



# Coach's Corner

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Williamsburg Charter High School - 198 Varet St., Brooklyn NY 11206 - 718-782-9830

*"He who dares to teach must never cease to learn."*

- Unknown

## STRATEGY SIDEBAR

### 4-Corners

Four corners is a fun way to move students around, especially when they are full of energy during 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Similar to a likert scale, set responses like always agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, and always disagree in the four corners of the room then ask the class questions. You can also use answers such as specific formulas for math, characters for a novel, historic figures or dates, making the answers mimic multiple choice. These questions should revolve around the previous lesson or even a review of a unit.

#### Upcoming strategies:

- [Walk the Line](#)
- [Scavenger Review](#)

## YOU SAID IT!

### Student Leaders

*"Assigning jobs in the classroom has proven effective! Students seem more aware of their own behavior since almost everyone is in charge of something.*

*And it has kept my classroom so clean and organized! I love the room keeper job!"*

-Vianey Camela, English Language Arts

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classrooms

Patrick Goertz published *10 Signs of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom* for Edutopia last month and I wanted to share the list with you because much of the list corresponds with your focus areas. For the remainder of the year I will be detailing each of the signs with ready to use samples for your classrooms.

1. Technology Integration
2. Collaborative Environment
3. Opportunities for Creative Expression
4. Inquiry-Based Approach
5. Justification for Answers
6. Writing for Reflection
7. Use of Problem Solving Methodology
8. Hands-on Learning
9. Teacher as Facilitator
10. Transparent Assessments

Technology Integration is a "given" for 21<sup>st</sup> Century classrooms, however, this does rely on the resources available. We do have 2 computer labs and the library to get us started 😊

Let's begin with *Collaborative Environment*. Collaboration fosters the development of new ideas and exposes students to opposing viewpoints, plus they will need to collaborate in college and most careers. Remember, collaboration is not innate; we must teach them how to collaborate. This includes setting up procedures for partner work, roles for group work, and leaders for full class work. See attached article for tips on teaching collaboration, and some quick collaborative activities!

## This Week (and next) at a Glance

This week we will meet to revisit your work plans. We will take a look at the goals we made and how the implementation process is coming along. Here is the schedule:

**Monday 4/20:** 6<sup>th</sup> Larry, 7<sup>th</sup> Vianey  
**Tuesday 4/21:** 6<sup>th</sup> AnnMarie, 7<sup>th</sup> Bryan, 8<sup>th</sup> Kelsey  
**Wednesday 4/22:** 6<sup>th</sup> Matt, 7<sup>th</sup> Ashley  
**Thursday 4/23:** 6<sup>th</sup> Christina, 7<sup>th</sup> Katie, 8<sup>th</sup> Greg  
**Friday 4/24:** 6<sup>th</sup> Robert, 7<sup>th</sup> Brooke

*Please meet in my office at the start of the period.*

### NEXT WEEK

We can learn so much from each other, so next week we are visiting other classrooms. If you haven't done so already, please let me know which teacher(s) you want to observe, so I can contact them and set up observation time.