WELCOME!
BEFORE SESSION BEGINS:

- As you come in, grab TWO sticky notes. (one small & one BIG)
- Put your name on the small sticky note.
- Place small sticky note on corresponding box to the right, based on how engaged you feel YOUR classroom is currently.
- Keep the BIG sticky note for later.
Introductions

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Leander High School - Algebra 1
Inclusion Support/ SPED
Experience: 31 years ALL LEVELS!

Brandon Tate
Leander High School - Algebra 1
On-Level/MOD & PreAP/IB Pre-Cal
Experience: 6 years High School & Middle School
Purpose/Layout of Session

Today we hope to illustrate multiple exercises/strategies you can apply in your classrooms/campuses tomorrow to help engage ALL students.

Methods:

- Group activity
- Question & Answer
- Sharing of presentation

Goal → To keep YOU engaged, so your kiddos are engaged :)
Disclaimer

We are not here to CHANGE anyone’s teaching style.

These are strategies that we have seen truly help get students engaged in their learning and involved within the class.

We are going to practice some of these, as if you all are the kiddos. Please know we are not trying to treat you like students, but want you to see how it could work.

Some of the information may remind you of your undergrad years, but we are using it to help illustrate the strategy.

Lastly, we are open for discussion and are not at all saying that these are the ONLY strategies that get students engaged.
Who Do We Have With Us Today?

Elementary Teachers?

Middle School Teachers?

High School Teachers?

Instructional Coaches?

Administrators?

Counselors?
Empowering the Learner

"You could be the most brilliant, informed person on earth, but if your class is in a state of boredom your teaching isn’t making an impact."
How Engaged is Your Classroom?

HELP!!!

- My students aren’t sleeping
- My class is ALL engaged
- I’m not too shabby!
CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT OF ENGAGEMENT:

MAKING THE SHIFT FROM STUDENT ENGAGEMENT TO EMPOWERMENT
Group Activity #1

GOOD THINGS???

Share with those next to you a good thing that has happened to you today, yesterday, or will happen. (Can be about ANYTHING happening in your life)

If you are comfortable, we will share out in just a second
GOOD THINGS! (Credit to Barbra Roberson)

Layout of Activity:

- At the beginning of EVERY class, we simply ask the kiddos, “What good things would you like to share?”
- Hints/Tips
  - Some like to share “bad things” and we do NOT allow this
  - Share YOUR good things with the class! (I.E. Your club’s event success or an excellent weekend at a family wedding)
  - Personally, we allow as many kids to share that want to.

Purpose:

- Kids that see us taking time out of our class to see how they are doing, will be more apt to participate in what we have planned for them that day.
Phrasing

Activity for Session:

- On your sticky note, write down your “go to” follow up question, that you ask your students.

Phrasing that Works for Us:

- “We need (insert # of questions) before we move on to the next part…”
- “Ask a question, even if you understand it. Maybe you can ask a question someone next to you has.”

Purpose

- Twisting the way we ask our “go to question” will ensure that the students MUST respond, helps ensure that there is questioning/insight happening from the kiddos.
Breaks for Students

Our block schedule classes are roughly 90 minutes.

*We do not promise a break,* rather, we judge on the glazed-over looks of our students if they need a quick (less than 5 minutes) rest period.

**Suggestions:**
Phone breaks (since students seem to view their phones as life support)

Brain breaks (Math War, Rock Paper Scissors contest, or a Riddle)
Group Activity #2
Staying Active...
(Math War or Rock-Paper-Scissors)

**Math War!**

- Stand up and face the person next to you.
- Raise your hand if you do NOT have a partner.
- Once I count to three, you will hold up both hands, with a random number of fingers up on both hands. (You pick each time)
- Your partner will have to add the digits up and shout that number.
- Whoever shouts the correct answer first wins.
Consistency, Accountability, & Transparency

CONSISTENCY IS KEY!!

Accountability

● Class Points (HW turned in percentage, Quiz/Test averages, attendance)
  ○ Actual reward for winning class (I.E. Donuts or candy)

Transparency

● If you are having a rough day, let them know
● If the class messed up, TELL them directly
● Students act out as much as WE allow them to...
Group Accountability

Class Points

- Hw % turned in
- Quiz & Test Avg
- ! = Class on Warning

Alg I

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Group Accountability/ Graphs
For the student who does NOT follow class rules...

Some students want to get a reaction out of the adult

Hold strong. Do NOT give in. It is not an ego contest.

If a student breaks a rule or constantly does not follow instruction, ask them to see you in the hall

A hallway conversation takes away their peer audience and allows you to actually discuss why they are choosing to not follow the instruction
Classroom Activities To Apply Tomorrow!! :D

(Feel free to take a picture of this list)

- Popsicles Sticks/ Fairness Cup
- Goal Setting Check-IN (Comp Book pick on next slide)
- “Your Face Has a Question”
- Chunking Your Classroom (this half of the room, answer this for me)
- Row Call (Front row, answer #1. Back row tell us about problem #5)
- Hand Signs (thumbs up/down, numbers 1-5 etc.)
- Immediate Repeat of a word/phrase
- Choral till they all choral
- Sticky Note Progress Chart
Goal Setting - 4 sticky notes with the following questions answered:

- Goal for class
- Strength as a student
- Weakness as a student
- One thing that TEACHER can do to help you
Student Engagement Questions

#AskAStudent

- What do you like to do when you are not in school?
- What is important to you?
- What is your biggest challenge?
- What do you wish your teacher knew about you?
- What do you like about your favorite class?
- What do you dislike about your worst class?
- What do you do well?
- What is going on in your life?

Remember it’s about relationships...
Get the tissues ready everyone...

Emotions are up and down for our kiddos.

Because that, we try to ensure that we start each class on a positive note!
“Let’s take one question before we move on to lunch ;)”

- Before we finish, help us recap today
- On your index card do the following please:
  - On one side, list an activity you could see yourself using TOMORROW in your classroom
  - On the other side, give a quick statement to something you are nervous about implementing. Or, something you feel we could do in our class to help keep our kiddos involved.
Folder Resources

Folder of different resources referencing engagement and research on classroom strategies for engagement

Located in the CIC Website, under our session (Non-Opt Out Classes), under the Handouts folder

Feel free to look through there now as we do our last activity :)
If you have any questions, or comments feel free to contact us.

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