

PBIS/AMP Update

March 2022

District's Strategic Plan:

Sweetwater County School District #1 will nurture a positive learning climate and culture.

- Promote positive behaviors and relationships among students, staff, families and the community.
- Ensure schools are safe and secure.
- Proactively support physical, mental and emotional health.

A large portion of the information contained within monthly updates will be borrowed from other locations. I will always cite the location where the information is gathered and encourage you to look up the original source if you desire more information. The updates will be sent out district-wide. If you have questions or I can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to call or email.

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"If kids come to us from strong, healthy, functioning families, it makes our job easier. If they do not come to us from strong, healthy, functioning families, it makes our job more important." — Barbara Colorose



Within this newsletter

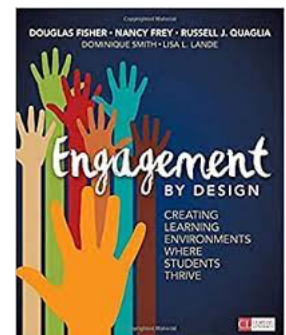
- The Inviting Classroom: Chapter 3 of *Engagement by Design* written by Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey, Russell Quaglia, Dominique Smith and Lisa Lande - **The CIA office still has 16 *Engagement by Design* books.** If you would like a copy of the book, please email me and I will send one through school mail.
- Self-Care
- PBIS How Tos

Chapter Three

Chapter Three of *Engagement by Design*, discusses clarity in teaching and why it is important to the learning process.

"When students know what they are supposed to learn, why they are learning it, and how they will know that they have learned it, they learn more, behave better, and engage in school in more substantial ways."

According to John Hattie, teacher clarity has an effect size of .075 which is equivalent to nearly two-years worth of growth. Actions that are grounded in purpose, connect in more meaningful ways.



Keeping in mind that **all adults** in our District impact students, there are four essential elements of “teacher” clarity to consider:

- Know what students are supposed to learn
 - Communicate high expectations for all
 - Organize the knowledge and skills in a logical way
 - Pre-assess understanding
- Know how students learn
 - Telling students is not the same as teaching students
 - Errors are evidence of learning, our response to them contributes to a growth or fixed mindset
- Know how to communicate what students will be learning
 - Give feedback – if you give feedback at the end of a unit it isn’t feedback it is evaluation
- Know how to develop success criteria and share the criteria through:
 - Exemplars
 - Modeling
 - Negotiation – when you are developing success criteria with the students
 - Grades serve as poor success criteria

Spring Break – Time for You

Spring break is coming March 21st through March 25th, these tips suggest ways to make the most of your break, so you can return to your classroom rested and re-energized. They come from the Printable Princess blog entitled Spring Break Refresh Seven Easy, Practical Ways for Teachers to Recharge In One Week <https://www.theprintableprincess.com/spring-break-tips-for-teachers/>:



- Start Spring Break off with a special self-care treat such as a pedicure or a special sweet treat
- Spend time with your significant other and/or kids go bowling, hiking or take a trip to the park
- Have a day or two of productive laziness, this is a great way to get things done on your to-do list that perpetually get pushed to the back corner
- Have a staycation, explore Rock Springs, Green River, Farson or Wamsutter, go on a day trip
- Be a student take a painting class, cooking class or photography course
- Slow down, take a week to wind down and enjoy the time you have off
- Catch up on sleep, drink plenty of water, go for a walk

Spring Break is a time for all educators to refresh and rejuvenate, enjoy!

PBIS How Tos

A technique to ensure a class/school is a hospitable place, is to greet each student by name and communicating they are welcome. According to *Engagement by Design* written by Fisher et, al., (2018) only 64% of students find school to be a welcoming and friendly place. Greeting students by name as they enter the classroom is a simple and effective way to build positive relationships.

Basic Steps:

1. Greet each student by name
2. Have a short positive interaction (e.g., praise, friendly comment, question)
3. Direct them to the first activity

An informative article on the importance of using Positive Greetings at the Door, can be found at the PBISApps website: [resource: Positive Greetings at the Door www.pbis.org/resource/positive-greetings-at-the-door](http://www.pbis.org/resource/positive-greetings-at-the-door)