



Remodeling

A metaphor for reform



The story you're telling:
The changes we need to make to our education system are like remodeling a valuable but outdated house – keeping what works, updating what doesn't – to make it more functional for today's needs.

Strategic way to redirect thinking away from patterns such as:



Back to Basics; Consumerist Reforms; Crisis Thinking; Determinism; Fatalism; Nostalgia; Unions Are Obstructionist

Concepts and ideas included in this frame element:

- **Remodeling involves substantial changes, not just changing the paint:** helps to communicate the need for meaningful educational reforms without adding to the dominant idea that the system is a complete failure.
- **Renovations are not complete rebuilds:** we need to keep what works intact, while making targeted changes to achieve specific goals.
- **Remodeling is practical and achievable:** making an important change to our education system may be a big job, but with a sensible plan and some hard work, we will get the results we want.
- **Remodeling is part of maintaining a structure's value:** the need to modernize and update the structure or functionality of our schools is a part of protecting the investment our communities have made over more than a century.

(Continued on reverse)



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Concepts and ideas included in this frame element:

- **Needs assessment is the first step of remodeling:** in remodeling our school system, let's make note of the things that are working just fine, observe what needs to be changed, and think through how to go about it.
- **Remodeling involves temporary inconvenience but is worth it in the end:** acknowledging 'dust and noise' that is 'soon forgotten' can help to put some boundaries on predictable resistance to a desired reform.

Read the original research behind this recommendation at FrameWorksInstitute.org