



Section 8

Sharing Decision-making

Let's Caravan

8:1 Developing School Decision-making Teams

8:2 Strengthening Your Team's Capacity

8:3 Running Effective Decision-making Meetings

Like most large-scale human endeavors, steering through educational change is less like air traffic controllers guiding a 747... and more like swooping, zooming, frenetic rush-hour traffic: horns honking, lanes changing, fleeting windows of opportunity opening and closing and construction crews blocking off lanes.

A school staff serious about taking on the shared project of improving its student achievement needs to develop a few basic skills in staying together through the traffic.

These MI-Map packets outline practical steps toward coming to shared judgment about things we don't always agree on. They involve common-sense steps like making sure people are clear about the tasks they undertake...taking time to build relationships before jumping into decision-making and preparing meeting time in a disciplined way. They're hardly rocket science, but they add up to a "whole" that is capable of being bigger than its parts... a team that can tackle any of the other tasks a school might need to accomplish.

Together we can do amazing things.

