

TEACHING TODAY'S LEARNERS #8

~ Learning How to Learn ~

Thanks to standards and learning targets, our students know **what** they are learning. In most cases, they even understand **why** the learning is important and how it will benefit them later in life. But what they don't always understand is **how** to learn. With this piece of the equation, we can truly move students forward.

"How to Learn" Skills

- **Reflection:** Reflection helps students learn about themselves, come up with new ideas and make changes.
- **Feedback:** Getting feedback is how we learn. Without specific and timely feedback, students can't move from ordinary to extraordinary.
- **Curiosity:** Keep challenging students to ask tough questions... "What if..." Being intellectually curious is what makes learning exciting and drives student to learn in new and different ways!
- **Grit:** People only fail when they give up. Students might not be able to do it yet, but they will be able to with more learning, more practice or more time. Foster that growth mindset, embrace the word YET.
- **Advocacy:** Don't get stuck on the escalator! Problem solving is an important skill, but sometimes students get "stuck." Encourage students to practice self-advocacy when they need to.
- **Prioritizing:** The best way for students to not get overwhelmed is to prioritize their learning opportunities. Without prioritizing they may get lost in a sea of frustration.
- **Endless Opportunities:** Learning never ends! Been there, done that! Then, did it again, because learning never ends. It's a pretty awesome cycle; the more students learn the more they want to know!
- **Thinking:** If students always think the same way, they will always get the same results. Promote out-of-the-box thinking and self-challenge.
- **Learning Journey:** Learning is not a race or a checklist! It's a journey and students are in the driver's seat. Inspire them through the learning *process* not the *product*!
- **Homework:** Eliminate the word "homework." Instead, it's a learning opportunity! Ask: What experience, relearning or practice do you need to be successful? ☺

It's Better To Know How
To Learn Than To Know.

-DR. SEUSS

