

AJ Hepworth Mission Statement 2011

As an instructional leader, my job is to *“help teachers to do their work.”* This may include professional development, data analysis assistance, problem based learning instruction, guidance on differentiation of instruction, or simply mental, physical and emotional support. By helping the teacher, I am helping the learner, our student. I have always supported children in their learning through hands-on investigative learning and recognize the need for opportunities that support the individual; understanding that fair is not always equal, fair is getting what you need.

Understanding all students can learn and grow intellectually based on their ability, model of instruction, and instructors support, creates a strong educational environment. I encourage teachers to create a strong educational environment similar to Howard Gardner’s philosophy of recognizing learners intelligence ability is predicated on various models of personal strength and cultural setting. Accepting this model is essential to their successful learning and best supports one’s ability to actively be engaged in their own knowledge acquisition.

Additionally, the learning pyramid shows the retention rate of an individual increasing as they become less passive and more participatory in their teaching method. Although the percentages and application of learning depend greatly on the context and environment of learning; learners should be given the opportunity to be engaged with their peers often. I regard highly teachers whom support collaborative work and prompt class discussions with “we, us, and our,” and not “I.”

Lastly, all learners should have the opportunity to delve into their subject matter; similar to when we were young children exploring our world. A well-known poster titled, “All I Ever Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten” states the obvious, as kids...we are natural scientists ready to explore and learn. As we progress through school, we need to expand on the content and curricular difficulty, but still make use of those same exploratory models referenced on this poster.

As a teacher, facilitator, administrator and educator I hope for a constraint strive for excellence from all learners and teachers.