

(Oregon DATA Project Strand 2)

“Until you have data as a backup, you’re just another person with an opinion.” *Dr. Perry Gluckman*, President and Founder of Process Plus, Inc.

In Data Driven Decision Making training participants gain an understanding of one of the primary tools for making sustained and continuous progress towards improving student achievement. When this training is completed, Districts and Schools are able to answer the following essential questions:

- How is your school or district doing as a learning institution?
- What evidence do you have that all students learning?
- In what ways do you collect and use data to make decisions?
- What do you expect students to know and be able to do by the end of each year?
- Do you know why you are getting the student results you currently have??
- What are the Antecedents of Excellence?
- How are data teams formed and their purpose?

“Data that is collected should be analyzed and used to make improvements or analyzed to affirm current practices and stay the course.” *Stephen White, Beyond the Numbers, 2006*

Districts and buildings are trained in a six-step process that provides a foundation to support the analysis of data. This process provides that improvement becomes a continuous process that is a part of a school’s culture and not an event that has little impact on the realities of the district or school. That six-step process is:

- Collecting Data – A Treasure Hunt: Successes and Challenges
- Needs Analysis – Making Meaning of the Data
- Prioritizing Needs – Winnowing the Data
- Setting SMART Goals
- Identifying Instructional and Leadership Strategies
- Describing desired results – for student and adults