



THE POWER OF STORYTELLING

In a world rich with information, it becomes more and more important to organize that information in such a way that acknowledges the relationships among the parts. Such action creates a more manageable set of data which turns random information into memorable and useful categories. One way to accomplish this goal is through storytelling. Storytelling is a powerful tool that can engage, influence, and transform. This is particularly true for education. Let's consider several examples of the use of stories in education in the Southwestern Union.

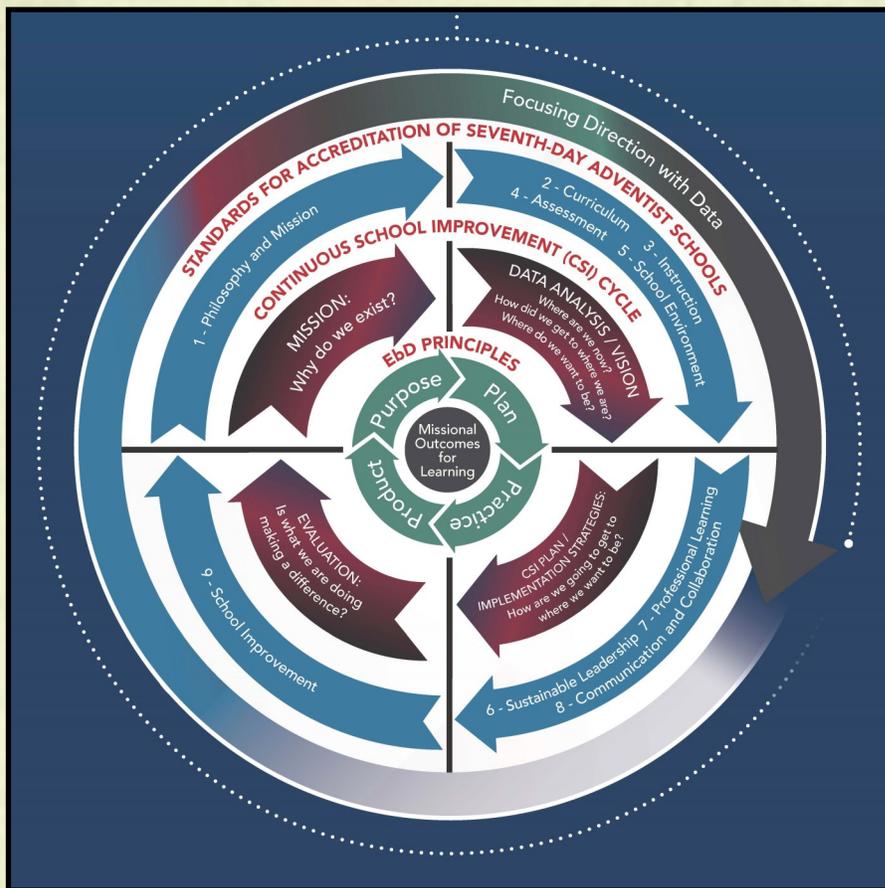
Branding

Education by Design is the branding for education in the Southwestern Union. It signals that Adventist education should not be left to chance; it must be planned, implemented, and evaluated with intention. The EbD framework that aligns with the brand identifies the key components of teaching and learning as well as their relationship to other parts, assisting us in thinking through the WHY, HOW, and WHAT of Adventist education. Thus,

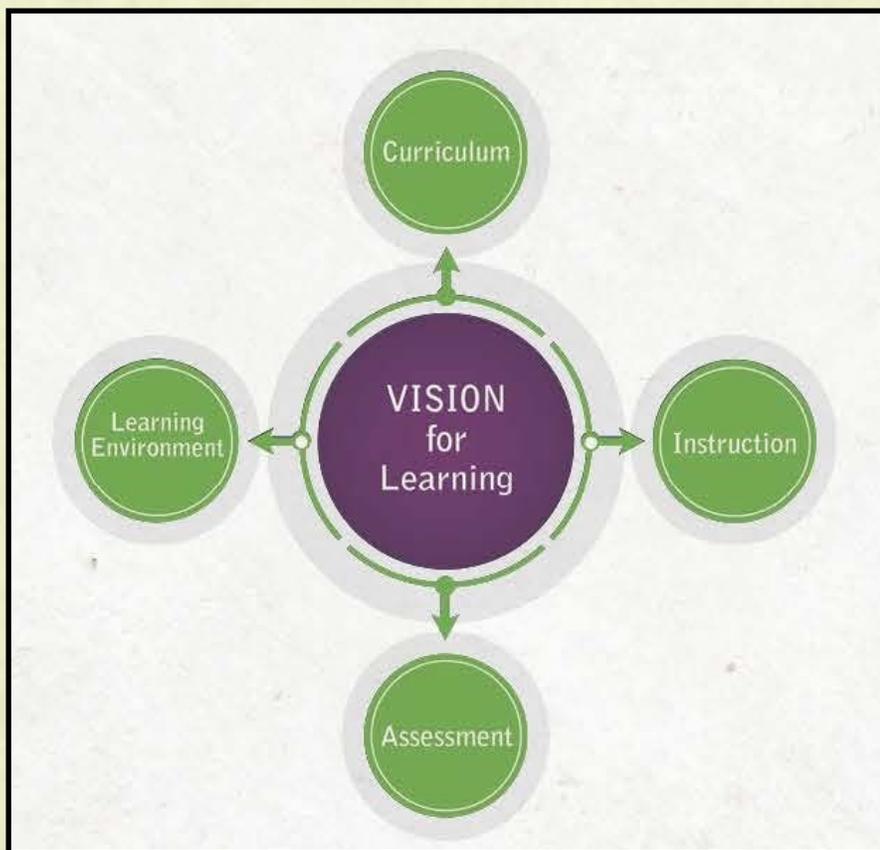
A story emerges, the story of how we are intentionally focused on identifying and creating coherence among the components that contribute to a journey to excellence in Adventist education.

