



Coach's Corner

March 21, 2016
Volume 2 Issue 16

Williamsburg Charter High School - 198 Varet St., Brooklyn NY 11206 - 718-782-9830 x2014

*"The absence of misbehavior doesn't mean the presence of high levels of learning."
-Stacy Birdsell O'Toole*

The Teacher Center

Semester 2 Updates

Learning Walks

Sign up for learning walks. So far we will be observing: *structure/procedures, classroom management, Socratic Seminars, Group Work Organization, Higher level questioning, and engaging activities.* You can find the **sign up** link in the Daily Leaf.

Upcoming Learning Walk

Group Work and Socratic Seminars

April 12th

Open Hours

The Teacher Center open hours for semester 2 will be **Mondays** (all day) and **Tuesdays/Thursdays** 9th period

Fixed vs. Growth Mindset

The Danger of Praise

Praising our students is so very important, so you might be wondering what could possibly be the danger? It makes sense that praising a student's ability would foster confidence and achievement, however by praising ability we are showing that ability is what we value. Students in the fixed mindset believe their ability can never change and will never improve so praise of ability is detrimental. Instead, praise the effort. Instead of "you are a good writer" try "this is a good essay, I can tell you worked very hard on it" or "you are really good at math" try " I can tell you really pushed yourself to get the correct answers here." Praising the effort shows that it takes hard work and effort in order to be successful.

Channeling the Chaos

The third quarter is winding down, which means the end of the year is coming into clear view, the weather is starting to heat up, and the energy of our students is blooming like spring flowers. It is not uncommon for them to be fidgety and talkative during the later periods of the day, but now as we move into springtime we will start to see this throughout the day.

If they are going to be rambunctious, don't fight it...embrace it! For the next couple weeks we will be looking at ways to channel the chaos.

Strategy #1

Class Debate: Set up the room for debate, as students enter give them an index card with an issue to debate (this could be from a previous lecture, a novel, school policy, etc, but best if connected to your lesson) on the flip side give them "for" or "against" and allow the debate to commence! Be sure to label what side of the room to sit on.

Upcoming strategies:

- 4 Corners
- Walk the Line
- Scavenger Review
- Gallery Walks and Stations