



EdCamps According to Massachusetts ASCD and based on its experience in the last two years.

If you Google the term, Edcamp, you are rewarded with more hits than you can absorb. It seems these days that everyone has a Edcamp, from universities to companies to professional organizations.

MA ASCD has sponsored Edcamps in the following geographical areas: Boston, SE MA, Cape Cod and the EdCamp Leadership Group.

These Edcamps have several practices in common:

1. A topic is selected and announced (the audience is generally geographically determined by the organizing group.)
2. There is no fee to attend.
3. There is some sort of Welcome / Introduction—very informal.
4. A list of preliminary topics (and the leader and location) is made available on PostIt Sheets attached to a wall. Attendees who want to participate in sessions are invited to sign up.
5. EdCamps are unconferences. *An important feature is that if an attendee, after a few minutes, finds the group he/she chose not what he/she wants, that person leaves without comment and finds*

*another group with the same rules. (This can be disconcerting to both the moderator and the other participants).*

6. When the pre-determined time is up (45 minutes to an hour), everyone moves.
7. Appropriate food is available for the duration with signs indicating who sponsored.

MASCD has also supported a non-profit organized Symposium about Global STEM Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education at the request of the immediate past ED who is a member of the Board of that organization. The latter is a well-established practice among both not for profit and for profit organizations.

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