



# Teach Like a Champion

Pottsville School District  
Curriculum Newsletter

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## PERFECTING THE CRAFT...

Setting high academic expectations has proven to improve student achievement. So, what is one way champion teachers demonstrate high expectations in their classrooms?

- **No Opt Out Techniques-** Everyone learns in a classroom with high expectations that it is not okay not to try. At its core is the belief that a sequence beginning with a student unable (or unwilling) to answer a question should end with that student giving the right answer as often as possible, even if it is only to repeat the correct answer.
- **Simple Example:** If you ask a student to locate the subject in a sentence and a student says "I dunno" You ask the class or another student "what is a subject." Once the question is clarified you ask the first student the same question again.. So without your stopping for a time-consuming and possible ineffective lecture, the student has learned he can't opt or not participate. He found out that he has to do the work in your class anyway.

This could also be applied to homework.....The whole premise of homework is to help students practice and learn the material. So, hold them accountable. Send them the message that it is not ok, not to do your work. Example: If you do a fun learning activity on Friday and they have an assignment that is not complete...they should complete the assignment before they earn the privilege of the fun activity.



## PARCC/Common Core News

PARCC has released Evidence tables for 3-12. (K-2 are currently being created) There are two tables a PBA and an EOY that show the standard, clarification of what a student needs to do, and some sample task. The PBA will be the first testing window and the EOY is the second.. This would be a great tool to help with pacing.

<http://parconline.org/assessment-blueprints-test-specs>

### Motivation

*Every child deserves a champion – an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be. -Rita Pierson*

Check this out to be inspired...[www.ted.com/talks/rita\\_pierson\\_every\\_kid\\_needs\\_a\\_champion?utm\\_source=email&source=email&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=ios-share](http://www.ted.com/talks/rita_pierson_every_kid_needs_a_champion?utm_source=email&source=email&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ios-share)

### Best RESOURCE of the Month!

<http://www.arstudentsuccess.org/>

Has math, literacy and reading matrix with research based intervention strategies . Click GO on the content area you want and create an account. They will send an email confirming your registration, that will probably go to your spam folder so look for it there.