

# The TURNAROUND *Digest Review*

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**Thomas D. Rogers, Ed.D.**  
*Assistant Superintendent*  
2022-2023 Broad Fellow | Yale School of Management

## ***From the Desk of Dr. Rogers...***

"Students in schools serving more historically marginalized communities—particularly students experiencing poverty—were assigned more below grade-level work. Students in schools serving historically marginalized communities usually received even less grade-level content than their more privileged peers. In schools where at least 75% of students qualified for free or reduced-price lunch, 32% of students' texts and question sets were below grade-level, compared to only 20% of texts and question sets in schools where no more than 25% of students qualified for free or reduced-price lunch." - The New Teacher Project (TNTP)

Teaching and learning started this week; therefore, we are ready to move forward with the development of 90-day plans. Each plan must have a clear purpose statement that is ambitious with goals that reference student achievement as a primary focus. With this clearly in place, there will be big rocks that are written in positive, actionable language.

The 90-Day Plan serves as a road map that provides clarity to specific priorities and actions that are most important during the next 90 days. The plan will help ensure the focus of all stakeholders toward an aligned understanding of the implementation and progress of our schools' transformation initiative. (University of Virginia). Here are three guiding questions to think about as you create the 90-day plan with your team:

- What is the system or process that is not working?
- What learner-centered problems exist?
- How can you ensure high-quality tier one instruction for ALL students?

With Relentless Collective Efficacy!

*Dr. Thomas D. Rogers*

## ***Leadership - Dr. Janice Tankson***

When you think of a great leader, who comes to mind? What qualities did they exemplify that helped them to stand out from the rest of their peers? What actions did they take daily that made people want to follow them? The core of true leadership is in how leaders build strong and healthy relationships with their peers and colleagues. In today's society, it is vital that the foundation of any organization is built on having trusting relationships with staff.

In the article, *6 Simple Ways to Build Trusting Relationships with Staff* by Adrienne Waller, you will explore proven strategies that leaders have taken to build solid organizational foundations that were grounded in their relationships with people.

[Edutopia Article: 6 Simple Ways to Build Trusting Relationships with Staff](#)

## ***Educating with***



*Open Arms*

After the Cummings K-8 family experienced unexpected structural damage to their building, the dedicated educators at LaRose ES immediately stepped in and provided the Cummings students, faculty, and administration with adequate space to continue instruction. Kudos to LaRose Principal Staci Hendrix and her team for "educating with open arms"!



## **The Week in Review:**

### ***School Visits***

*Click the school bus to view the photo montage!*





## The Focal Point...

### High School - Dr. William Kinard "Rigor, Bloom's and Depth of Knowledge"

IZone High Schools are dedicated to ensuring that our students receive high-quality, rigorous lessons from the beginning to the end of the school year. Zone-wide lesson plan reviews have already begun! Led by content coaches and selected instructional leaders/teachers, schools presented their upcoming lesson plans for critique and alignment to the depth and expectations of the standard(s). Both content administrators and teachers participated and received feedback and learned from their peers' submissions. Student tasks and expected outcomes were highlighted along with instructional moves to increase student engagement.

Special thanks to the school leaders/teachers who played a vital role in assisting in this effort: Gabrielle Ford, Jaquisha Gray, Antwanette Jones, Ebony Shaw, and Paige Stubbs.

### K-8 Science -Mrs. Angela Rowe-Jackson

**M.A.D.** Scientist at Work  
**Master** of 5E with **Ambition** and **Determination**

In last week's TDR, we shared some benefits of implementing hands-on science lessons. This week, we continue to highlight such benefits with a focus on how hands-on learning increases retention.

There are both physiological and psychological impacts that make hands-on learning so effective in information retention.

- Hands-on learning better engages both sides of the brain. Listening and analyzing processes occur in the left hemisphere, but visual and spatial processes are handled in the right. By combining multiple styles of learning, the brain forms stronger overall connections and is able to store more relevant information.
- Brain scans also show increased activity in sensory and motor-related areas of the brain when students think about concepts they had previous hands-on experience with.

Being able to touch and see something is simply more powerful than only reading about it.

Continue to absorb information on the benefits of hands-on learning by reading the article below and watching the video linked below. I promise you it is worth your time!

Article: [The Importance of Hands-On Learning in a Child's Education](#)

Video: [Science Education in WA: Learning with 'Hands and Minds'](#)

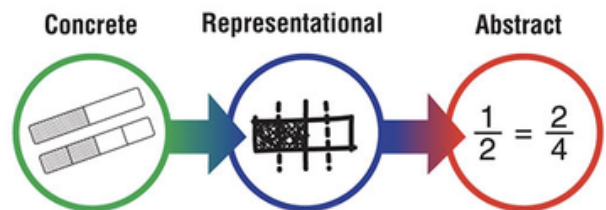
"Together we are **ONE** in **SCIENCE**!"

### K-8 Math - Mr. Romond Arnold

Hello IZone 2.0 Mathematicians,

Remember, a visual representation is a way for students to see mathematics. You can visually represent math using number lines, tape diagrams, pictures, graphs, and graphic organizers. Visual representation is often used in an instructional approach called concrete-representational-abstract, or CRA (Advisors shared this in our Summer Learning Institute). With CRA, you use visual representations to help students understand abstract mathematics concepts. For example, students can use concrete manipulatives like [Unifix cubes](#) to solve an addition problem. We do understand that concrete manipulatives are more commonly used in elementary classrooms, but teachers please note they can help older students, too.

**"Planning is paramount to providing quality mathematical experiences for students. We are here to support you in this heart-work!"- Coach L. Thomas**



### K-8 Literacy - Dr. Matara Harris

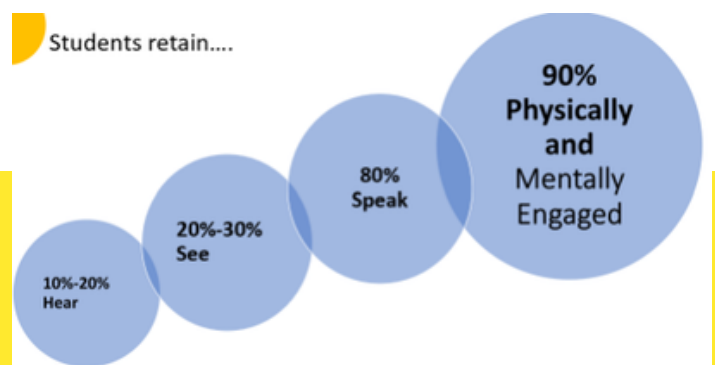
Greetings Eminent Educators,

Student engagement activities increase achievement for all students, decrease behavior problems in the classroom, and make teaching and learning fun! If you think back to your most memorable teachers, no doubt they used techniques and strategies to engage the brain!

If students are actively engaged in experiences with content, they stand a much better chance of learning and remembering what we want them to know (Tate, 2016).

When the body is engaged during learning, the information can be put in one of the strongest memory systems. This reason alone is why people tend not to forget how to drive a car, ride a bike or play the piano, even if they have not done so in a while. Rather than having students sit while the teachers do all the work, have them mobile and actively engaged to ensure that content is mastered and information is retained.

**Make each day in your classroom one to remember!**



[Click here](#) to check out an article with some fun and engaging brain-based strategies to level up your instruction!

**"Out Front Where We Belong!"**

**IZONE 2.0**

Thomas D. Rogers, Ed.D.  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

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