

Our Path to First Choice No. 20  
2019/20

Everyone,

Here's Our Path note. Thank you for all you do for our students!

Our Path Note Topic

We all know things in life tend to be dynamic, and not static. Things change. A mechanic from the 1950's expected to work on new 2020 car will struggle due to the amount of change (computers, parts, etc.). In schools, our society has changed, and so has its kids. Nevertheless, education has changed some things, but have remained relatively similar to the 1950's than a car.

Last Friday, we sat through various workshops. We had some required ones, and some choice. Most of all, we were exposed to some different ways of thinking about how we educate, instruct and facilitate for learning. We learned about the Weight Bearing Walls as grades, grade levels, schedules, classroom/building, so on and so on. Tearing down some of those walls may help some students achieve First Choice. However, some students may learn well with those types of walls.

Dr. Butler and his wife Kim talked about the Growth Mindset. Kim has a master degree in Growth Mindset from Montana State University. They shared a great deal of brain science, and not just helping focus on growth versus a fixed mindset.

Station rotation, Trauma Informed Strategies, Co-teaching, Google Basics, Mindfulness, Personalizing at Home Reading, Numberless Word Problems, Tech tools, Schoology, Study Island, Anchor Charts, Go Guardian, Poetry Mentor Text to Teach Metaphors, and Digital Media were the other opportunities for helping our instruction and working with our learners.

It was only one day of exposure to some new things and strategies, but an opportunity to learn new things to try in our classes. We will try to keep these things in front of you, so to learn and master. As we continue to learn and practice these new approaches, we start to fill in more of the *First Choice* Pyramid.

Board Information and Policy Updates

- Next School Board Meetings.
  - January 28 Board Meeting at 7pm
  - February 11 Board Meeting at 7pm
  - February 12 Policy Committee at 1pm

You may check out District policies by going to this site: <https://www.boarddocs.com/pa/wayn/Board.nsf/Public>

**WellSpan Gardening Workshop**

Check below for the flyer site.

**The New WellSpan Clinic**

Located at the high school in the new Early Learning Center, the WellSpan Walk-In Clinic.

**Hours:**

- **Monday and Friday- 7am to 11am.**
- **Thursday- 3pm to 6pm**

**A Challenge for You**

What are the three pillars of our *First Choice* Pyramid?

**Piece of the Puzzle**

This week the Piece of the Puzzle is Steve Payne. Steve is a substitute teacher who has graciously stepped into a fifth grade position at Mowrey in early November, and has been doing a fantastic job ever since. He has been working hard on building positive relationship with the students, and it shows. He is fitting right in as a proud Mowrey Mustang. He is working tirelessly throughout the day, at night and on weekends creating high-interest, creative, meaningful lessons for Mowrey's fifth grader learners. Steve has recently mentioned that he has never been so excited for the weekends! Thank you, Steve, for jumping right in and embracing this adventure. Mowrey is lucky to have you! If you so Steve this week, congratulate him for being the Piece of the Puzzle.

**Challenge Answer (Important to Know)**

*First Choice* has three pillars to support it. First, the **Career** path. It is the reason kids are in school. Everything is relevant to the learner's ultimate goal after graduation. Second is the **Whole Child** pillar. The Whole Child is the human part, It is the behavioral, social, psychological, mental health, soft/essential skills, and working well with others. Finally, the third pillar is the **Academic** pillar. This pillar is essential to the career. The Academic pillar supports and builds the skills for the career path. Whatever a student wants to do in life will be supported by courses in that area of choice. When focusing on the career; it presents a greater reasoning to the "Why" of everything we do in school today.

**Final Thoughts**

- *The education process is moving beyond the traditional classroom/lecture setting. More and more teachers are seeking tools and techniques to engage their classes and enrich their lessons. Video calling is one of these tools, as it removes barriers to communication and lets students move beyond the boundaries of their classrooms.—Tony Bates*
- *The greatest danger of traditional education is that learning may remain purely verbal.—Mirra Komarovsky.*
- Two more thoughts attached.

Enjoy the rest of your week!

Tod

Healthy Franklin County will be offering a **FREE Community Garden Workshop** at Wilson College on Saturday, February 1 from 9am-12pm.

This workshop will focus on Permaculture through a panel discussion on land restoration and different break out session topics. The event will also feature Lincoln Smith, Founder of Forested, Creative Ecology.

See the flyer below for more information and register

here: <https://www.wellspan.org/.../de.../Community-Garden-Workshop/766>

# A Tale of Two classrooms

## Classroom A

Teacher knows everything.  
Mistakes = ☹️  
Teacher Questions.  
Kids listen.  
Goal is good grades.  
Memorize Facts.  
Finish Pages.  
One Size Fits All.  
Rules enforced.

*good for robots*

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## Classroom B

Teacher as learner.  
Mistakes = Learning  
Kids Question.  
Kids think.  
Goal is learning.  
Solve Problems.  
Create.  
One Size Fits EACH.  
Rules unnecessary.

*great for kids*

Montessori	Preschool
Flexible curriculum	Rigid curriculum
Allows the child to learn at his/her own pace	Progresses at teacher's pace
Child is free to discover on his/her own	Constant guidance by the teacher
Scientific method of teaching	Non scientific
Reality orientated	Much role-play and fantasy
Specific places for materials - sense of order	Random placement - not necessary to return to specific place
Child chooses activities according to inner needs	Teacher decides what the child has to learn
Child-centered learning environment	Teacher-centered environment
Self-education through self-correcting materials	Use of reward and punishment in motivation
Recognition of sensitive periods in each child	All children are treated alike
Multi-sensory materials to develop specific skills	Play materials for non-specific skills
Liberty to speak (without disturbing others) as he/she pleases	Silence is on many occasions enforced
Focus on developing the child's wholesome personality	Focus on imparting maximum quantum of knowledge