

Opportunity and Achievement Gaps

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Student Update

Mt. Spokane Girls Cross Country

Greater Spokane League Champions

New experiences in new classes

English 12, Pottery, Weights, Financial Literacy, AP Statistics, AP Government and Politics

Goals for my last hurrah of high school

Senioritis will not plague me too!

Focus on family relationships

Learn necessary skills for living independently

Financial Literacy!

New Bell Schedule at Mt. Spokane

My very first puppy!



Car Swap:

From an Automatic...

To a Manual



Definitions

Opportunity Gap:

Definition: The unequal or inequitable distribution of **resources and opportunities**.

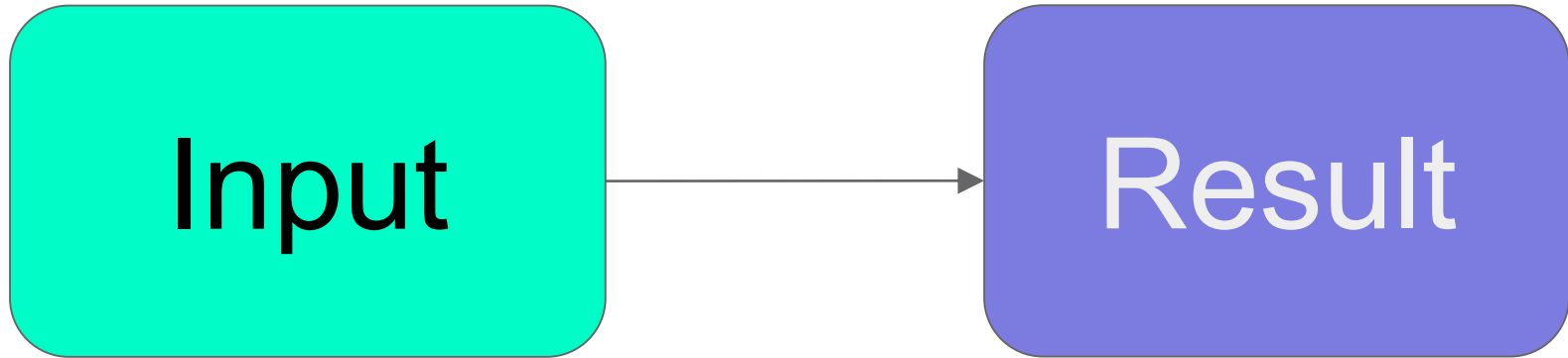
Achievement Gap:

Definition: The unequal or inequitable distribution of educational **results or benefits**.

A simple, yet important distinction:

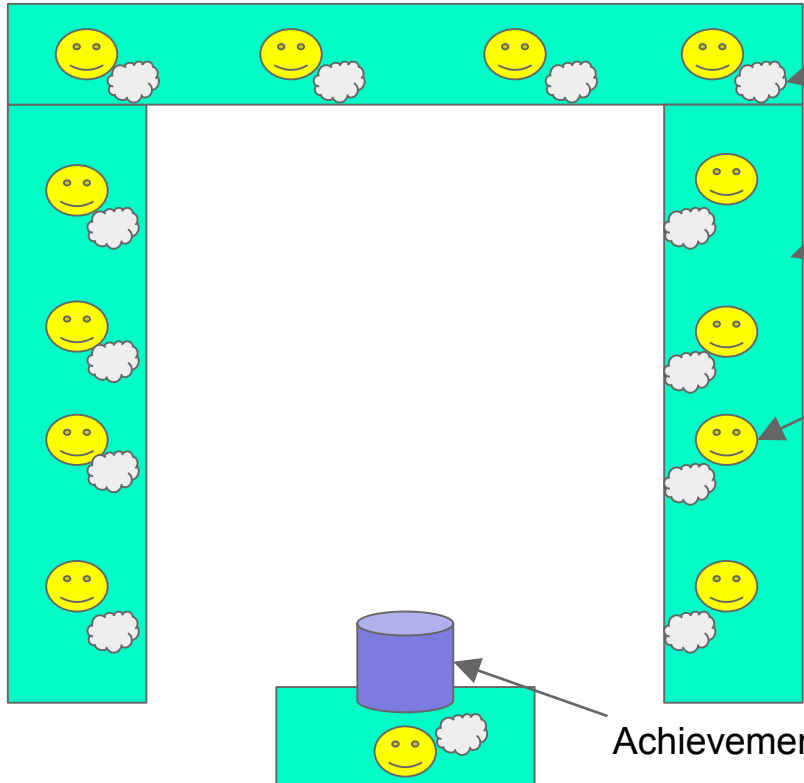
What is an opportunity gap?

What is the achievement gap?



The Challenge:

Directions:
Throw your crumpled piece of paper into the bucket from where you are seated. You may stand, but do not move closer to the target.



Everyone's 'shot' at success

Opportunity

Students

- Not everyone has an equal opportunity
- Many factors are uncontrollable just like assigned seating

Achievement

2014 Kids Count Data Book

We can only do so much...

Challenge: Focus on what factors we
have authority over

We see factors that...

People are born with or born into

Are based off of the choices of
others

The Board can influence

Can be influenced by other parts
of society (ie. medical field)

List of Possible Opportunity Gaps

Shelter

Transportation

Healthcare

Early Education

Safe, stable living conditions

Supportive family and/or caretakers

Financial ability to pay for fees, et cetera

Nutrition

After school situation

Cultural experiences

Language Barriers

Peer Association

Income Situation

Inadequate school leadership

Social-Emotional environment

Racial Bias

Geographic Location

Population

Family Tradition

Inexperienced parents or students navigating system

Access to Technology/ Professionalism

Physical or Learning Disabilities

Gender

Integrity of School Staff

How do opportunity gaps manifest themselves as achievement gaps?

Inadequate healthcare -> poor attendance

Unstable family life -> poor motivation to learn -> grades

Shelter/transportation/low income -> school is typically not the priority -> low scores on standardized tests

Poor Nutrition -> Body is low on fuel and feels fatigued -> hard to focus -> Poor test results

Negative peer pressure -> ultimately alter the course of one's life

Opportunity Gaps

Psychological Gap

Student's ability to recognize the repercussions of their actions

Ability to look ahead with a broader perspective

Expectations Gap

What do teachers expect from their students?

How do those expectations differ from one individual to the next?

What do parents expect?

What expectations do the students have of themselves?

Relationships Gap

Do the students feel that they can trust their teachers?

Participation Gap

Actively engaged in learning

Showing enthusiasm

Co-curricular activities

Concluding Points

All kids can succeed!

Success looks different for everyone.

Wealth or good fortune may make life easier, but it does not determine success or happiness.

The Board can continue to work on the opportunity gaps that it has stewardship over.

Youth are very impressionable.

I believe a positive and encouraging school environment staffed with people who believe in their students can change lives.

Resources

<https://edpolicy.stanford.edu/publications/pubs/761>

<http://edglossary.org/opportunity-gap/>

<http://edglossary.org/achievement-gap/>

<http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/nov10/vol68/num03/Got-Opportunity%C2%A2.aspx>

<http://www.aecf.org/resources/the-2014-kids-count-data-book/>