

Elementary

AUDUBON SCHOOL
Reflection Guide and Summary

"Closing the Achievement Gap"

Presented by: Dr. Adolph Brown III

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"To What Work Does Dr. Brown Call Our School?"

Considering the information shared . . .

1) WHAT did we learn from Dr. Brown?

- everything is not a crisis
- support colleagues
- loss and grieving process impacts everything
- first impressions aren't always accurate
- strive to be creative with consequences and dealing with student behavior
- build relationships
- those who are most challenging need us the most
- daily greetings are very important

2) SO WHAT does our new learning mean for us and our practice?

- make more connections
- create a welcoming/supportive environment
- learn more about your students
- be truthful with kids
- build more relationships with parents
- weigh the risk/rewards when giving rides, etc.

3) NOW WHAT will we do differently because of our collective new learning?

- implement staff/student greeters in the school and in your classroom
- home visits to families that are hard to connect with
- tours of the neighborhood for new staff
- remember that poverty is not an excuse but it is essential that teachers understand the impacts
- set school-wide acceptable standards
- do more to reach families, make them comfortable in the school environment

4) WHAT EVIDENCE will we have to show that our collective practice has changed?

- implement community building groups to help build better/deeper connections
- fewer sanctions and more solutions
- staff will be more present with students greeting in the morning and also at the closing of the day

Memorable Quotes-

- "Stay out of the basement, get up in the balcony."
- "Genetics loads the gun but environment pulls the trigger."
- "Don't be afraid to tell the truth."
- "The three H's, handshake, high five, or a hug."
- "Students need consistency, structure, boundaries, and limits."
- "Use humor and creativity."
- "The tree is in the seed."
- "Our mission has no finish line."
- "High achievement is framed in high expectations."
- "Take behavior seriously, not personally."
- "It's in the relationships that we cultivate."