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# Motivating the Unmotivated Student

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October 26, 2016

## #MotivationMonday

YOU CAN'T SPELL  
**CHALLENGE**  
WITHOUT  
**CHANGE**

IF YOU'RE GOING TO RISE TO THE CHALLENGE, YOU HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO CHANGE.



DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOU'VE REACHED YOUR GOAL TO BE PROUD OF YOURSELF. BE PROUD OF EVERY STEP YOU TAKE TOWARD REACHING THAT GOAL.

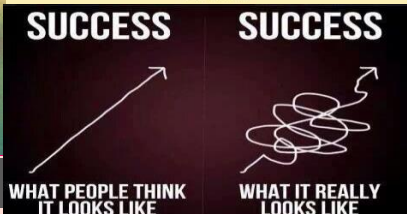
★  
EVERY ACCOMPLISHMENT STARTS WITH THE DECISION TO TRY.  
★

You have **BRAINS** in your **HEAD**.  
You have **FEET** in your **SHOES**.  
You can **STEER** yourself any **DIRECTION** you **CHOOSE**.

~ Dr. Seuss



You're off to Great Places!  
Today is your day!  
Your mountain is waiting.  
So...get on your way!  
-Dr. Seuss



Just believe in yourself. Even if you don't, pretend that you do and, at some point, you will.  
-VENUS WILLIAMS



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# Rigor relevance relationships

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## Reasons a student may be unmotivated



- Pressure
- Low self-esteem/self-worth
- Lack of "support" at home
- Low expectations in the classroom
- Do not see relevance



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# TYPES OF MOTIVATION



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- **Intrinsic:** Motivation that is based on internal factors like what you like to do and things that make you happy.
- **Extrinsic:** Motivation that is based on external factors like money, rewards, obligations, or approval.

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27 Ways To Promote Intrinsic Motivation In The Classroom by Mia MacMeekin 6

**10 PRAISE**  
Praise students for meaningful accomplishments.

**11 TEACH**  
Practice what you teach.

**12 PLAY**  
Play a game that teaches the same principles.

**13 DISCOVER**  
Discover your passion.

**14 DISCOVER**  
Discover your students' passions.

**15 ALLOW**  
Allow time for the process.

**16 PURPOSE**  
Demonstrate, show, describe, and engage with a purpose.

**17 ENERGIZE**  
Add energy to what you are doing.

**18 CREATE**  
Create a new atmosphere for creativity and intrinsic behavior.

*27 Ways To Promote Intrinsic Motivation In The Classroom by Mia MacMeekin 7*

**19 MILESTONES**  
Collectively set milestones to reach. Display them.

**20 SKILL**  
Create multiple skill assessments that students choose to take.

**21 MEASURE**  
Allow students to measure progress throughout.

**22 TRUST**  
Create a trusting atmosphere.

**23 VISION**  
Create a class vision.

**24 SERVICE**  
Engage in community service.

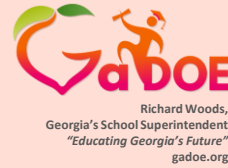
**25 CHOICE**  
Let students have choices- in what they do, how they do it, and who assesses.

**26 SHARE**  
Share with others what is happening in the classroom.

**27 LIVE**  
Incorporate the student's life and story into the classroom.

*27 Ways To Promote Intrinsic Motivation In The Classroom by Mia MacMeekin 8*

# Challenge a Failure Mentality



- “I can’t.
- “It’s too hard.”
- “It’s too difficult.”
- “I tried, but I failed.”
- Praise the student’s efforts
- Point out if they don’t get it right away, they can always do better.
- “I won’t give up on you nor will I let you give up on yourself.”



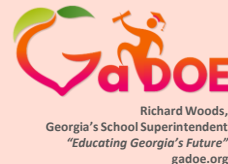
~~Impossible~~  
I'm possible

## Notice and Build on Strengths

- Lazy vs. Strong-willed/Determined
- Focus on the student's improvement rather than on his performance relative to his classmates

## Redo. Retake. Revise.

- Second Chance
- Gives hope
- [Redos and Retakes Done Right](#) (an article)
- Can start as early as elementary school

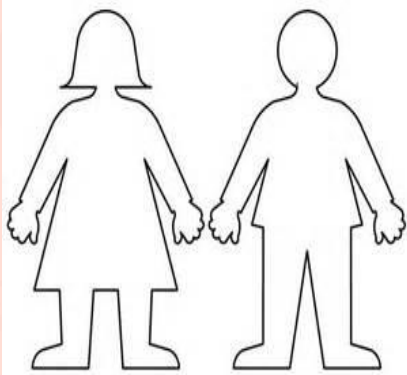


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## CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD TEACHER



## CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD STUDENT



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## Connect With Students

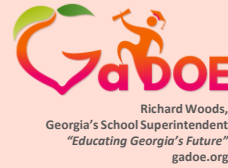


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- Greet students at the door
- Send home birthday cards
- Micro-conversations: Take two minutes for ten days to get to know an individual student
- First five minutes for whole class casual conversation
- Attending extra-curricular activities (in and out of school)
- Student Input: Give assignments that allow students to share their experiences and interests.
- Targeted Student: Strive for at least one daily positive verbal interaction
- Positive Referrals
- Proactive Communication
  - Course Syllabus
  - Weekly Work Agenda
  - Weekly Student Conferences
  - Address Missing Work/Plan
- Proactive Communication (counselor)
  - Counselor access to student grades
  - Run spreadsheets
  - Have a conference with students whose grades are below par (D/U/F)
  - Set a game plan
- Which Sounds Better? Positive Requests
  - "If you don't return to your seat, I can't help you with your assignment."
  - "I will be over to help you on the assignment just as soon as you return to your seat."