Vision

As part of the EbD framework, a vision offers another opportunity to create a story. A vision for education defines the desired future plan for Adventist education as it relates to teaching and learning. The Southwestern Union vision for education



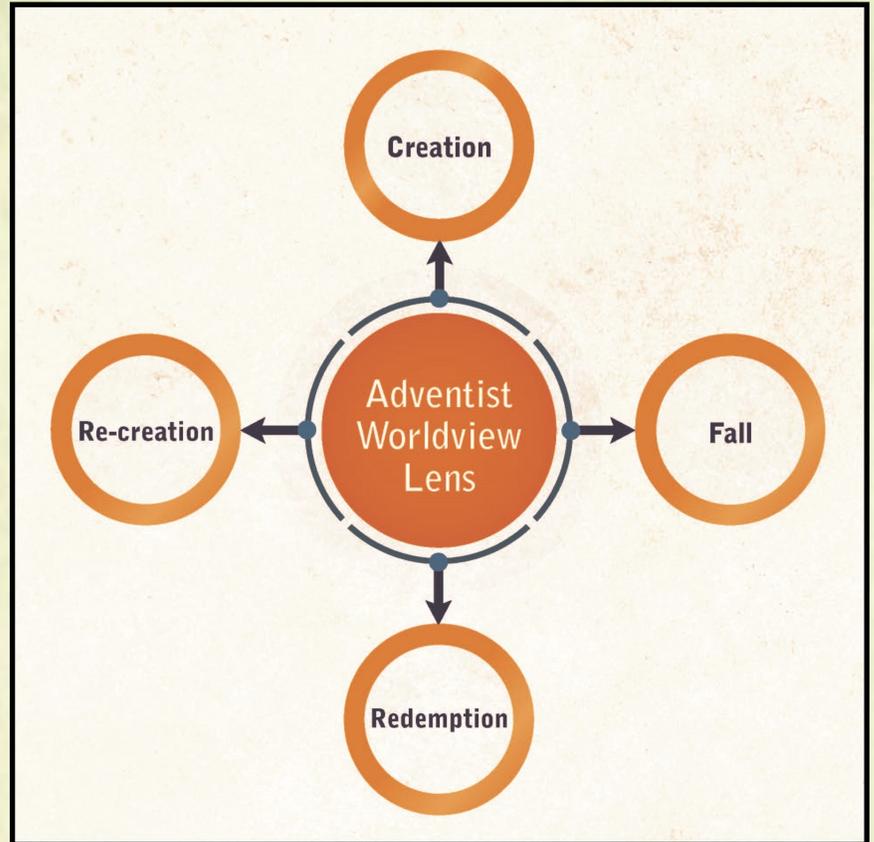
includes a set of visional outcomes relative to key, core areas of teaching and learning— curriculum, instruction, assessment, and learning environment. These components have a common through line— standards-based learning—that creates a critical relationship among the parts.



Adventist Worldview

A worldview serves as a conceptual tool or framework for perceiving and interpreting reality, which, in turn, informs values and beliefs, mission, and vision of an organization. The Adventist worldview accepts the Bible as the standard by which everything else is measured. Four key concepts emerge from a biblical worldview—creation, fall, redemption, re-creation—that can be used

as a lens for the teaching and learning in Adventist schools. The resulting narrative or story emphasizes the coherence of the biblical account.



Visit the Southwestern Union Education website to learn more about these three stories: <https://www.southwesternadventisteducation.com/>.