IZone 2.0
Memphis-Shelby County Schools

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...

As we approach the upcoming TCAP test, we must make sure that we have all bases covered. To do so, we must have a laser-like focus on the goal of at least 95% of the student population in attendance for the test. This is the time to start being creative with incentives to motivate our students. What are your current data points with attendance and chronic absenteeism? Based on your current reality, what are your next moves? How will you measure effectiveness? As you can imagine, I eagerly await the outcomes.

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

IN THE *Spotlight:*

Westwood High School

Recognized as a **RETHINK SUPERSTAR** for SY 22-23

This week, Westwood High School is one of the schools highlighted for meeting full compliance with ReThink implementation. They have been in "Full" compliance since September 2022 and will be celebrated on Friday, March 3rd, as the culminating event of SEL Week: Rethink Pop-Up Visit Day.

Leadership - Dr. Janice Tankson, Zone 12 ILD

Last week, I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the UVA Winter Closing Meeting along with our High School Principals. I learned so much and felt encouraged by reinforcements that solidified some of my views. However, one statement resonated with me, and I have now added it to my FAVORITE Quotes.... "Change is HARD at first, MESSY in the middle, and GORGEOUS at the end." How many times have you fought against something that you knew was going to happen and there was nothing that you could do about it? It was HARD. Then that change occurred. On the inside, you were very frustrated, but on the outside, you smiled and went along to just go along. It felt so MESSY. Then one day, you realized that the change was exactly what you needed and life was better because of it. It was GORGEOUS at the end. Change is inevitable. It is going to happen whether you like it or not. The faster we accept the change; the better life will be.

Below I have listed 6 Leadership Actions that will promote the acceptance of CHANGE at your school. They are as follows:

1. Educate, Teach, Coach
2. Clarify Expectations, Set priorities
3. Acknowledge Reality
4. Role model and Reward Desired Behaviors
5. Align with Values
6. Communicate Honestly

When you implement the aforementioned leadership moves and understand the process, it will be GORGEOUS in the end.

Header Photo: Ms. Moore's small group at Getwell Elementary

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The Focal Point...

K-8 Literacy - Dr. Matara Harris

Greetings Great Leaders and Educators,

The old saying goes, "Practice makes progress." With just a few weeks left before our students begin to demonstrate the progress they've made this year on TCAP, it is vital that we continue to "practice," in order to make progress. Just as an aspiring basketball player would practice elements of the game, plays, and building endurance, we can help our students practice for the upcoming test.

The good news is that there are already resources released by TDOE for this purpose. Visit the TDOE's Livebinders link below to view practice tests, student work samples (anchor papers), and item releases listed by grade:
Tennessee Department of Education: Assessment Development

K-8 Science - Mrs. Angela Rowe-Jackson

M.A.D. Scientists at Work
Masters of 5E with ***Ambition*** and ***Determination***

Getting Ready for TNReady

Tip #1 - Stay Positive

While standardized testing might be stressful, there's no need to panic especially in front of your students. Encourage your students to do their best and to prepare for the test. Speak positively about the test, because students will take their cues from you. Stay upbeat and your students will follow your lead!

"Although the general administration and setup of standardized tests can be anxiety provoking, preparing students and assuring them doing their best is all that's expected of them is very important. I was able to assure them multiple times that I know the amazing work they are capable of. It was important to me they understood this test doesn't define them." -McEwan, 2022

Bring positivity into the classroom by:
- Taking brain breaks to keep students engaged and energized
- Celebrating wins like a new skill mastered or high practice scores
- Writing personalized post-it notes with encouraging messages for your students.

How to stay positive during standardized testing
It's worth the read, trust me!

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

K-8 Math - Mr. Romond Arnold

Equity in a Math Classroom

Hello, IZone 2.0 Mathematicians,

"Equity does not mean that every student should receive identical instruction; instead, it demands that reasonable and appropriate accommodations be made as needed to promote access and attainment for all students." (NCTM, 2000, p. 12).

Equity is the catalyst for effective, differentiated instruction, and it creates opportunities for independent thinking and student success in the classroom. As a teacher, you are responsible for meeting the needs of all learners in your classroom. Creating an equitable classroom ensures that each of your students can be successful regardless of race, culture, gender, religious affiliation, or learning differences. Over the next few weeks, we will examine what equity looks like, sounds like, and feels like in a classroom through five different lenses:
- Know your students and adapt to their differences.
- Use high-impact teaching strategies
- Understand the cultures of your school and students
- Work Collaboratively with school leaders and community stakeholders
- Remain aligned with the school district's mission and vision.

Lastly, we should teach with equity in mind. If you think about proven, pedagogical research, take time to know your students and understand the school culture. If you work collaboratively with leaders and remain aligned with your district's vision and mission for academic achievement, you will begin to see the impact that equitable teaching will have on student learning. It is invaluable. Let's choose to put equity into action and celebrate the success of all our students.

To view, click the image below.

High School - Dr. William Kinard

Real World learning in the Classroom

During collaborative lesson planning sessions, teachers created fun and engaging hooks that allow students to see how the standards live within their day-to-day lives.

Research shows that students are more engaged in the lesson when they can see how it connects to the real world. "To optimize the learning experience, lesson planning should inspire creativity, imagination, and the pursuit of knowledge. By connecting classrooms to the real world, teachers can demonstrate the relevance of subjects and give students a vision of what's possible – providing a meaningful framework for both academic and personal development."