The 16 Habits of Mind

Behaviors of Successful Learners

_Habits of Mind are the characteristics of what intelligent people do when they are confronted with problems, the resolutions of which are not immediately apparent._

(Costa)
Persisting

• Stick to it.
• Complete tasks.
• Remain focused.
Managing Impulsivity

- Take your Time.
- Think before you act.
- Remain calm, thoughtful, and deliberate.
Listening and Understanding with Empathy

- Concentrate on what others are saying.
- Try to get a better idea of what they mean as well as how they are feeling.
- Imagine being in their shoes.
Thinking Flexibly

• Look at a situation another way.
• Change your perspective.
• Consider different options.
Striving for Accuracy

• Check your work again.
• Build a desire for exactness.
• Craft your work as you would a piece of art or music.
Thinking about Thinking

• Know which strategies work for you and which don’t.
• Know what you need to do to improve.
Questioning and Posing Problems

- Ask: where, why, when, who, what?
- Ask: how do I know this is true?
- Develop a questioning attitude
- Find problems to solve.
Applying Past Knowledge

- Use what you learn.
- Transfer what you learn from one situation to another.
Gathering Data through all senses

Gather information from all sensory paths:

- Taste
- Touch
- Smell
- Hearing
- Sight
Imagining and Innovating...

- Generate new and novel ideas.
- Seek original ways of doing and thinking.
Responding with Wonderment & Awe

• Find what is awesome and mysterious in the world.
• Fully appreciate the world around you and the advantages you have.
Taking Responsible Risks

• Push yourself beyond your comfort zone, but do so responsibly.

• Take risks, but also take care.
Finding Humor

• Laugh at yourself whenever you can.
• Go through life with a smile on your face.
• Enjoy humor, but know when it causes discomfort in others.
Thinking Interdependently

• Work together.
• Truly work with and learn from others in different situations.
Communicating with Clarity and Precision

Communicating accurately in both written and spoken form.

Avoiding:
• Over-generalizations
• Exaggerations
• Minimizing.
Remain Open to Continuous Learning

- Try new experiences.
- Be humble enough to admit you don’t know.
- Resist accepting “it’s good enough” all the time.
- Enjoy learning new things.
Homeroom Lesson: Monday November 9 & 16, 2015

Habits of Mind & "Wanted" Posters

Objectives:

Day 1- To introduce students to the 16 "Habits of Mind" and familiarize them with each of the habits. Demonstrate how to create a HOM “Wanted” Poster

Day 2 – Students create HOM “Wanted” posters cooperatively in small groups to be displayed around the school.

Day 1 Lesson:

"Habits of Mind are the characteristics of what intelligent people do when they are confronted with problems, the resolutions of which are not immediately apparent." (Costa)

Show the “16 Habits of Mind” PowerPoint slides (emailed to you to save on your computer ☺)

"Understanding what Habits of Mind are, and what each of them encompasses, is something that develops and deepens as we work with them. We are going to explore HOM further through a poster activity.”

Put one copy of the HOM Wanted Poster on the white board and using the instructions below, have class participate in completing a sample HOM Wanted poster together, teacher chooses which HOM to use and fills in sample poster with input from class:

1. Under "Wanted" write the name of their HOM, for example, "Wanted: Managing Impulsivity"

2. Under "Last seen with" they will write the names of people that they believe embody this HOM. These can be people in history (dead or alive) someone famous, a friend or peer, family member, or even the title of a job, i.e. "fire fighter" that requires this HOM.

3. Under Distinguishing characteristics they will write what they would see or hear that would tell them know this HOM is in action, i.e. for persisting, looks like: "does not give up, even when discouraged" and sounds like “I think I’ll give it another try…”

4. Finally, at the bottom of the page have students come up with a metaphor that describes this HOM. Prompt students to complete the sentence “____________ is like…” i.e. “Persistence is like the Energizer Bunn steadily beating his drum”

Pass out the Habits of Mind handout (single page reference to the HOM) and ask students to write their name at the top then put a STAR next to the 3 Habits they believe they are strongest in and CIRCLE the 3 Habits they would most like to strengthen. These will be handed in at the end of the period for use again next week, then be stored in the student’s SLC binder.
Day 2 Lesson:

Redistribute the single page HOM reference sheets that students starred & circled last week.

Divide your homeroom into 8 groups (about 3 students each depending on size of homeroom). Pass out TWO copies of the HOM “Wanted Poster” template and a few marking pens to each group.

Display the sample HOM “Wanted” poster you created with class input last week.

Review the instructions for completing the posters (opposite side of page.)

Assign each of the 8 groups 2 different HOM to make a poster for so that when all groups have completed their posters you have one representing each of the 16 Habits.

You may choose to keep some or all to display in your classroom. Any that you do not want to display, put in Carolyn’s box and she will post in the hallways and common areas.

Collect again the HOM reference sheets to be filed in student SLC binders.
WANTED

Last Seen with:

Distinguishing Characteristics:

Is like...