



ASHOKA

CHANGEMAKER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

REIMAGINING EDUCATION
FOR THE 21ST CENTURY



ASHOKA

youth
venture

WHY DO WE NEED CHANGEMAKER EDUCATION?

We live in a world of unprecedented change. Sixty five percent of the best jobs of tomorrow do not exist today. From climate change to unemployment to inequality, social problems outrun the solutions. The rapid influx of technology is disrupting classrooms and student behaviors.

We need to re-imagine education to prepare students to thrive in this rapidly changing world.

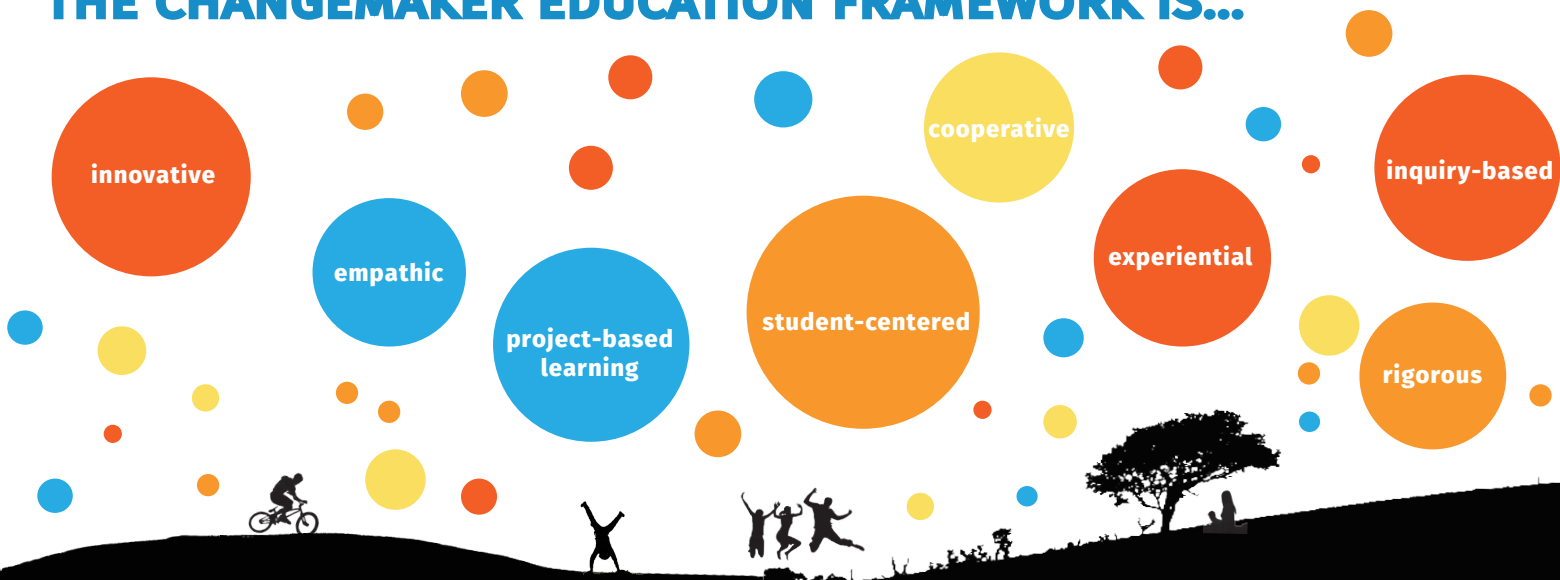
AT ASHOKA, WE ARE BUILDING A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE IS A CHANGEMAKER.

A changemaker is anyone who takes initiative to create positive change for the greater good.

When students and educators master the **four changemaking skills of empathy, teamwork, leadership, and creative problem solving** they realize their own power to catalyze change in the classroom, home, and community. They learn that the status quo can be challenged, while discovering that our collective success increasingly depends on our individual strength as change agents.

Ashoka is partnering with school districts who are ready to integrate the Changemaker Education Framework into their institutions and transform their school districts into Changemaker Districts—innovative, educational environments that enable students and teachers to become powerful changemakers.

THE CHANGEMAKER EDUCATION FRAMEWORK IS...

