



What Counts?

Dr. Jim Power, Principal
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What do schools usually count?

- Test scores?
- University placement?
- The success of alumni?

The Lamp Post

- What do we "see"?
- What is in the dark?

Why Count?

- Accountability
- Guide school improvement and strategic plans
- Engage stakeholders
- Transparency

Who Cares?

- Board of Governors
- Donors
- Alumni
- Parents

And.....

- Faculty and staff
- Students

Quantitative Data

- Test scores
- University Placement
- Number of alumni who finish university

Possibilities and Challenges Quantitative Data

- Can be limiting
- Tends to measure what is under the light of the lamp post
- The "high scores" you love...the next year the "low scores"

Qualitative Data

- Stories
- Case Studies
- Observations

Possibilities and Challenges Qualitative Data

- Adds a richness to "traditional counting".
- Values the perspective of teachers and often, students.
- Can be viewed as "soft" and not based in fact.

Communication

- Transparency about the use of survey and other data gathering.
- How to communicate?

What Really Counts?

Dear Dr. Power,

We need to meet. We are not happy with this middle school idea. We want to talk to you about why this is not a good idea. We have a petition.

Zak