Purpose:
To look into the future three years from now and determine what student led IEPs will look like in the very best-case scenario for your school/district. Also, to initiate a plan which will consider the steps, players, actions, and timelines it will take to create this success.

Goals:
- To expand the number of students participating in a student led IEP, the number of teachers facilitating student led IEPs, and the number of parents attending and supporting student led IEPs.
- To systematically increase the level of participation from the stakeholders.
- To identify opportunities and avenues for focused improvement.
- To guide purposeful actions and reduce wasted efforts.

Considerations:
- Stay positive…do not focus on the obstacles but rather the opportunities.
- This process is a team effort so involve team members in the process to share thoughts about the future and develop a plan to reach the best possible scenario for your school/district.
- Once the plan has been completed use the information to create an action plan with dates.

PROTOCOL
1. **3 Years (ASPIRE Goal)** — Project into the future. Thoroughly describe what IEP meetings will look like in your school/district three years from now.
   - Talk in present tense.
   - Describe the best case scenario. Do not describe how.
   - How will your school have changed?
   - What does it look like, sound like, and feel like having accomplished your endeavor?
   - Who are the team members that created this success?

2. **Start** — Look back from your projected present and describe how your school/district and your IEPs looked when you first started.
   - Talk in past tense.
   - Think about issues, culture, conversations, teacher’s work, student achievement, parent involvement, etc.
   - Chart this conversation. Put dates at the top of the chart to identify the time period to which you are referring too.
   - Who are the current team members?
3. **2 Years** – Continue looking back from the projected present and discuss how you addressed the starting place and how you moved to the projected present.
   - Talk in past tense.
   - What steps did you take to reach your goal? Discuss how, when, with what resources and by whom.
   - Who were the team members involved?

4. **End of School Year** – What are the steps you took by the end of this school year that moved you toward your goal?

5. **Two Weeks from Now** – What was the first thing you did that began the process of moving your school/district toward the future goal?

Adapted from the *National School Reform Faculty* Future Protocol a.k.a. Back to the Future, [www.nsrfharmony.org](http://www.nsrfharmony.org) and Person-Centered Planning with MAPS and PATH. John O’Brien and Jack Pierpoint.