MAKING MANAGEABLE GROUPS

RANDI LINES
HARDING MIDDLE SCHOOL : DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOL
IN THIS SESSION....

- Why use group work?
- Different ways to make groups
- What your classroom looks like
- Group sizes
- How to start groupwork in your classroom?
WHY GROUP WORK?

- Students Learn from each other
- Real life situations
- More enjoyable for students
DIFFERENT WAYS TO MAKE GROUPS

- Students pick their own groups
- Behavior
- Using Data
STUDENTS PICK THEIR OWN GROUPS

- Student engagement
- Student ownership: “well, why did you pick that person as your partner?”
BEHAVIOR

- Most Common way to make groups
- Easy and Manageable
- Classroom Management
- Is EVERY student effectively learning?
- How can we get ALL students do the heavy learning?
- Strategies
USING DATA: HIGH AND LOW TOGETHER

- Put students who understand the topic with those who are struggling or haven’t gotten there yet.
- “If you can teach the content, you have really mastered it.”
- Natural peer tutors
- Breaks up all of the low students
- Gives teacher less responsibility
- Planning for it
USING DATA: SIMILAR LEVELS OF UNDERSTANDING

- Students with the same level of understanding and knowledge (similar scores)
- Give teacher more time to work with those who need it
- Differentiation can happen
- Planning ahead is needed
SETTING UP YOUR ROOM

- Why is this important?
SETTING UP YOUR ROOM
SETTING UP YOUR CLASSROOM
SETTING UP CLASSROOM
GROUP SIZES

- Small groups?
- Large groups?
- Individuals?
- Depends on the task
HOW DO YOU SET UP GROUP WORK IN YOUR CLASSROOM?

- Start. Day. 1!
- Explicitly Teach Expectations
- Know your students (or day one, GET to know your students)
- Build trust and community
EXPECTATIONS TAUGHT

- Students are still kids and need reminders!
- Every group and activity has different expectations
- Always base their behavior OFF of the expectations.
ROLES / JOBS FOR STUDENTS

- Give students specific jobs in each group
- Make sure the job has a responsibility
- Make sure each job can be help responsible
WHAT DID I USE IN MY SMALL GROUPS?

- GoFormative.com : data and assessments
- TesTeach Tes.com
- Google Classroom