

FUN & EXCITEMENT: TAKING ACTION

Share with colleagues and then commit to make at least three changes in your practice.



What Does it Look Like When Teachers Foster Fun & Excitement?

- Humor is a constant companion in the classroom setting.
- Students are engaged in their learning throughout the school day.
- Students enjoy their work and play.
- Teachers change the structure of lessons and their style of delivery to meet the needs of their students.
- Teachers understand how to motivate uninspired students.
- There are more smiles than frowns in the school.
- Boredom is the exception rather than the norm.
- Teachers clearly display their passion for the subjects they teach and their enjoyment of working with students.

Best Classroom Practices Related to Fun & Excitement

- Give students a choice; provide options within lessons.
- Make lessons relevant to students' lives.
- Vary lesson delivery.
- Allow students to work in groups.
- Create hands-on learning experiences.
- Give students a voice in curriculum design.
- Involve students in schoolwide decisions; include students on committees.
- Allow students to pursue their passions.
- Utilize community resources to enrich lessons.
- Incorporate current events into lessons.
- Accept and encourage laughter throughout the school building.

Administrator's Role in Promoting Fun & Excitement for Students

- Interact with students in the hallways.
- Interact positively with students in the corridors and cafeteria.
- Show excitement about new school projects and initiatives.
- Support and participate in spirit days.
- Allow and encourage students to display their work and achievements.
- Develop dynamic and engaging professional development opportunities.
- Participate in classroom activities.
- Utilize the expertise and passions of the staff in school improvement efforts.
- Be a positive and upbeat force in the building.
- Celebrate the learning process, not just grades and achievement data.
- Share your passions and hobbies with students.
- Ensure that the appearance of the building and classrooms support an exciting learning environment.

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Developing Strategies and Tactics

To enhance Fun & Excitement in your classroom, respond to the following prompts, then act.

1. To find out what students consider fun, I will . . .
2. To make learning exciting and meaningful, I will . . .
3. To incorporate choices and relevance into my classes, I will . . .
4. To motivate students who seem bored, I will . . .
5. To share my passions with my students, I will . . .
6. To promote a spirit of fun in my grade level/department, I will . . .
7. To create a sense of excitement for learning school wide, I will . . .
8. To generate interest and excitement in the community around an upcoming student project, I will . . .

