

Selecting a focus for a project

Suggestions

1. Begin by reflecting on your own —

When I think about the changes that are happening in education:

- What am I excited about?
- What am I concerned about?
- What questions do I have about how to deal with these changes in my current situation?

2. Then discuss with colleagues —

- What interests do we share? What are our priority concerns?
- What are our most important questions? Which ones are worth worrying about? Which are beyond our control?
- What questions do we have in common that we could begin to answer through our own investigations?

3. Work with colleagues to summarize your ideas and decide on a focus —

- What aspect of education is most important to work on at this time?

4. Will this be an individual or a group project?

Choose a focus that addresses significant questions, provides ownership for all those who want to participate, and is feasible. Consider criteria such as:

- relative importance of topic
- people's comfort levels
- potential impact of the topic
- access to information
- community support
- availability of resources