

# Elevating Student Voice: The Journey of Two School Districts

Ingrid Colvard and Scott Mauk



**CHIMACUM**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEEP ROOTS BROAD HORIZONS

# About Us

Stevenson-Carson: Ingrid

Chimacum: Scott



# Why Student Voice?



*The student is infinitely more important than the subject matter.*

## - Nel Noddings

- We make better decisions- they inform us
- School as Society- develop our students
- Engagement, collaboration, respect- build their skills and their humanity
- Culture- we develop the positive drivers of our success
- No real, deep change happens if students are not involved

# Student Directors, Superintendent Advisory- Two Stories

The Board- Formal and Informal Systems

Advisory- Formal and Informal Systems

Student Conversations and Requests- Lifting the veil on complexity

Whole System Engagement: TK-12

Two Models for Voice Across Grades



# Our Strengths and Aspirations

## What we do-

- Learners as assessment partners

- Students lead, present, and teach

- Intentional infusion throughout system

## What we want to do-

- Influence what happens in our classrooms

- Building decisions like committees and hiring

- Students as community liaisons



# Tips, dos/don'ts, etc. *What we think we learned*

Know your board- filtered or unfiltered?

Take advantage of your size- formal and informal

Steal these ideas, adjust to fit, combine

Consulting about policy AND procedure

Schedule, communicate, and celebrate student voice



# Contact us

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*Student voice is already there. It's not something we give. It's something we honor. And we do when we listen.*

-Monte Syrie  
Teacher