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# An Engaging Classroom



- Bellringer Activities
- Opportunities for Choice
- Incorporate Cooperative Learning Activities into Instruction
- Structure Lessons around High-Interest or Functional Learning Goals
- Use Technology Tools (Poll Everywhere, Kahoot, Game Apps, Video Chat)
- Flexible Seating
- A teacher who is EXCITED!!!
- Ticket out of the door (3-2-1 summarization)  
3 things learned; 2 interesting things and 1 question they have about what was taught

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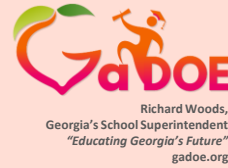
# Social Interaction Strategies



- Empowerment
- Strong Support System/Special Guest
- Skill Building
- Peer Tutors (Effective Motivators)
- Cooperative Learning
- Find Your Match (Word/Definition Learning activity...similar to Famous Pairs icebreaker)

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# Parental Involvement



- Learn from parents what motivates their child
- What levels of effort are they seeing at home
- Shape conversations carefully with families
- Encourage the parents to have their children to become involved with out of school activities
- Understanding of Intrinsic vs Extrinsic Motivation
- Parent Consultation
- Parent education classes that teach parents how to support their children in schools as well as parenting skills (workshops, technology, short tidbits, newsletters)
- Advocate for parents and students when students are not treated fairly by the educational establishment
- Keep the parents of children who are having difficulty in school apprised of their children's progress by encouraging teachers to communicate more frequently with parents

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# Student Led Conferences

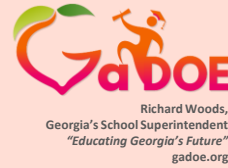


- [Resources for Educators](#)
- [Implementing Student Led Conferences in Your School](#)
- [Student Led Conferences Responsibilities and Protocol](#)
- [Student Led Conference Handbook](#) (sample)
- Think Out of the Box
- Opportunity for students to share their success and areas for improvement
- Student Portfolios
- Goal Setting

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# Sample School Counselor & Social Worker Interventions



- Study Skills Groups
- Time Management Analysis
- Classroom Lessons aimed at improving test taking skills
- Achievement motivation groups
- SAT/ACT preparation courses
- Peer and Volunteer Tutoring/Mentoring Programs
- Homework Support Networks
- Refusal Skills Groups
- Goal-Setting Sessions
- Wraparound Supports for Students and their Families
- The Non-Typical Awards Program

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## Goal Setting Activities

- Weekly Grade Checks
- Create Individual Student Portfolios
  - Data Collection (grades)
  - Personal Goal Setting
  - Dream Making
  - Interest-Based Material
- Paired Peer Goal Setting (with another student where each serves as a coach/cheerleader for the peer)

## Personalized Interest

- Balanced Learning Curriculum
- Teacher/Facilitator Match Factors
- Course Names: Basic Math/Basic Reading classes replaced with relevant and relatable classes that cover the content.

One Size Fit: All

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## Every Kid Needs a Champion

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFnMTHhKdkw>



You know, kids don't learn from people they don't like  
- Rita Pierson

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## November Webinars

### Model Comprehensive School Counseling Plan

- Delivery Component  
November 9 • 1:00 PM

[Register](#)

### High Demand Careers Spotlight

- Information Technology  
November 16 • 1:00 PM

[Register](#)

- Agriculture  
November 30 • 1:00 PM

[Register](#)

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**Understanding Refusal Skills Elementary:**

<http://www.kellybear.com/TeacherArticles/TeacherTip21.html>

**Elementary Learning Styles Inventory:**

1. <http://www.sealyisd.com/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=9144782>
2. [https://www.puc.edu/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/13395/Learning-Styles-Inventory.pdf](https://www.puc.edu/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/13395/Learning-Styles-Inventory.pdf)
3. <http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/index.shtml> (upper elementary, MS, HS appropriate)
4. <http://www.schoolfamily.com/school-family-articles/article/836-learning-styles-quiz>
5. <http://www.lkdsb.net/program/elementary/intermediate/di/files/stu2.pdf>
6. <http://www.kings.k12.ca.us/EdServices/Learning%20Styles%20Assessment/Forms/AllItems.aspx>  
(K-2, 3-6, 7-12) Some may be repeated in previous links
7. [http://www.tritowncouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/Learning-Styles-Inventory\\_Elem2.pdf](http://www.tritowncouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/Learning-Styles-Inventory_Elem2.pdf)