Collaboration and Sustainability

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Building Community Connections
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"Collaboration is working together to achieve a goal. It is a recursive process where two or more people or organizations work together to realize shared goals, (this is more than the intersection of common goals seen in co-operative ventures, but a deep, collective, determination to reach an identical objective) – for example, an intriguing endeavor that is creative in nature – by sharing knowledge, learning and building consensus."

- Wikipedia, April 2012

Key Components of Successful Collaborations

- Common purpose or goal one that partners are passionate about
- Defined outcomes and benchmarks
- Clear commitments and roles

"If two men on the same job agree all the time, then one is useless. If they disagree all the time, both are useless."

- Darryl F. Zanuck

Key Components of Successful Collaborations

- Includes individuals with different skills, ideas, and expertise
- Opinions and ideas are shared freely
- Partners are open to, and accepting of, change

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

- Henry Ford

Key Components of Successful Collaborations

- Successes are acknowledged and celebrated
- Failures are used as a learning tool
- Partners value each other and the process

Sustainability

- Make it part of what you do
- Share the value of the work with decision makers

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." - Helen Keller

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