

PROCESSES



Decision Dollars

Purpose:

To provide a framework for voting on ideas, activities, or best options. Participants can include staff, students, parents, or community members and each person has an equal voice in the process.

Materials:

- Decision Dollars (attached)
- Sticky tack or tape
- Chart paper
- Markers

Time for Process:

- 5 to 15 minutes

Pre-process Steps:

1. Print and cut out enough Decision Dollars for each participant (about 3-5 each).
2. Write down the ideas, activities, or options on the chart paper that participants will vote on if they have already been determined (e.g., Activities to add to the action plan, or activities in the action plan to allocate funding to). If they have not been predetermined, you will decide on them as a group. Leave enough room on the paper for people to stick their Decision Dollars to.
3. Hang the chart paper.

Process:

1. If you have predetermined the options, provide a short review of them (where the idea of the option was generated, what the options will be used for). If the options have not yet been determined, brainstorm possible ones with the group. Write them on the chart paper.
2. Give each participant an equal amount of Decision Dollars.
3. Explain to the participants:
 - a. Each person has equal number of Decision Dollars.
 - b. Each Decision Dollar equals one vote.
 - c. Participants determine the value they place on each decision. They can choose to vote on several options with one vote for each, a few options with two or more votes, or put all their votes on one preferred option.
4. Give participants a few minutes to allocate their Decision Dollars to their preference.

The options with the most money allocated to them are deemed to be the preferred ones.

Next Steps:

- Use the group's input to prioritize ideas, activities, or best options when moving forward.