

January 14, 2017

## Twitter Chat Responses to Questions

***Q1: Doing the right thing isn't always popular. How do you hold true to your values, beliefs and principals even in situations where criticism is likely?***

- When we view criticism with curiosity we don't get offended, we try to understand.
- Lead with integrity by listening, believing and being honest with yourself and your students. **"Lead them with your ears, follow them with your heart, meet them with the truth."** Michael Luetjen.
- You are going to be criticized regardless, so make the decision you believe is right.
- I try to always live by the saying, "Don't do what's easy. Do what's right."
- Creating a school that our students are running into....not out. Culture first, culture next, culture always, all day, everyday.
- Never give up on any student. Little miracles happen every day" -David Guerin

***Q2: School systems are made up of real people with real emotions. What are the emotions and behaviors that can bring a system down? What strategies can we use to keep that from happening?***

- The non-willingness by ALL to confront culture killing behaviors respectfully. It can't just be the leader.
- Creating opportunities for students must be more important than creating comfort for adults.
- Try these five strategies for dealing with Negative Energy based on this post:  
<http://fourclockfaculty.com/2016/04/negative-energy/>
- Constant negativity from just one teacher can bring down a good system. Promoting positives helps, but negativity can be cancerous.
- **"Comparison is the thief of joy."** T Roosevelt. We must STOP comparing ourselves to others and work on being R.E.A.L.

***Q3: Politics in education can be tough. How do we maintain our professional efficacy and prevail in these sometimes murky waters?***

- Leverage talent. Every single person in the organization has a strength. Focus on trust to bring out the best version of all.

***Q4: Describe a time when you took on too much (Superhero Syndrome) and how it turned out.***

- Often my best work originates when I'm up to my ears with day job, and more.
- When I do it all, I'm hoarding the opportunity for others to shine and use their talents...and I keel over. We must build others' capacity.
- At times when my plate was too full and I had to let go, others have stepped up. I realized I need to let go so others can do.
- This is my every day, but I put a lot of it on myself and I'm learning to be more zen.
- I actually made myself drop a class last year, which killed me to do, but I needed to breathe.

***Q5: How have like-minded professionals helped you become a better leader/educator?***

- My Twitter PLN helped me see the opportunities before me and the greatness I could become!
- Simple things.... Book & article recommendations, lesson ideas, conference backchannel... growth.
- Discovering my PLN helped me to realize I'm not an EDUalien who landed on EDU0Earth. They encourage me, stretch me, inspire me!

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- Other professional's honesty and feedback has helped gain confidence or re-think/refine decisions.
- Serving in critical friend role. Not giving me the answers, but asking the right questions to help me find the answers.
- Wow! Twitter does not allow enough characters for this! They are my balance.
- Expanding our support system beyond our school is important. Twitter PLNs are GR8T for that!
- Like-minded individuals give you courage to discuss (and often clarify) your beliefs- and explore and explain your passion.
- Growth Mindset [http://pictarum.com/media/1295665076246015808\\_6945221](http://pictarum.com/media/1295665076246015808_6945221)
- Like minded educators provide confirmation that all is good, they provide modeling as well. I have learned from not so like minded too.
- By challenging me, pushing e forward, & supporting me. Sometimes I just need someone to listen while I work through ideas.
- When my PLN expanded beyond my school I saw education in a whole new light. I love my colleagues but more to learn from others in #satchatwc.
- I rely heavily on the inspiration and ideas of my PLN!!! Thank you all!
- They push me to be a risk taker, while also being available to help in the journey when questions arise.
- My closest friend & colleagues have helped me in my deepest valleys.
- Critical friends & supportive peers strengthen our work.  
<https://reflectionsonleadershipandlearning.wordpress.com/2013/10/31/critical-friends-supportive-peers/>
- They ask the right questions that allow me to positively reflect & challenge me all while listening carefully.
- I always try to support others and others support me=relationships... I also can't do without my PLN now.
- It has been vital to look to unlike-minded professionals to grow, stretch and evolve as a leader.... Too often we look to the like-minded.
- I get advice from well-intentioned colleagues. I ignore the negative and do the positive. Try everything.
- They challenge my thinking daily and encourage me to look from other perspectives in order to see & understand the whole system.
- This is so important. We often live in an echo chamber where we hear the same things every day. It's important to get outside!
- Being HERE has helped me be brave, to endure the eye-rolls, gain wisdom, use tools better and know that I am not alone.
- It's the unlike minded educators that push me to be a better leader. Although it can be uncomfortable at times.
- My peers have helped me by giving me room to take risks and having my back when it looks like I am going to fall.
- Like-minded/growth mindset oriented professionals help me by posing the right questions that make me reflect on my practices.
- Nobody is like-minded. I am older than most of my peers. We learn from each other daily. Patience, norms, gifts not in a book.
- Served as models that I am inspired by, pushed and encouraged by.
- Help me keep moving forward, learn new things, challenge my thinking, be there when I need them, help me figure things out. I love them.
- The perspective of others is invaluable to growth! **"The most valuable resource that all teachers have is each other. Without collaboration our growth is limited to our own perspectives." -Robert John Meehan**
- Sometimes a simple dinner with an awesome friend can help you to recalculate.
- Without my PLN I wouldn't have had courage to do most things I've tried as an educator. They push me to be better.
- Like-minded people don't always agree with you.

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- I cannot imagine my life before Twitter and all of you. You are my EDUheros and you get me through difficult times in my day job.
- I've been inspired to reach for more, do more, expect more by my peers, its why I became NBPTS certified, they raise the bar.
- By reminding me that no one makes progress by sitting still. Trying stuff, sharing what didn't/did work with others. Have fun.
- I am the sum of those I surround myself with. That is why I am here to learn and grow.
- It would help if everyone would just be nice all the time. Kindness matters.
- My PLN always challenges me to think outside the box. I also have some amazing female leaders that help me slow down & reflect.
- I support new leaders in our system. Today's chat has reminded me to have discussions w/them about building others' capacity.
- Having teachers that are excited to explore new ideas and adapt is huge because then true change can happen. Students take notice too.
- Learning is a social enterprise. So is professional progress—must have core network to combat isolation. Better as a team.
- They let me know I'm not alone they provide community, which brings support, they're my team or tribe.
- SO happy to have all the elementary principals in my district with very similar philosophies. I feel we are finally working together.
- PLN is a mosaic of learning, a cornucopia of brilliance where the blank slate becomes full, doubt pushes us & the blurry is focused.
- Encourage & support teachers to present at conferences, write article for educational publication, or lead PD! Continue growth.
- I am the sum of those I surround myself with. That is why I am here on #satchatwc to learn and grow!
- My PLN helps me think outside the box. They make sure I keep growing.
- My PLN continually stretches my thinking and gives me courage and confidence!
- I find inspiration and new energy by listening to others. Twitter, conferences, from Ts I coach, and leaders in my district.
- I sort of despise the thick skin narrative. I mean who should grow accustomed to meanness? My heart is a marshmallow.

## ***Take-Away: What "new idea" do you want to explore this week?***

- Rigorous relevant graduates prep grads for new collar jobs: <https://www.wired.com/2017/01/time-reclaim-america-leadership-sciences/>
- The standard of the growth mindset teacher a professional who adheres to the "duty of care" model, putting student needs first! **"A coach is someone who tells you what you don't want to hear, who has you see what you don't want to see, so you can be who you have always known you could be."** Tom Landry
- Education is more than one person one thought, it takes a village to raise a child and principal.
- Reflective questions have the power to push our thinking.
- Carpool Karaoke!
- Even when we disagree it makes us think more deeply about our beliefs!
- White noise, what it is and how to implement it.
- Add a "whitespace" station.
- Ignore the negative.
- I think I want to explore making some what space where I can reflect and maybe write.

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- **“Most organizations tend to push creativity and innovation to the outer edges... Creative and innovative leaders are able to fold those edges back toward the core.” DCulberhouse**
- Shelley Burgess Blog: <https://shelleyburgess.com/2017/01/12/start-by-picking-up-the-phone/>
- I’m working with many different mindsets on a literacy plan for my district. I must listen deeply and help this time come together.
- Finding calm and balance in every aspect of my life. Teaching my students to be calm which leads to focus and clarity.
- I will use my de-stressor box to build mindfulness. I’m working on a monthly EdTech newsletter for my district with video tips, info., and contacts for our tech leaders.
- Need to focus on mindfulness. Balance and belief.
- Sometimes old becomes new again, I have been off from blogging and Twitter for a while, time to get back on!
- Mindfulness is power: <https://reflectionsonleadershipandlearning.wordpress.com/2015/12/12/a-year-of-mindfulness/>