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**Positive Education Glossary of Terms**

**Positive Psychology –** the scientific study of positive human functioning and flourishing on multiple levels that include the biological, personal, relational, institutional, cultural, and global dimensions of life.

**Positive Education –** an approach to education that draws on positive psychology’s emphasis on individual strengths and personal motivation to promote learning. It believes the development of character strengths and well-being should be, embedded into schools, not that cost of academic learning, but as an integral part that enhances all learning.

**Civic Education** – preparing students for their role as citizens of a greater community.

**Moral Education** – moral education circles around the question whether specific actions of individuals are evaluated as right or wrong. They are strategies to make rational moral decisions.

**Character Education –** character strengths can be defined as positive traits reflected in thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. They exist in degrees and can be measured as individual differences.

**Social Emotional Learning –** foster specific traits and behaviors to achieve a specific goal such as better academic performance, “better” behavior, or better heath.

**21st Century Skills –** non-academic skill formation in schools is 21st century skills. This concept has a less strong theoretical and historical background and can rather be seen as a buzzword that points at current needs in the education system.

**Appreciative Inquiry Summit –** A three-to-four-day Appreciative Inquiry that seeks to gather the whole system (all stakeholders, or representatives of all stakeholders) in one room to collectively go through all 4 generic processes (Discovery, Dream, Design, and Deploy); can involve hundreds of thousands of participants; typically used in Large Systems Change effort.

**4 D’s of Appreciative Inquiry –** The Appreciative Inquiry cycle: Discover, Dream, Design, Deploy

**Discovery** – identify and appreciate the best of positive education

**Dream –** imagine and envision the possibilities of the future

**Design –** articulate a strategic focus and craft provocative propositions

**Deploy –** team up to execute and carry forward concrete initiatives

**Stakeholders** – the people who hold a stake in what happens in the organization; the people who need to be involved and/or represented in an inquiry.

**Strengths-Based Change** - an approach that focuses on the strengths, successes, core competencies, assets, etc. of a human system to create more of them.

**Whole System Change** – A term used to refer to the goal of Appreciative Inquiry to transform an entire organization at one time; all stakeholders are involved in the change effort or, if that is not feasible, representatives of all stakeholders involved in the change effort.