

445 College Ave. Palo Alto, CA 94306

## Oregon Small Schools Conference 4/28/2021





Ben Kitoko was a student at a summer course at Stanford Pre-Collegiate Studies

Now an Entrepreneur – explaining how Decision Skills help him be effective.



# Decision Skills Are Relevant To Students

## Integrate:

- Social Emotional Learning
- Critical Thinking
- Creativity

Increase:

Confidence

Empowerment

**Academic Skills** 

**Decision Competence** 

(Life Outcomes)

| _ |                       |            |          |        |                 |        |
|---|-----------------------|------------|----------|--------|-----------------|--------|
|   | Alternatives          |            | Art:     | DELETE | Current Events: | DELETE |
|   | Preferences           | Weight (%) | Rating   | Score  | Rating          | Score  |
|   | Enjoyment:            | 50 Η       | 8 🛨      | 4.00   | <b>4</b>        | 2.00   |
|   | College Applications: | 35 日       | <b>5</b> | 1.75   | 6 🕇             | 2.10   |
|   | Something New:        | 15 🕂       | 6 🕂      | 0.90   | 9 🕇             | 1.35   |

## www.decisionacademy.org

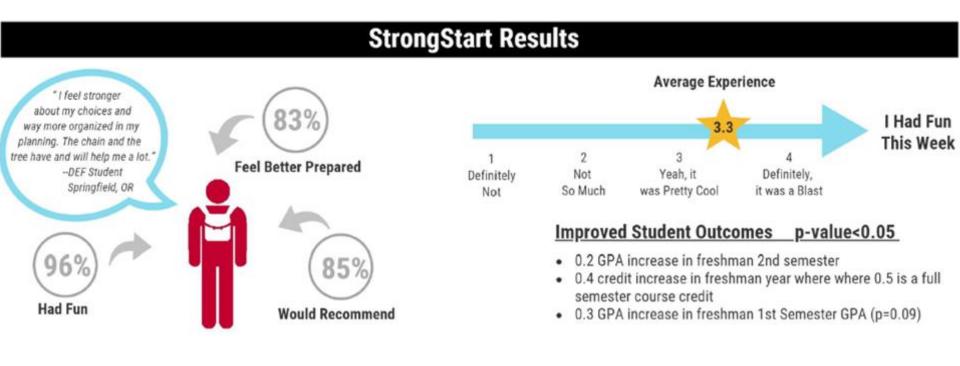




# StrongStart Bridge Program

Session – 1 Instructor
 Student Mentors (rising seniors)
 30 9<sup>th</sup> Graders

8 Days (3 training + 5 'camp')
2 training days + 5 StrongStart
5 days of fun learning





## From Alternative School Counselor to Teachers to Motivated Student





**Frame**: The decision situation you are working through.

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Values: What you want or don't want in the outcome.

**Alternatives:** Different ways you can address the situation.

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**Information**: What you need to know and what is uncertain.



**Reasoning**: Identifying the alternative that best fits your values.

**Commitment**: Following through on your decisions.

A good decision makes sense and feels right

For more information go to:

www.decisioneducation.org ©2016 Decision Education Foundation - San Mateo, CA - All Rights Reserved Conversations for CLARITY - Instructional Kit -

A Proven Framework for Making Better Decisions

- Instructions
- Completed Example •
- 5 Conversations for Clarity

Conversations for Clarity provides a structured conversation where responses are captured to make progress toward a decision.



