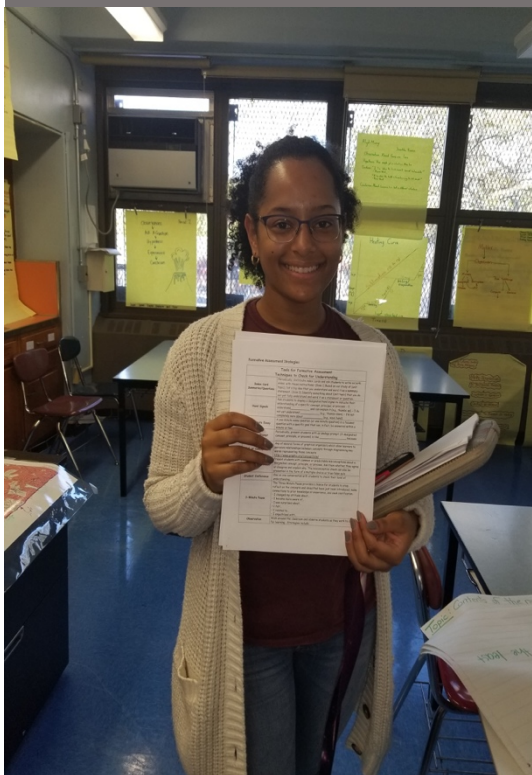


Best Practices Spotlight: Ms. Lopez



In last week's science department meeting, Ms. Lopez shared some fantastic best practices for formative assessments (Danielson Rubric 3D). These practices include four corners, bump in the road, idea spinners, and classroom tweets. For more info on these and other cool assessment techniques, be sure to check in with Ms. Lopez!

Educator Spotlights:

Shout out to Mr. Bunch for designing the Eagle network PD t-shirts!



Congratulations to the Educators of the Month:

September-

HS- Ms. Harris

MS- Ms. McCollin

October-

HS- Ms. Rosario

MS- Ms. Monteith

Hot Topics in Education

Excerpt from *Teachers Being Clear About Task, Purpose, and Criteria for Success*

In this article, Dan Berrett says that some college students [and K-12 students] run into trouble because academic expectations are not clear. It's as if there are unwritten rules that these students aren't privy to.

Transparency with assignments is one key to these students gaining confidence, thriving academically, and feeling they belong. Researchers have zeroed in on three components that the most-effective instructors orchestrate and communicate to students:

- **The task** – What exactly are students being asked to do?
- **The purpose** – Why should they do it? What important learning will flow from it?
- **The criteria** – How will students' work be evaluated?

"As minor and perhaps self-evident as the underlying questions may seem," says Berrett, "it's surprising how often they go unexamined... Spelling them out for students does not mean wholesale changes, like flipping courses. It requires no fancy technology." Clarity of task, purpose, and criteria help students meet higher expectations of rigor and ensure equity of educational quality.

Attending to these factors also pushes instructors to think through their material at a deeper level and give assignments that benefit all students.

Why don't some instructors use these simple steps? Because they "often take for granted the logic and the rhythm of their courses," says Berrett. "Some have forgotten how much they know and care about the material relative to their students... An assignment can become an old standard, reliable but creaky." When an instructor is on autopilot, what the assignment is all about, and what it takes to be successful, may seem obvious – but to some students, it's anything but. Some instructors also believe that being this explicit about assignments is hand-holding; students should be able to figure out assignments by themselves. And some instructors think that showing students they care about them at a personal level is more important than being explicit about task, purpose, and criteria. This "navigational capital" needs to be developed, and explicitness, along with good teaching and caring, is how it's done. When instructors explain material clearly, use good examples to explore difficult points, are well prepared, and have a solid command of their subject, students notice and appreciate it – and are more successful academically.

"The Unwritten Rules of College" by Dan Berrett in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 25, 2015 (Vol. LXII, #4, p. A26-A29).

OVER→

Upcoming Events

11/6-11/10-No Ujima; Leaders are needed outside @10:40 for Turkey Bowl

11/06- Seniors/ Staff Picture Day

11/07- Eagle Staff PD @8:30 AM- No Class

11/08- Regents Prep begins

11/08- Hunter College Trip

11/08- Big Brothers Program

11/09- 7th Grade Spelling Bee @ 2PM in auditorium

11/09- Progress Reports Distributed

11/13- College Now Field Trip

11/13-11/25- Eagle Book Fair in B22

If you are interested in joining Eagle Academy Teachers Ensemble, contact Mr. D. Bell
deb350@nvu.edu

Scholar Spotlights

There were two scholars who won the 6th grade spelling bee:

*Jeremiah Fortune, McNair

*Jaheim Glasgow, Thurgood

They will be competing in the District Spelling Bee (Time, Place, Date TBD).

Our first annual Awards Assembly was held Thu 11/05.

Scholars received awards for perfect attendance, silver and gold clubs.

Malachi Wade, Ajani Patterson, Erickson Louis, and Elijah Dumont were selected by Mr. Bunch to help him teach art to Pre-K students at CS 21 on Wednesdays.

Congratulations to the Varsity football team and the Eagle coaching staff on their win this weekend. The 7-2 Eagles will begin playoff action this Sunday!



PERFECT ATTENDANCE ALL-STARS!!!

SEPTEMBER

Mr. Bell
Mr. Benoit
Ms. Benn
Mr. Bonini
Mr. Bocian
Mr. Corbin
Ms. Molly
Mr. Duncan
Mr. Fleteau
Ms. Dixon
Mr. Francis
Ms. Harris

Ms. Innis
Mr. Jones
Ms. Jones
Mr. Niles
Ms. Lyde
Ms. Lesane
Mr. Baldwin
Mr. Lewis
Ms. Lopez
Ms. Maddox
Ms. Kleberg
Ms. McCoy

Mr. Ofori
Mr. Pursoo
Ms. Sam
Ms. Soares
Ms. Maddy
Ms. Woods
Ms. Thomas
Ms. Williams
Mr. Bereton
Ms. Elmakhloufi
Ms. Spender
Ms. Thompson

Ms. Tutt
Mr. Elkarany
Ms. Collymore
Mr. Hamilton
Mr. Meade



OCTOBER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT!