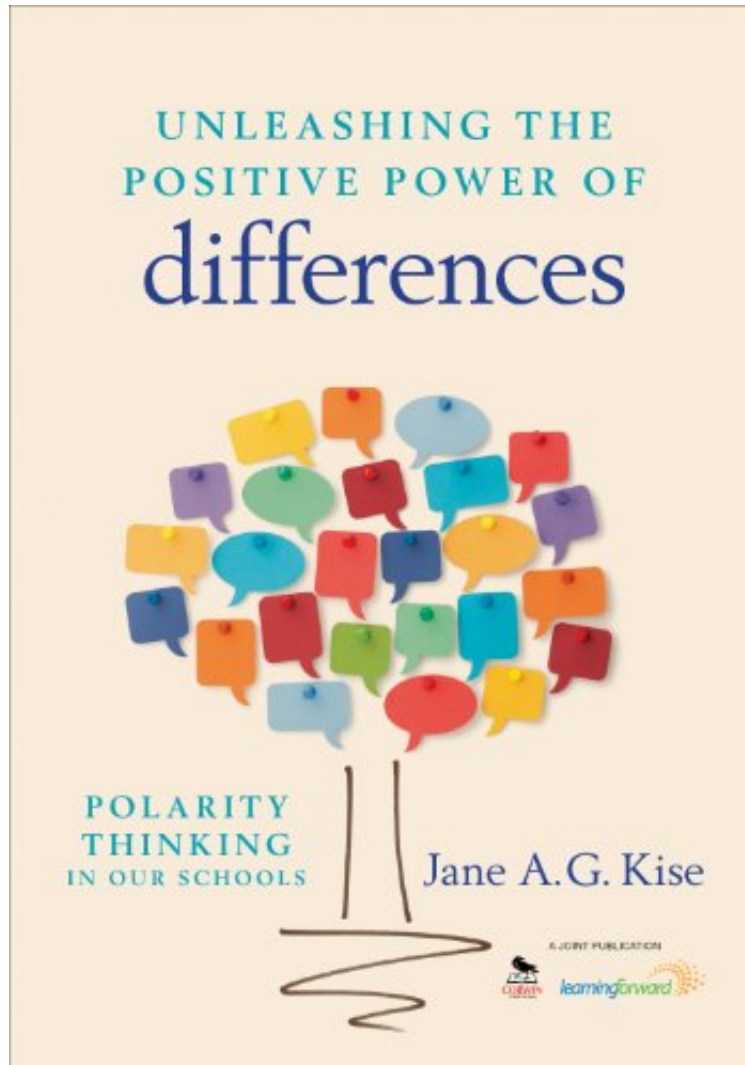


(Free download) Unleashing the Positive Power of Differences: Polarity Thinking in Our Schools

Unleashing the Positive Power of Differences: Polarity Thinking in Our Schools

Jane A. G. Kise

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Jane A. G. Kise : Unleashing the Positive Power of Differences: Polarity Thinking in Our Schools before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unleashing the Positive Power of Differences: Polarity Thinking in Our Schools:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An exceptional look at educational problems that seem unsolvable. By Jay B. Roth Polarity thinking is an acknowledgement that certain recurring problems are actually unsolvable. Instead they are dilemmas in a constant tug-of-war between two interdependent values, and by applying a solution mindset to rectify the problem one pole represents (often characterized by "either/or" thinking), the result is a drive toward the other pole. To manage the interdependent tensions well, a different approach is required - one that is

characterized by "both/and" - where the goal is to harness the upsides of *both* poles while minimizing the downsides of both. Education is rife with what appears to be a pendulum - teaching content vs. teaching process; having teacher autonomy vs. teacher collaboration - as well as relatively new paradoxes (evaluate teachers for "accountability vs. growth"). Kise documents the various polarities in education in this text (for example "Academic Success AND Whole Child Success" and teacher evaluation as "Measure of Effectiveness AND Guide for Growth") and has well-researched the various perspectives for the ups and downs of each. She also maps recommended action plans and warning signs to help leverage the action on which to focus for the upsides of both poles. Part I briefly explains what polarities are and their prevalence in life as well as the education system. Part II offers four large common of polarities in education that are currently looked at as "problems to solve" instead of polarities to manage or leverage (quoted from text):- Chapter 3 explores why we provide education, through the polarity of Academic Success AND Whole Child Success- Chapter 4 looks at who should teach, through the lens of teacher effectiveness through Evaluation AND Professional Development-Chapter 5 examines how we teach with an in-depth look at the "math wars"; and the polarity of Mastery of Knowledge AND Mastery of Problem Solving-Chapter 6 focuses on what we teach and the polarity of Standardization AND Customization Part III gives five chapters of specific resources (quoted from text):-Chapter 7 provides a script, slides, and examples for introducing polarity thinking to a team.-Chapter 8 provides activities to help your team apply the tools to a relevant dilemma, using the example of Homogeneous Grouping AND Heterogeneous Grouping.-Chapter 9 provides tools for introducing and gaining acceptance for initiatives and strategies that involve polarities, using the example of Teaching Reading Skills and Strategies AND Student Choice in Reading.-Chapter 10 presents common polarities in education and tools for determining the ones on which your team might focus.-Chapter 11 provides ideas for introducing polarity thinking to students, from discussing classroom norms to lesson ideas that align with the Common Core State Standards. and Part IV offers some insight on our hardwiring to explain opposing views (quoted from text):-Chapter 12 explores how the personality theory of Carl Jung and neuroscience can inform our understanding of how we teach and learn. This book is an invaluable resource for leaders, teachers, school board members, decision-makers, and policy-makers. The world seems so polarized and unwilling to successfully dialogue about differences; Kise's book is a perfect complement to the conversation of those who hold different viewpoints. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Make your conflict constructive By Ann V. Deaton I've appreciated Barry Johnson's work on polarities management for a long time, and this book builds beautifully on that solid foundation. Jane Kise has written an amazing book that captures many of the challenges in our schools and educational systems. More importantly, she offers polarities management as a solution that leverages our differing perspectives rather than letting them divide us. We no longer need to stay engaged in fruitless conversations about who's right; instead we can go about creating what works. Educators, parents, and community and business leaders will all find value in this book. The introduction of polarities thinking is robust and compelling. The many specific examples add depth and clarity. And the exercises offered for taking action in your own school or workplace team will provide immediate and significant value. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The HOW of education reform . . . everyone interested in the field of education MUST read this book. By Robert V. Toomey The world badly needs nuanced solutions and this book delivers. If you have any interest in the field of education and want to make actual progress towards resolving the powerful, contradictory forces currently grappling for absolute control within the field, you simply must read this book. Actual progress in education will only occur when advocates of oppositional and apparently contradictory perspectives are able to look past absolute positions and extract the benefits of both their own world view and that of the other side. More than just laying out a road map for how this can occur, this amazing book does most of the heavy-lifting too. In other words, please read this book and then share it with everyone you know so that the entire field of education can move forward, simply by incorporating the suggestions laid out by this brilliant author.

Move from entrenched differences to common goals! All too often, education initiatives collapse because leaders fail to learn from the concerns of those charged with implementation. Acclaimed education coach Jane Kise demonstrates how polarity thinking—a powerful approach to bridging differences—can help organizations shift from conflict to collaboration. Readers will find: Ways to recognize polarities, map the positive and negative aspects, and channel energy wasted on disagreement toward a greater common purpose Tools for introducing and working with polarities Polarity mapping to help leaders improve processes for leading change and creating buy-in Ways to use polarity with students as a framework for higher-level thinking

"Practical and inspirational! Leveraging the Positive Power of Differences is a must read for educators at all levels of a school system. Drawing from a wealth of information and stories from the field, Kise shows educators and students "why" they must have conversations about polarizing issues, and then shows "how" to engage productively in the conversations. Everyone benefits! After reading this book, educators and students will have the necessary tools to transform school cultures and classrooms into climates of trust and collaboration." (Janice Bradley, Assistant Professor 2013-04-23) "Jane Kise is an expert in personality type as applied to

educators. Although useful, ways of understanding leadership, coaching, and teaching, personality types are based on polarities. Kise uses them, however, as part of a framework for understanding and resolving critical polarities in education, such as depth versus breadth in curriculum. She provides a set of steps for making use of personality types and moving from conflict to common purposes and then into action for the good of student and adult learning." (Lois Brown Easton, Educational Consultant and Author 2013-04-23)"Making sense of 'pendulum swings' in education is difficult for all educators; however, the use of Jane Kise's polarity tools keeps planning, decisions, and acceptance of change centered on what's most important—student learning!" (Dana Salles Trevethan, Interim Assistant Superintendent Educational Services 2013-04-23)"We live in an increasingly polarized world. At last, Leveraging the Positive Power of Differences provides a meaningful and relevant way to harness the passion that drives people to take positions at opposing poles and leverage their energy to focus on the common good." (Scott Bailey, Assistant Professor 2013-04-23)"Conservatism vs. liberalism; autonomy vs. interdependence; competition vs. cooperation—our lives are now and our children's future lives will be filled with intellectual tugs of war between opposites. The mind, entrenched in the rigidity of either/or thinking, dwells on the divisions and ignores the connections of both/and. This engaging and practical book helps our students (and their teachers) transcend those divisions in a journey toward enriched enlightenment and greater flexibility. Ah, but there's the dilemma: rigidity vs. flexibility." (Arthur L. Costa, Emeritus Professor)"Kise's Unleashing the Positive Power of Differences provides pragmatic guidance for educators engaged in deep change and implementation of initiatives in which stakeholders have opposing perspectives. Through authentic examples of significant changes educators face today, Kise guides educators to leverage polarity thinking to promote commitment, engagement, and investment. Rather than squandering time and effort in determining right and wrong, Kise helps educators learn how to extract ideas from diverse stances on an issue to accelerate and sustain change. When educators use polarity thinking, they model for their students and stakeholders how to develop healthier, more productive strategies for strengthening community." (Joellen Killion, Senior Advisor) "Practical and inspirational! Leveraging the Positive Power of Differences is a must read for educators at all levels of a school system. Drawing from a wealth of information and stories from the field, Kise shows educators and students "why" they must have conversations about polarizing issues, and then shows "how" to engage productively in the conversations. Everyone benefits! After reading this book, educators and students will have the necessary tools to transform school cultures and classrooms into climates of trust and collaboration." (Janice Bradley, Assistant Professor 2013-04-23)"Jane Kise is an expert in personality type as applied to educators. Although useful, ways of understanding leadership, coaching, and teaching, personality types are based on polarities. Kise uses them, however, as part of a framework for understanding and resolving critical polarities in education, such as depth versus breadth in curriculum. She provides a set of steps for making use of personality types and moving from conflict to common purposes and then into action for the good of student and adult learning." (Lois Brown Easton, Educational Consultant and Author 2013-04-23)"Making sense of prime; pendulum swings; prime; in education is difficult for all educators; however, the use of Jane Kise's polarity tools keeps planning, decisions, and acceptance of change centered on what's most important? student learning!" (Dana Salles Trevethan, Interim Assistant Superintendent Educational Services 2013-04-23)"We live in an increasingly polarized world. At last, Leveraging the Positive Power of Differences provides a meaningful and relevant way to harness the passion that drives people to take positions at opposing poles and leverage their energy to focus on the common good." (Scott Bailey, Assistant Professor 2013-04-23)"Conservatism vs. liberalism; autonomy vs. interdependence; competition vs. cooperation—our lives are now and our children's future lives will be filled with intellectual tugs of war between opposites. The mind, entrenched in the rigidity of either/or thinking, dwells on the divisions and ignores the connections of both/and. This engaging and practical book helps our students (and their teachers) transcend those divisions in a journey toward enriched enlightenment and greater flexibility. Ah, but there's the dilemma: rigidity vs. flexibility." (Arthur L. Costa, Emeritus Professor)"Kise's Unleashing the Positive Power of Differences provides pragmatic guidance for educators engaged in deep change and implementation of initiatives in which stakeholders have opposing perspectives. Through authentic examples of significant changes educators face today, Kise guides educators to leverage polarity thinking to promote commitment, engagement, and investment. Rather than squandering time and effort in determining right and wrong, Kise helps educators learn how to extract ideas from diverse stances on an issue to accelerate and sustain change. When educators use polarity thinking, they model for their students and stakeholders how to develop healthier, more productive strategies for strengthening community." (Joellen Killion, Senior Advisor) About the Author Jane A. G. Kise, Ed. D., is an educational consultant, specializing in teambuilding, coaching, and professional development. She is also the author or coauthor of over 20 books, including Differentiated Coaching: A Framework for Helping Teachers Change; Differentiated School Leadership: Effective Collaboration, Communication and Change Through Personality Type; Intentional Leadership; and LifeKeys: Discover Who You are. She holds an MBA in finance from the Carlson School of Management and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of St. Thomas, both in Minnesota. Kise has worked with diverse organizations across the United States and in Saudi Arabia, Europe, Australia and New

Zealand. Her clients include Minneapolis Public Schools and various public and private schools, The Bush Foundation, NASA, Twin Cities Public Television, and numerous other institutions. She is a frequent workshop speaker and has presented at Learning Forward, ASCD, NCTM, NCSM, World Futures, and Association for Psychological Type International (APTi) conferences, including keynoting in Paris, Berlin, Sydney and Auckland. Kiser's research on coaching teachers for change received several awards. Her research on patterns in Jungian type and how students approach mathematics became a TEDx talk. She is a faculty member of the Center for Applications of Psychological Type and a past president of APTi.