



STUDENT-LED COMMUNITY CONVERSATION



April 25, 2018

Presented by

Kathy Hickok

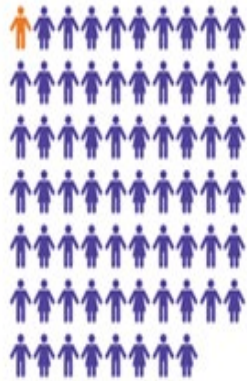
Marjorie Mayberry

Karen Heath

#BerrienConversations

WHAT IS OUR GOAL? INDEPENDENCE AND SOCIALIZATION

NUMBER OF CHILDREN
IDENTIFIED WITH ASD



1 in **68**

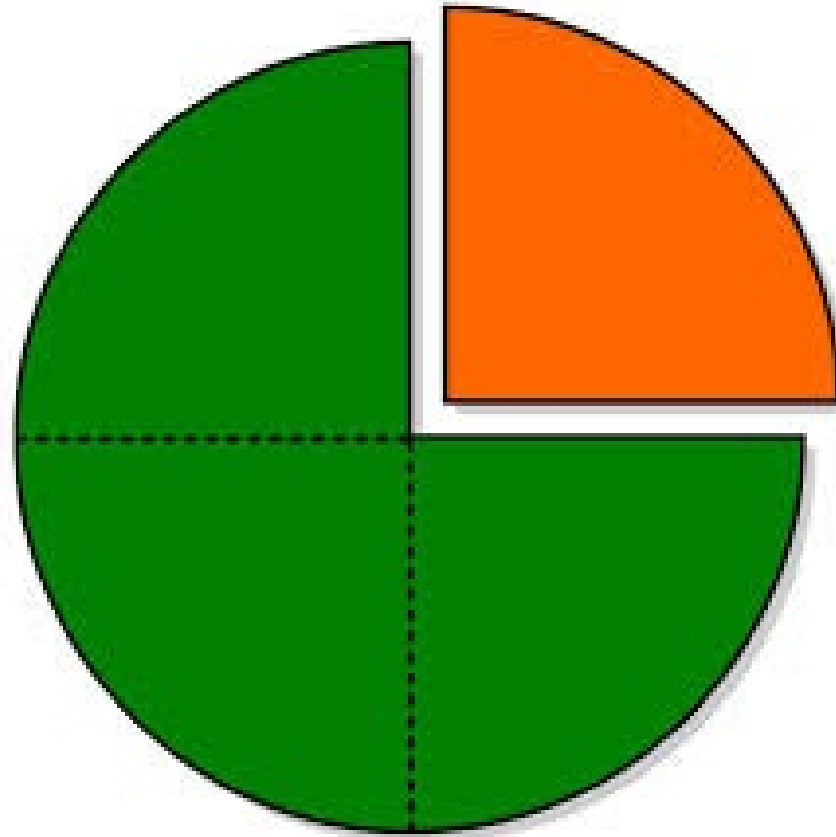


U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Independence

Socialization

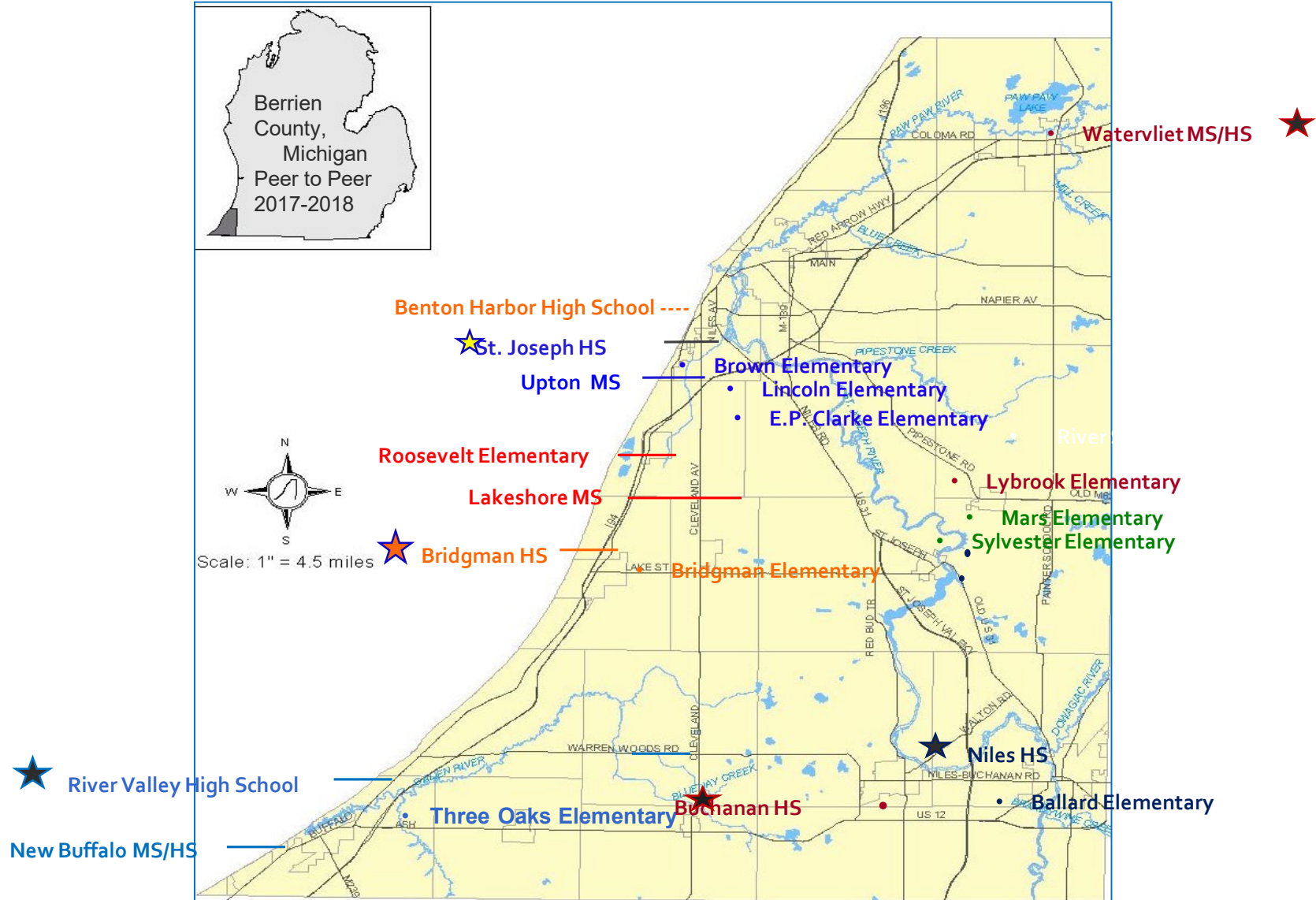
WHAT WE LEARN IN SCHOOLS...



PEER-TO-PEER PROGRAMS

- Evidence-Based Practice
- In the state of Michigan
- Natural supports within the school setting K-12
- Win/Win for all students

BERRIEN COUNTY



PEER-TO-PEER LINGO

- Mentor (LINK) ~ Student who supports a peer(s)
- Mentee ~ Student who receives support from a peer(s)
- Dual Role ~ Some students both provide and receive support
- Facilitator ~ Staff member(s) who organize and implement P2P program

BERRIEN COUNTY P2P FACTS

- **10** = Number of years P2P in Berrien!
- **650+** = Number of students in P2P in 17-18
- **12** = Number of districts running P2P programs
- **7** = Number of High Schools offering P2P for credit elective
- **1** = Number of student-led Community Conversations in the state of Michigan

WHAT WE KNOW

- Isolation
- Lack of opportunity to engage in/out of school socially
- No dates on the calendar
- Summer is a void of activity
- Recreational activities with peers are zero to none

SUPPORTING STUDENTS (ELEMENTARY)

