Large Group Communication / Role of the Facilitator
   a. Why group communication vs. other?
   b. Group communication allows a diverse group of people to meet and agree in a limited time setting.

Group Dynamics
   a. Who to Invite: Group Composition
      i. Variety is Key: Students, Parents, Business People, District Staff, City/County Administrators, Teachers, Instructional Leadership, Planners, Architects, Community Members
      ii. Communication Styles: Honor communication styles by providing a variety of seating, food/drink, access to patio areas, quiet/noisy areas, restrooms nearby
   b. Let them Do the Work (Group Discussions)
      i. Large Group
      ii. Focused Committee
      iii. Small Group
      iv. Twitter Feed, IPad, Online Surveys, Dot Surveys

Presentations to Inform and Inspire get your Group on the Same Page
   a. Informational: Movie Night, Use Presentation Zen as your guide
   b. PechaKucha: 20 slides X 20 seconds each; use for many presenters and shortened format

Facilitation Techniques
   a. Ground Rules: Start with Simple Ground Rules to keep your meeting civil
   b. “Why to the 4th” facilitation questions to get to the core of the issue (ask “why” 4 times…get to the heart of the issue)

Tours provide one on one interaction with educators and their peers; they see the buildings in action.
   a. Taking the Trip: Local vs Other; if local make sure you aren’t touring what they don’t desire.
   b. Virtual Tours: Utilize a variety of schools and communities
   c. Skyped Tours: Maybe send a small team and have them Skype the tour back to your group

WikiSites
   a. Free from Google, Wikisites provide a repository for schedules, agendas, notes, photos etc. They provide a project record that your committee members can refer others to.

Group Exercises: Get the most from your group; Group exercises provide a “common communication tool” for a wide variety of people – no one is an expert.
   b. Furniture Virtual Tours
   c. Furniture Exercises (utilize actual products, no reps at the meeting)
d. Visual Surveys: allow participants to use pictures to describe ideas without “words” that may have a variety of connotations.
e. Curriculum Mapping: participants map out “where” activities will happen in their building
f. Block Exercises
   i. Foam Blocks: to create functional relationships
   ii. Legos: to express ideas about STEM, learning styles, etc
   iii. Kit of Parts: May be used throughout the meeting as a communication tool
• Reality Check: Why are we doing all this?