

EAGLES S.O.A.R.

(Scholastic Opportunity for Academic Rigor)

Dr. Treesey Weaver, Dean of Academics

Vol. 1 October 2019

“Rigor,” in the academic sense, is referring to that fine line between challenging and frustrating a student. It means that students are challenged to think, perform, and grow to a level that they were not at previously. Catapano, 2019

S.O.A.R. Tip:

Necessitate a Transfer of Understanding

According to the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, transfer requires a student to apply knowledge in new and unfamiliar situations, an inherently rigorous process. If teachers can encourage self-initiated transfer (unprompted or coached), all the better.

Worthy Read: Reflections From the Standards Institute: Relentless Rigor & Racial Equity by Freda Smith

<https://blog.unbounded.org/reflections-from-the-standards-institute-relentless-rigor-racial-equity-by-freda-smith/>

Too Busy to Read? Watch, Listen and Learn-

I achieve rigor in my classroom via culturally relevant pedagogy. Listen to Tom Malarkey, Senior Associate at the National Equity Project interview Zaretta Hammond, author of Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzwobAYsDL4>

What Does the Combination of Rigor and Culturally Relevant Pedagogy Look Like in the Classroom? Check out These Best Practices.

Kicking It Up a Notch: Becoming a Culturally Relevant Science Educator

<https://thenode.biologists.com/kicking-notch-becoming-culturally-relevant-science-educator/education/>

What IPEGs Performance Standard Do These Pedagogical Practices Meet? PERFORMANCE STANDARD 2: KNOWLEDGE OF LEARNERS:

The teacher identifies and addresses the needs of learners by demonstrating *respect for individual differences, cultures, backgrounds, and learning styles.*

How can Turner Tech.'s Teachers Collaboratively Help our Students Meet Rigorous Standards Across the Curriculum?

FSA data reports that **Integration of Knowledge & Ideas** is our students' weakest ELA cluster. Not surprisingly, it is also the most cognitively demanding ELA cluster. The cluster is comprised of 5 standards. Incorporating the teaching of these standards into our lessons will allow our students to become familiarized with their key components. This month's focus standard is:

LAFS.910.RI.3.7: Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different media (e.g., a person's life story in both print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account.

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Preparing Turner Tech.'s Students for the Next Level

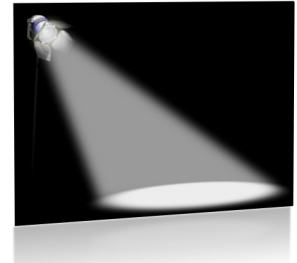
Key # 1 - Cognitive Strategies: *How do students think?*

To prepare for college-level coursework, students need to do more than memorize facts and follow directions. College and workplace success requires thinking skills and strategies that enable students to develop and demonstrate their ability to learn, apply, and use knowledge and information to solve problems. Conley says there are five strategies that are essential to the insightful thinking required to succeed in post-secondary education:

- **Problem formulation – *What problem are students trying to solve?*** Do students have a clear understanding of the problem and how it should be approached?
- **Research – *Where can students find the information they need?*** Can students identify the information, data, and research necessary to solve the problem?
- **Interpretation – *How do students make sense of the information?*** Are students able to identify and assess the *most relevant* information or data? Synthesize the information, make connections, and draw logical conclusions?
- **Communication – *What's the best way to communicate what you've learned?*** Can students draft a clear, organized, and effective message summarizing the problem and potential solutions?
- **Precision and accuracy – *How do students know they're on the right track?*** Throughout the entire process, do students ensure the problem is addressed accurately and thoroughly? Are students using language, terms, expressions, rules, and terminology appropriate for the subject matter and the problem?

Source: Careervision.org

Academies in the Spotlight



**This Month's Featured Academy -
Academy of Civil Engineering &
Architectural Design
Rigoberto Mercado/Academy
Leader**

Trends in the Field:

Small Space Living— Dwell.com reports that small spaces continue to be a growing trend in 2019—including [tiny cabins](#), [petite pre-fabs](#), and [breathtaking airstream transformations](#). Minimalism and tiny living can be great solutions for anyone trying to live a more eco-friendly lifestyle, or for those that simply don't have an abundance of space to work with. Small space living proves that no matter how much space you have (or don't have), there's always room for good design.

