Sheila\_J\_Berlinger@mcpsmd.org Jennifer\_Bernard@mcpsmd.org Denise\_M\_DeFlore@mcpsmd.org Elizabeth\_A\_Sandall@mcpsmd.org

Pink folder on table and name tag. Types of development paper to share.

#### This we Believe

01:06

"For middle school students to be successful, the school's organization, curriculum, pedagogy and programs must be based on the developmental readiness, needs and interests of young adolescent learners."

We need to staff our middle schools with experts in teaching middle school kids

#### **Outcomes**

- Identify the characteristics of the adolescent learner
- Explain the instructional implications for adolescents based on their brain development.
  - Articulate how the selection of instructional ....

# Characteristics of the Adolescent Learner: Step One Step one

- Draw 2-3 strips from the envelope.
- Sort the characteristics by the categories on the placemat.

# Step two

- · Look at the hot pink paper and discuss.
- · Consult the document titled "Characteristics of Adolescent Learners."
- · Examine how the characteristics were sorted.
- · Compare your lists to one we have provided.

# Implications for learning

What implications does the inoformation on the characteristics of the adolescent learner handout have for planning and instruction based on your role in your school district?

I need to incorporate those characteristics into my teaching to support their learning.

Why is rigor important and why does it matter?

- · Review your rigor placement.
- · Define Rigor:

International competitiveness.

Teaching with the end in mind.

Using thinking based learning.

Green Handout: Rigorous Instruction in the middle school

Triangle image on the page.

- 1. Explicit opportunities for critical thinking
- 2. Selection of rigorous instructional materials
- 3. Appropriately matched and differentiatedinstructional strategies.

## Application activity:

Toni Morrison's The Big Box

Chosen for an adult audience in a conference setting.

This is an illustration for use around the triangle.

- 1. Listen to and look at the Big Box.
- 2. With your table mates, revisit the text with the elements of reasoning.
- 3. Be prepared to share your assignment element(s).

Reflection:

How did this experience motivate and engage you?

Rigor selection process.

Provocative: To what extent is the curriculum concerned with the central problems in the discipline that challenge students' previous concepts?

Ambiguous: To what extent does the curriculum focus on cymbals and images pacedwith multiple meanings?

Complex: To what extent is the curriculum organized around complex, interrelated concepts?

Emotional: To what exten tis the curriculum

(Lilac paper)

1:14:15

1:28:07

1:28:17

Ambiguous: forced us to interpret

Emotional: there were things there that each reader can identify with.

Provacative: Things to defend or discuss vigorously.

Complex:

PACE and the Big Box.

Implications for planning and instruction

What implications do the definition and measure of rigor (PACE) have for planning and instruction based on your role in your school district?

Engaging the students in something worthy of their time.

The elements of thought: The Reasoning Wheel

Richard Paul and Linda Elders model.

- 1. Points of view
- 2. Purpose of the thinking
- 3. Question at issue
- 4. Information
- 5. Interpretation and inference

- 6. Concepts
- 7. Assumptions
- 8. Implications and consequences

### Am I critical thinker?

Implications: things that might happen Consequences: Things that will happen.

#### Discussion:

1:46:07

1:46:19

1:46:40

1:48:00

1:48:06

How would this model suport their learning and help ensure rigorous instruction?

## Adolescent Brain Development

Emotions?? Highly developed ...

Reasoning and reflection?

Under construction ...

(Until early or mid-twenties)

## **Developmental Rates**

Significant growth occurs in the adolescent similar to childhood growth.

As those synapses are growing, we need to use them or lose them.

The stronger the relationship between the student and the teacher, the better the ability to set emotions aside and learn.

Prune the students to direct their energy to where it should go and strengthen the core of the tree/student.

Which neuron provides the greater potential for connection?

What students are asked to think about and what they're asked to do determines the level of neuron they have.

Neuron develops on feedback and challlenge.

Challenge: problem solving, critical thinking, relevant projects, complex materials.

Feedback: Exemplars, connected to clear standards and criteria, various forms, timely, opportunity to use it.

# Sense and Meaning

Long term memory: retrieving information

Sense: comprehension, I understand it, it makes sense. Until it makes sense, it's not stored.

Meaning: Relevance-I can connect it to something else I know. No connection = no meaning.

"Of the two, meaning has the greater impact on the probablily that the information will be stored." -Sousa

Implications for planning and instruction: What implications does the

information on the adolescent brain have for planning and instruction based on your role in your school district?

## Rigorous Instructional Practices

- The content refers to WHAT students will learn.
- The process refers to HOW students will learn or explore the content.
- The product is the EVIDENCE of student learning.

## Implications for planning and instruction

What do I now have to consider in order to successfully develop adolescent thinkers?

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