Inquiry Cycle

- Hypothesis statements are an excellent way to put ideas on the table
- Doing this virtually allows you to crowd source and share live!



# Norms of Collaboration: Probing for Specificity

**Virtual Considerations:** What do you think? Audience check in.

**Data Considerations:** Questions about data quality are fair game at any time! You must challenge your information in order to draw conclusions from it.

# Norms of Collaboration: Probing for Specificity (cont.)

Key strands of action	If the SEA	Then the LEA (e.g., teachers and administrators)	Then teachers/support teams	So that
Educational Environments	...provides professional development opportunities and coaches to elementary schools in target districts to explore data on educational environment and analyze where students with disabilities are receiving their instruction...	...will make more informed and intentional decisions about educational placements for students with disabilities...	...will provide students with disabilities access to the general curriculum....	...reading achievement for students with disabilities in elementary grades in target districts will improve.

# Norms of Collaboration: Putting Ideas on the Table

**Virtual Considerations:** Feel free to be explicit with your intention. Encourage all to use the chat box as well.

**Data Considerations:** *Your* data analysis is one interpretation! Share it, but appreciate others as well. Allow the group to question, challenge, advance ideas. Work together to take interpretations off of the table as well.

# Norms of Collaboration: Paying Attention to Self and Others

**Virtual Considerations:** Don't assume you're able to communicate with non-verbal cues. Cue into your collaborators' video feed so that you can understand how your ideas are understood.

**Data Considerations:** Pay attention to how others are understanding the analysis that you're presenting. Ask collaborators to confirm their understanding.

# Norms of Collaboration: Presuming Positive Intentions

**Virtual Considerations:** Assume that people are bringing positive intent to the virtual table. Don't assume that just because you intended something positively that this is the way others will understand it. Check in and be explicit. Address the people behind the screens!

**Data Considerations:** Identify your biases that may creep into your analysis. Together, challenge the data.

# So, Why Should We Collaborate?

Diversity of experiences, ideas, and skills allows teams to understand challenges and advance the work.

# Discussion: Why should we collaborate?

Collaboration leads to innovation and creativity.

To gain perspectives beyond our own.

Greater buy-in

Get multiple perspectives

Problem solving opportunities

Expand ideas and possibilities; improve outcomes

Two heads are better than one. More are even better.

Multiple perspectives

Two or more heads are better than one.

Everyone had a voice!

# Discussion: Why should we collaborate?

Two-way communication by practicing listening as well as giving others a voice

Challenge thinking

Discover resources

All buy-in is needed. All perspectives

Buy-in

To consider others perspectives and not be vulnerable to a single person's blind spots

I don't know of all the answers; I need input

Ask questions

To improve sense of community

Attainment of goals



# Discussion: Why should we collaborate?

Collaboration leads to better outcomes and challenges our thinking

Students have a variety of needs that will be better represented by a variety of individuals that have different roles and perspectives.

Better outcomes

Create more time to check for understanding

# Poll: What is the most challenging norm for virtual collaboration?

19 participant poll respondents:

