



A-GAME Community Virtual Convening: The IOD Origin Story



Goals for Today

- 1 Welcome & Introduction
- 2 The Origin Story
- 3 Breakout Groups
- 4 Authorizing & IOD
- 5 Register for April & May!





Coalition of Early Adopters



Brave Space



Adapted from Anti-Defamation League



James Baldwin

Baldwin, an African American writer and social critic, who fearlessly navigated the turbulent waters of race, sexuality, and class in America, challenging us to confront these difficult issues head-on. Baldwin's open discussions about these difficult subjects, particularly in a time when such topics were often avoided or ignored, exemplify the concept of a brave space.

“Not everything that is faced can be changed,
but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”
– James Baldwin



**THERE IS NO SUCH
THING AS A “SAFE SPACE” —
WE EXIST IN THE REAL WORLD.
WE ALL CARRY SCARS
AND HAVE CAUSED WOUNDS.
THIS SPACE
SEEKS TO TURN
DOWN THE VOLUME
OF THE WORLD OUTSIDE,
AND AMPLIFY VOICES THAT HAVE TO
FIGHT TO BE HEARD ELSEWHERE,
THIS SPACE WILL NOT BE PERFECT.
IT WILL NOT ALWAYS BE WHAT
WE WISH IT TO BE, BUT
IT WILL BE OUR SPACE TOGETHER,
AND WE WILL WORK ON IT
SIDE BY SIDE.**



My Why...

- I am a “recovering” authorizer.
- I made decisions that I now realize were grounded in a system that disrupts lives of people who are at the margins of power... the families who chose to attend charter schools
- And I made those decisions without valuing their lived experiences.
- Through the A-GAME Community of Changemakers, I seek now to disrupt this very system.
- What we discuss and build together are called these **NEXT** practices—because they do not exist yet. They cannot exist yet.



Measuring Quality Schools

- NACSA calls it “Community Authorizing”.
- Momentum Strategy & Research calls it “Student-Centered Goals”
- A-GAME calls it “**Responsive Goals**” and “**Responsive Authorizing**”
- All of us seek to put STUDENTS and FAMILIES at the epicenter of our work



Redefine the Charter Bargain

- The charter bargain: **Autonomy + Accountability = Results**
- Autonomy from what? How many charter schools must follow district mandates on the “science of reading” for example? Follow district standards? Use “researched proven”?
- Who defines Accountability? Accountable to Whom? Is a state test “accountability”? Performance out of **Fear of Closure** versus **Innovation**.
- The **NEXT** charter bargain:

**Flexibility + Partnership + Responsive Authorizing =
Results For Families**



Breakout Group #1: What is your Why?





Segment Hosted by:
Lindsay Omlor
Executive Director
Education One at Trine University



Aimee Evan, PhD
Senior Research Associate
WestEd



William Berry
Research Associate
WestEd









BEST
MIDDLE SCHOOLS

U.S. News & WORLD REPORT

RANKINGS



SURVIVAL

OF THE

FITTEST



Eve L. Ewing

Ghosts in the Schoolyard



RECONSTRUCT REMAKE
RECYCLE REJUVENATE
REVAMP REDESIGN RENOVATE
REIMAGINE
RETHINK REUSE RECREATE
REFURBISH RESTORE RENEW
REMODEL REDO REVISE





Identifying Indicators of Distress in Charter Schools

**Part 1:
The Role and Perspective of
Charter School Authorizers**

September 2020

DOCUMENT

**NCSRC – Identifying
Indicators of Distress in
Charter Schools: Part I**

Identifying Indicators of Distress in Charter Schools

**Part 2:
The Roles and Perspectives of
Charter School Leaders and
Board Members**

DOCUMENT

**NCSRC – Identifying
Indicators of Distress in
Charter Schools: Part II**



Breakout Group #2: Reactions to Indicators of Distress



“We do not learn from experience. We learn from reflecting on experience.” -John Dewey

Scan the QR code or use the link in the chat to share your reflections around the learning we have done together today.



2024

A-GAME Convenings



**APR
3**

Virtual Convening

Meet with your peers online, Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 1:00 pm EST.

[Register](#)

[Learn More](#)

**MAY
2-3**

In-Person Convening

Join your peers in Chicago, IL, from 12:00pm May 2 through 3:00 pm May 3 (Thursday and Friday). NACSA will cover the registration cost for the first 50 NACSA member organizations. Sign-up soon!

[Register](#)



We Can't Wait to See YOU in Chicago!





Thursday, May 2

12 pm	Registration & Snacks
12:45-1:15pm	Whole Group Welcome Ambassador Meeting #1
1:15-2:30pm	Whole Group Interactive Workshop: (continuation from virtual discussions)
2:45-5pm	Workshops
5:15-5:45 pm	Ambassador Meeting #2
6 pm	Reception
7:00 pm	Group Photoshoot & Dinner /Social





Friday, May 3

8:30 am	Breakfast with Ambassador Groups (Meeting #3)
9:30 am	Whole Group Kickstart Session
10am-12:15pm	Workshops
12:30-2 pm	Ambassador Meeting #4 (lunch served during session)



A-GAME Convening: Chicago, IL May 2-3, 2024

