

To What Ends & By What Means? Community Strengths As Critical Resources for Equity Through Responsiveness

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EQUITY SUMMIT
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100 Elementary Students



54/51 H.S. Graduates



11/10 College Graduates



4/4 Professional or Graduate Degrees



<1 Doctoral Degree



Four Questions as a Frame on Educational Resources

- What are schools for?
- Who pays?
- Who benefits?
- How much is enough?

Education: Cost vs. Investment

- Bilingual youth
- Special needs children
- Kids growing up in poverty situations
- Foster care youth
- Children of color
- Immigrant or migrant youth
- First child in family to go to college

COST

“It costs more to educate them”

“We’re throwing money at the problem”

“Your gain is my loss”



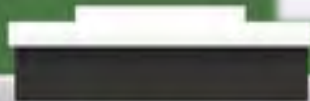
INVESTMENT

Resources allocated today produce positive returns over the short and long term (temporal)

My success is tied to your success, and there is an abundance—enough to go around (relational)



COST OR INVESTMENT?



Resource Development & Allocation

- **Reactive**—meeting just the parameters of a grant program
- **Proactive**—having a plan for services or clearly intended impact to which resource development and allocation are linked
- **Responsive**—placing the school community needs (and strengths) at the center of the resource development & allocation strategies and decision-making; using partnerships and resources to respond to the needs as they are articulated from the community

RESPONSIVENESS: Needs *and* Strengths

- Bilingual youth
- Special needs children
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What is the Goal? (To What Ends?)

What are the Resources? (By What Means?)