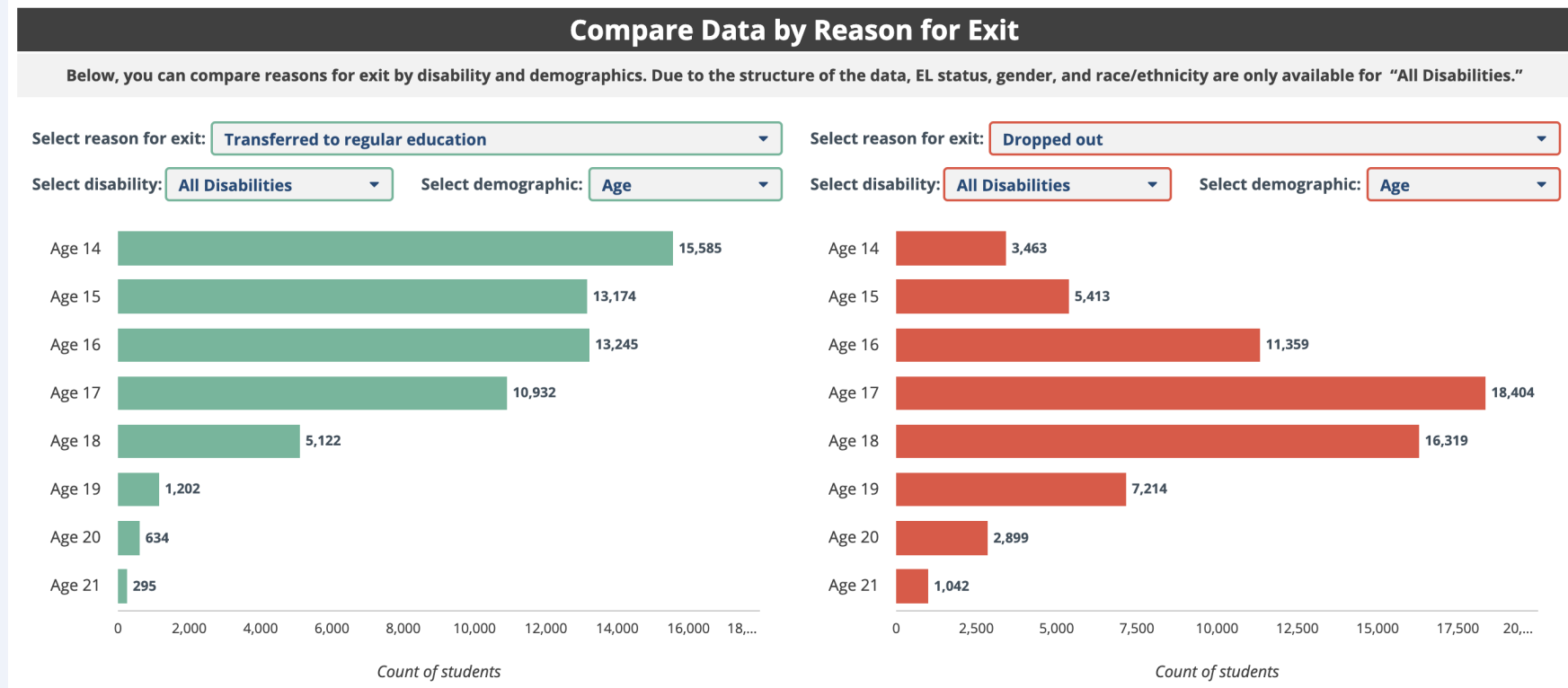
- Paraphrasing- 5 votes
- Pausing- 3 votes
- Probing for specificity- 3 votes
- Putting inquiry at the center- 3 votes
- Paying attention to self and others- 2 votes
- Presuming positive intentions- 2 votes
- Putting ideas on the table- 1 vote

# Poll: On a scale of 1 to 10, what is the most challenging norm while working with data?

*Results – Average of all Respondents' answers*

- Paraphrasing- 6.5
- Pausing- 3.4
- Probing for specificity- 3.7
- Putting inquiry at the center- 5
- Paying attention to self and others- 3.1
- Presuming positive intentions- 2.5
- Putting ideas on the table- 2.5

# So, Why Should We Collaborate? (cont.)



# So, Why Should We Collaborate? (cont.)

- Practice and master the Norms of Collaboration
- Use technology to support the implementation of the Norms
- With good execution, the obstacle of challenging data conversations becomes the way of advancing the groups' work

# Discussion: How can you apply norms when working with your stakeholders for your SPP?

Create the norms as a team and have a “policing” practice to hold each other accountable.

I think it will be important to pause since there will be a lot of data

These seven norms are very thought provoking, a great starting point and outline for engagement.

Make things like pausing more comfortable

Have an open-ended conversation about norms

Take more time for pausing and processing

Bring something back from pause. Ability to remove an idea from the table. Clearly define norms at the start of the meeting.

Ask about their expectations

# Discussion: How can you apply norms when working with your stakeholders for your SPP?

Touch on them explicitly at the onset, and then lead by example throughout

TRUST

Will improve climate and help improve authentic engagement

Creates meaningful experiences for stakeholders

Provide some norms but also allow others to add the norms.

Explain the why behind it, for example why we need the pause.



# Contact Us

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