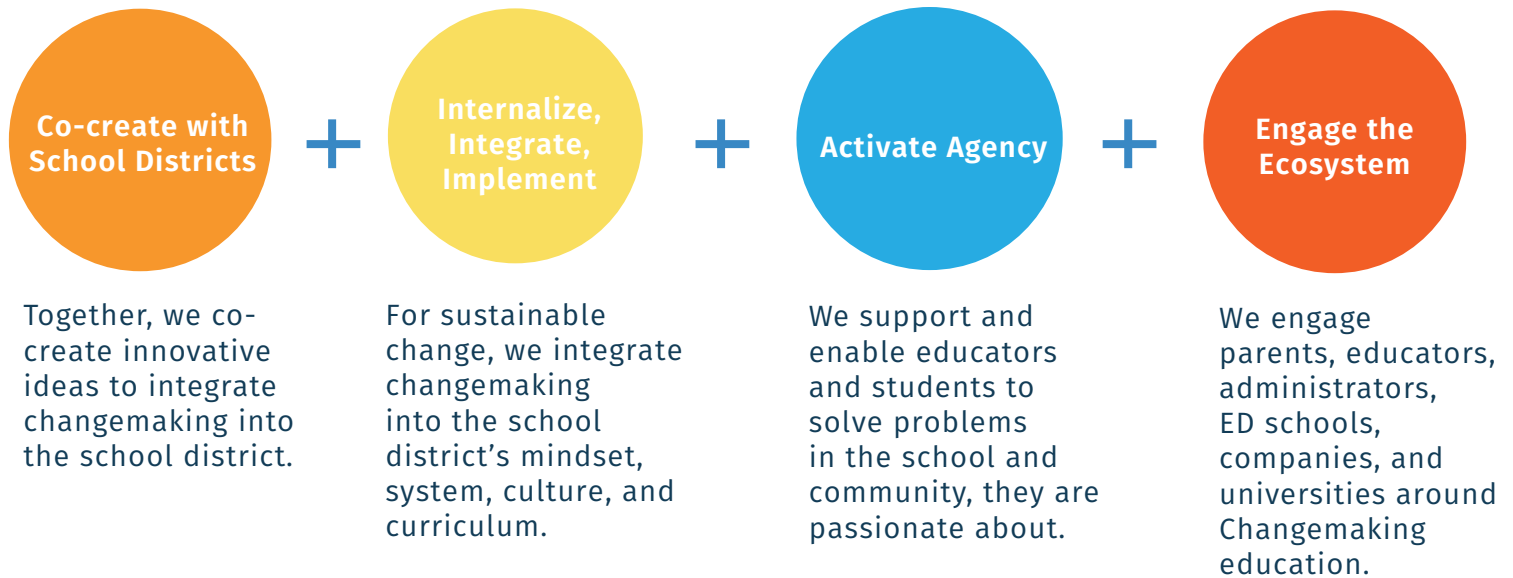


ABOUT CHANGEMAKER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

From our experience, integrating the Changemaker Education Framework in school districts results in:

- Students feeling engaged and self-motivated to learn
- Students actively practicing their changemaking skills of empathy, teamwork, leadership, problem solving.
- Teachers rediscovering their purpose and joy for teaching
- Communities valuing and actively supporting students to be drivers of change

HOW IT WORKS



OUR 10 MONTH PILOT PROCESS

1. TEAM UP

Identify a "Change Team" of influential teachers & administrators committed to Changemaking Education

3. GATHER

Organize a community gathering to create awareness among the stakeholders in the community

5. RE-ENGAGE

Problem solve challenges and co-create new strategies to implement for the next 3 months

7. CELEBRATE

Bring the community together to celebrate the stories of students & educators leading social change

2. PLAN

With the Change Team, identify indicators for changemaking in curriculum, culture, and systems

4. CO-CREATE

Two-day workshop with educators to build community and action steps for implementing changemaking education over 3 months

6. REFLECT

Reflect on the lessons learned from the pilot and create strategies for year 2

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"Kids learn when they feel a sense of empowerment and belonging. The challenge is that kids are disenfranchised in schools and classrooms; they don't see the point of learning. We don't give teachers the tools to help them create transformational interaction with students.

The Changemaker education framework gives teachers the language they need to connect with kids. It helps them see themselves as transformational agents and validates the teachers on why they wanted to be teachers in the first place."

Paula M. Talty, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Cromwell Public Schools, CT

"Everyone says we're the future but this really showed us what we can do in the future and how we can make a difference... I definitely believe in myself now."

Nicholas Fabian
Student
8th grader



"My second grade students are using poetry to build empathy throughout the school. They were concerned that a classmate showed a lack of respect towards a teacher. Changemaking is really inspirational. The possibilities are just amazing. Empathy, leadership, teamwork, and problem solving give students opportunities to find purpose and meaning in what they do every day in school."

Melissa Major
2nd Grade Teacher
Anne Arundel School District, MD

"We are at a time of unprecedented levels of change, and a changing job market necessitates that people seamlessly adapt and think critically to solve problems. No matter how old or young students are, changemaking lays the groundwork for our student's future."

Rachel Amstutz
Principal
Anne Arundel School District, MD

CHANGEMAKING IN PRACTICE: OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH ANNE ARUNDEL SCHOOL DISTRICT

“We talk about consumers and producers and in much of education the student is a consumer if we don’t challenge them to be a producer. The Changemaker movement has helped us help teachers, help students become producers”

— Maureen McMahon | Deputy Superintendent | Anne Arundel School District, MD

Over the 10 month pilot, 40 educators were introduced to the Changemaker Education Framework, and they co-created ideas to integrate changemaking into the K-12 STEM & Service Learning Programs. The challenge was to create opportunities for students to solve problems in their community which were important to them, using STEM & Service Learning. The students received academic credits for their solutions.

A Changemaker STEM Project undertaken by eighth-grade students from Old Mill Middle School South focused on their passion for outer space by building a portable planetarium and developing a short multimedia show about Space. Their goal was to promote a greater interest in space among younger students by creating a planetarium program that could become part of the school STEM program.

Realizing the impact of Changemaking Education on students and educators, Anne Arundel is integrating changemaking into their district-wide curricula, their teacher hiring practices, and their five-year district strategy plan.

THE IMPACT OF CHANGEMAKING

100%

educators agreed that Changemaker Education deepened their sense of purpose and joy in teaching

100%

educators want to participate in Year 2 of Changemaking Education

98%

educators believe youth practicing empathy and Changemaking is as important as learning any other subject

86%

educators say Changemaking education has improved classroom environment

81%

educators are actively instilling Changemaking in their classroom and school after the pilot

*Evaluation data from the Changemaker Education Pilot with Anne Arundel School District in Maryland, CREC & Cromwell School Districts in Connecticut

JOIN THE CHANGEMAKER MOVEMENT

Contact Vipin Thekk (tvipin@ashoka.org) to learn more about becoming a Changemaker School District.

Engage with us to transform your school district into a Changemaker Community.