**How to Support an Elementary Student in the Community
with Peers?**



SUPPORTING STUDENTS (HIGH SCHOOL)



WHAT IF...

...we asked PEERS how do we change the culture in SCHOOLS, to promote MORE inclusive EXPERIENCES for students with Autism and other disabilities in schools and in their COMMUNITIES?

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION?



GROUP BRAINSTORM



CHANGING THE MINDSET

“Inclusive schools are not just places where we educate students with and without disabilities. In the best of circumstances, they are places where we inspire learners to think differently about ability.”-Paula Kluth

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO BRAINSTORM ABOUT?



QUESTION #1

How can we increase opportunities for students with disabilities to participate in social events, recreational activities and gain access to employment in Berrien County?

QUESTION #2

What specifically can I do to increase opportunities for students with disabilities to participate in social events, recreational activities and gain access to employment in Berrien County?

SOME THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Nametags and tables
- Visual Timer
- Facilitator / Note-takers
- Ideas – writing on placemats
- Harvest – last activity
- Before you leave, use the IDEA cards...

AGENDA

- 8:30–9:00 Meeting/Greeting /Eating
- 9:00–9:15 Welcome – Why we are here?
- 9:15–9:35 Round 1 - Question # 1
- 9:35–9:55 Round 2 – Question # 1
- 9:55–10:20 Round 3 – Question # 2
- 10:20–11:00 Harvest/Dismissal