## A tool to put the DQ framework into action



#### What do I want to achieve:

1. Graduate from high school / Get my G.E.D. later on

2. Pass Geometry

3. Attend all of the remaining sessions of Geometry class

#### Why is that challenging?

I don't enjoy the topic, I struggle in all Math classes

I have trouble getting to 1st period on time

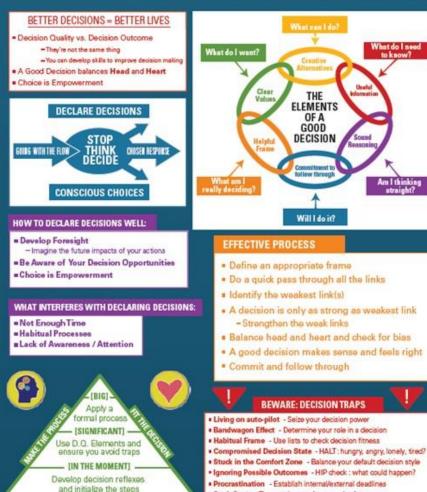
Im burnt out of all the 'school drama' and can't find motivation







## DECISION QUALITY FUNDAMENTALS



. Sunk Costs - The past is past, focus on the future

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#### **Decision Process**

Rough Draft -> Rate the Elements -> Iterate & Improve

FRAME

VALUES

Preferences

ALTERNATIVES

INFORMATION

Reliable

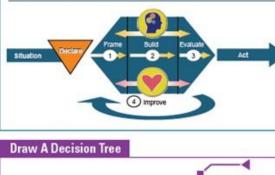
Relevant

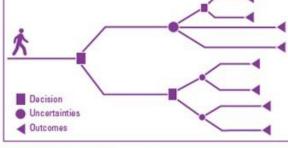
Recognizing

Uncertainty

REASONING

Trade-offs







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### HOW TO DECLARE DECISIONS WELL:

### = Develop Foresight

- Imagine the future impacts of your actions = Be Aware of Your Decision Opportunities = Choice is Empowerment

### WHAT INTERFERES WITH DECLARING DECISIONS:

Not Enough Time
 Habitual Processes
 Lack of Awareness / Attention



### **EFFECTIVE PROCESS**

- Define an appropriate frame
- Do a quick pass through all the links
- Identify the weakest link(s)
- A decision is only as strong as weakest link

Will I do it?

- -Strengthen the weak links
- Balance head and heart and check for bias
- A good decision makes sense and feels right
- Commit and follow through

### **BEWARE: DECISION TRAPS**

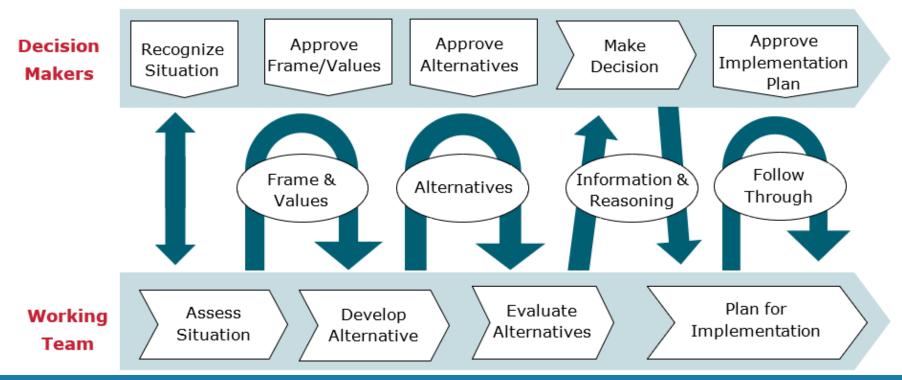
- Living on auto-pilot Seize your decision power
- Bandwagon Effect Determine your role in a decision
- Habitual Frame Use lists to check decision fitness
- Compromised Decision State HALT: hungry, angry, lonely, tired?
- Stuck in the Comfort Zone Balance your default decision style
- Ignoring Possible Outcomes HIP check : what could happen?
- Procrastination Establish internal/external deadlines
- . Sunk Costs The past is past, focus on the future



## Professional Development And Team Effectiveness – Learning By Doing

## **Decision Process for Groups**

### How We Work Together Makes a Difference





# What Questions Do You Have?

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Students Value Decision Skills.

• Teachers Benefit From Teaching Decision Skills.

Decision Skills Are Excellent Collaboration Skills For Staff.

The Whole School Community Can Benefit.

