IZone 2.0
Memphis-Shelby County Schools

The TURNAROUND *Digest Review*

February 3, 2023 - Volume 1/Issue 22

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

From the Desk of Dr. Rogers...

As a student in high school, I clearly remember researching and writing about nonviolence. Specifically, I triangulated the nonviolent resistance of Dr. King, Henry David Thoreau, and Gandhi. All three men had a solid platform for nonviolence. In my hometown and in the city where Dr. King was assassinated, it was heart-piercing to see the events with Tyre Nichols as they unfolded in the hands of those who were sworn to protect and serve. It brought back unpleasant memories and stories from my parents and grandparents during my childhood years. Nonetheless, it made me renew my "why" and my personal commitment to justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion for all students. I, Thomas D. Rogers, cannot forget the sacrifice of those who have labored, and many died, so I can occupy this space for such a time as this. I will continue to use my education platform as an opportunity to advocate for the students in IZone 2.0. Our students are worth it!

When my tenure has ended, I pray to look back and ask this question: What did I do?

Winning With Relentless Collective Efficacy!
Dr. Thomas D. Rogers

Leadership - Director Alisha Kiner, Zone 11 ILD

If this work were easy, anybody could and would do it. We know from experience that people are not signing up to do this work, and there has been a mass exodus of those who once believed this work was their calling. To make matters more exasperating, all of you have chosen to work in the most challenging schools for the neediest students. I've listened to you talk about how your own resolve has been tested and how you've become weary as a result of the daily fight for the students, for the teachers, for the staff, and even for yourself!

The American writer, Wallace Stegner, would have me remind you that, "The brook would lose its song if we removed the rocks." Keep singing. Just like the caged bird Maya Angelou wrote about – sing! See, this type of "singing" is equivalent to the water that flows over, through, and under the rocks and soil in the brook. Flowing water dissolves massive amounts of rock. Stay consistent. And, as Edgar Guest would say, "…rest if you must, but just don't quit". This article in Forbes shares 15 things you can do to keep the water flowing and the "bird" in you, singing.

Thomas Edison's asked his assistant to perform an experiment, and the assistant failed four or five times. When a friend suggested that he give up, the assistant replied, "Mr. Edison did not say to try the job four or five times. He said to do it." Just do it. Everyday. Consistently.

Header Photo: Remembering Tyre Nichols . . .

IZONE 2.0

The Focal Point...

K-8 Literacy - Dr. Matara Harris

Greetings Great Leaders,

Writing is a skill that takes consistent practice to develop. As a reminder, all modes of writing must be strategically taught to ensure that students are equipped to respond to a variety of prompts that may be presented during the TNReady assessment. The IZone ELA Team has provided a folder of writing resources for elementary teachers which is linked here: IZone 2.0 Writing Resources

As a follow-up to the training provided for elementary teachers, use the link below to upload 3-5 student work samples (high, medium, low) by the deadline of February 3, 2023.

- 3rd-grade teachers will upload student samples from the text *Secret Place*.
- 4th/5th-grade teachers will upload student samples from the texts *Midori Makes Music* and *The Boy Doctor from India*. However, if 5th-grade teachers worked on the texts, *Born to Run* and *Ten Reasons Why You Don't Exercise*, those samples can be uploaded instead.

The samples should be labeled by grade and school and uploaded using this link: Opinion Writing Samples - Due Feb.3rd

Please reach out to Dr. Matara Harris, IZone ELA Manager (harrismc@scsk12.org), with any questions or concerns.

K-8 Science - Mrs. Angela Rowe-Jackson

M.A.D. Scientists at Work

Masters of 5E with ***Ambition*** and ***Determination***

An Effective Explore Lesson

During the Exploration phase, students actively explore a new concept through concrete learning experiences. This phase allows students to learn through hands-on interactions. Students are more likely to participate and remain on task when lesson plans include hands-on activities, thus leading to better knowledge retnetion. Here are three tips for planning an effective explore lesson.

Tip #1: Decide on the Purpose and Objective
There should be a clear goal for what students need to know and be able to do by the end of the lesson. This is one way to backward plan or begin with the end in mind.

Tip #2: Create a Plan
Once the objective has been established, think through the details of the experiment. Make a list of the necessary materials, estimate the duration of the activity, and anticipate students' questions or misunderstandings. Then, conduct and test the experiment yourself! While this may feel time-consuming, it helps to ensure the hands-on activity will work as planned and that it aligns with the stated objective and purpose.

Tip #3: Plan Implementation
The last step is to think through how students will work. Plan whether they'll work with a partner, independently, in groups, or whole group. Decide whether the pairings or groups will be teacher-assigned or student-selected. This decision may depend on access to and quantity of materials. Ensure there is adequate space to store materials and for students to work.

For more information on how to plan for an effective explore lesson, please click these links: The Explore Phase Checklist of the 5E Model and Learning Roles during the Explore Phase.

Created by: Sherbrina Shephard

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

K-8 Math - Mr. Romond Arnold

Mathematical Practice #8 - Look for and Express Regularity in Repeated Reasoning

Hello IZone 2.0 Mathematicians,

Students who are mathematically proficient look for both general methods of solving a problem and shortcuts, if they notice calculations are repeating. In upper elementary, students will also notice that when dividing some numbers, the same calculations are being repeated, thus concluding they have a repeating decimal. The problem 25 ÷11 is such an example. Middle school students may deduce the corresponding multiplicative relationships and generalize about relationships to rates while working with tables of equivalent ratios.

Attending to detail as they solve a problem while maintaining complete oversight of the process is part of what defines a mathematically proficient student. Also, a student who is mathematically proficient will continually evaluate the reasonableness of their solution.

Remember that students will look for patterns and repetitive actions in an effort to discover shortcuts or skip steps. Since we know that through patterning and repetition, students will begin to develop mathematical reasoning, be sure to provide them with multiple opportunities to engage.

High School - Dr. William Kinard

The Jigsaw

In the IZone 2.0 ELA classroom, it's imperative that students grapple with complex texts daily despite their individual limitations. A great way to ensure that all students are accessing complex text is to use the Jigsaw method. Jigsaw is an EL (Expeditionary Learning) backed engagement strategy that ensures all students are reading, writing, and speaking about a text. This strategy requires that the teacher divide up the reading during planning to ensure that learning is appropriately differentiated. The steps include a silent read, conversation, and adequate summaries. This strategy is great because it allows small groups to engage in effective, time-efficient comprehension of a much larger text. For tips on implementing the strategy, click this link: "Jigsaw".

IN THE *Spotlight:*

Riverview K-8's Virtual Data Room

The Mighty Viking Educators at Riverview K-8 have developed an *innovative* way to track student performance and achievement through their Virtual Data Room. Click the image above on the right to learn more about how these leaders are working to exemplify the "I" in IZone 2.0!