

D.C. Everest

Secondary Schools

Coaching Connection

May 2015

5 Tips for Going 1:1

- 1) **Go paperless or paper-less**— The iPad provides many ways to conduct paperless assessments using quiz apps and online tools. In this [Ready, Set, Quiz webinar](#), they discuss some online sources for creating quizzes that are easily accessible on the iPad.
- 2) **Remind yourself technology is just one more tool in your great teacher arsenal**— Feel confident in using the iPad when appropriate, and have students set it aside when it's not necessary for other work. As your comfort level increases, using the iPad as an instructional tool & integrating it into your curriculum will also increase.
- 3) **Class might be a little louder than usual and that's ok**— In general, it's good noise as students are more actively engaged in the learning process.
- 4) **Start gradually**—Technology integration is a process that starts with your comfort level, and continues with you trying new things in increments. Allow yourself time to adapt to the new environment. It's ok to begin at the beginning.
- 5) **You don't have to have all the answers.** This 1:1 change requires us to be life-long learners. Students can be an incredible resource when you get stuck. They love to help you, and each other, and will have a sense of ownership in their learning process if you ask them for assistance. They can become a built-in resource!

Ideas gathered from: iPad Bootcamp for Teachers

See also: [Six examples of iPad integration in the classroom.](#)



Twitter

Great (and not your "usual") educational leaders to follow on Twitter:

- ◆ @griffithjr
- ◆ @NMHS_Principal
- ◆ @JustinTarte
- ◆ @Kristy_Vincent
- ◆ @coolcatteacher

YouTube

Are you in need of a LOL moment? Check out this video for some comic relief.... An oldie but a goodie.

[Said no teacher ever](#)

Weebly

I've been experimenting with a [coaching weebly](#)...it is far from "ready" but feel free to check it out and let me know what you think or what resources you would like to see added as I continue to create this summer.

Summer Reading at DCE!

Why is summer reading and learning so important? Check out this graphic...
[Summer Learning - YouTube](#)

All secondary students in the district will be encouraged to read at least one book of their choice over the summer. Each school is implementing incentive programs and creating buzz to get kids excited to read. We are also working hard to equip all kids with materials to be successful:

- ◆ Teachers will ensure students have time to check out novels during the last weeks of the school year and will also explain the rationale and objectives for the summer reading program.
- ◆ Information will take center focus of each school's home page or IMC page.
- ◆ Students may return/exchange books at any of the IMCs during their summer hours.
- ◆ Books appealing to older students will be placed on the Rolling Reader van to increase accessibility for all students.
- ◆ Students who read over the summer will be eligible for PBIS drawings in the fall.

Check out what your school is specifically doing to promote [summer learning!](#)

Check out this PowToons on [Preventing Summer Reading Loss](#) & share the ideas with your students & colleagues!



Teachscape..I have to do what?

Some teachers have asked for these year-end resources again. Please let me know if I can be helpful to you in this process.

- ◆ CESA 9's [Year-End Teacher Checklist](#)
- ◆ [Uploading and Tagging Evidence Screencast](#)
- ◆ [Completing Post-Observation Form Screencast](#)
- ◆ [Possible Artifacts for Domains 1 and 4](#)
- ◆ [Artifacts and Evidence Checklist](#)

Summer Reading List Spotlight

[Differentiated Classroom: Responding to the needs of all Learners](#)—We hear

a lot about differentiation, but practically designing lessons in real classrooms with a growing number of students can be a challenge.

Tomlinson's book is a quick and accessible read with insights that can be put to immediate use.

Check out these [other summer reading options](#) guaranteed to energize and restore your spirit!



Year-End Reflection



When I was a first year teacher, I had an amazing principal who gave each teacher in the building a small starfish along with a copy of "The Starfish Story." When I would have a difficult time with a student or felt I wasn't reaching one in particular, I would often re-read that story (the original copy of which still hangs by my desk to this day). Last year as I was preparing for a teacher inservice, I came across a [video version](#) of the story. ([Starfish Story: Print version](#))

If you have a few moments, this is a great way to reflect on the year and on the students whose lives you have touched.

David Stewart Jr. also shares an interesting take concerning defining our long-term

impact as educators in his blog [Teaching the Core](#).

Does Failure Build Grit?

Over the last several months, I have been in conversations with colleagues about grit and about those non-academic skills we aim to grow in our kids. Should every student encounter frustration and failure to learn how to step-back, reassess and begin again? Research like Daniel Goleman's emotional intelligence, and Carol Dweck's prove that our attitudes may be even more important than our skills. And let's face it, the world demands much more than scholastic achievement: compassion, perseverance, commitment, leadership, and grit are qualities that immediately come to mind.

As educators, part of our job is to ensure that each student finds success, and an important part of finding success is knowing how to respond to failure. Researcher Anelga Duckworth says that grit "entails working strenuously toward challenges, maintaining effort and interest over years despite failure, adversity, and plateaus in progress." A student's level of grit may be the single best predictor of their success... Which has led many educators to ponder how we can build these skills within our secondary students.

(You can see Duckworth talking about grit in her [TED presentation](#). Read an enlightening NY Times article, [What if the Secret to Success is Failure?](#))

Coaching Update

For the 2015-2016 school year I will be joining the middle school staff as a full-time coach. I will also be teaching a reading intervention.

I am excited to focus on one building and really strengthen relationships at the middle school with both students and staff. I will miss working with all the fabulous people at the junior high and high school. Thank you to the teachers in those buildings who have opened up not only your classrooms but also your minds to coaching.

