

Coffee Talk



March 20, 2019

“The ABC’s of Accommodations & Testing”

Head of School: Mr. Dan Quesnel
Director of Teaching and Learning: Dr. Linda Uveges



Introduction

Purpose of the Coffee Talks

- Parent Education
- Question/Answer Session
- Getting to know those on campus

Future Topics

- April 17:
- May : **“Just the FACTS! An Overview of the new Comprehensive Learning Management System”**

Community Education Resource Page



P.E.R.K.

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Parent Education, Resources, and Knowledge Program

Coffee Talks



Coffee Talks is where parents, the Head of School, and the Director of Teaching and Learning gather on a monthly basis, learn from different experts, and dive deeply into relevant education topics and trends...all while drinking a nice cup of joe, of course!

The next Coffee Talk is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 23** with coffee beginning at 8:00 a.m. followed by a discussion and Q&A at 8:15 a.m. in Dr. Uveges' room in Founders' Hall. It will be led by Dr. Uveges and Mr. Quesnel and will focus on teaching and learning in the digital age.

^ MONTHLY AGENDA

Education Resources



Here you will find a list of articles, videos, and other resources we have compiled to help parents engage productively with their child and school.

✓ HERE'S WHAT'S BREWIN' (HOT TOPICS)

✓ COOL BEANS (HELPFUL RESOURCES)

^ MONTHLY AGENDA

March

Wednesday, March 20

The ABC's of Accommodations and Testing

Presenters:

Dan Quesnel, Head of School

Dr. Linda Uveges, Director of Teaching and Learning

8:00 - 8:15 a.m. Coffee

8:15 - 9:15 a.m. Discussion and Q&A

Location: Dr. Uveges' Classroom in Founders' Hall (Lower School)

v FUTURE COFFEE TALKS

v RECAPS

Visible Learning

Visible Learning means an enhanced role for teachers as they become evaluators of their own teaching. According to John Hattie Visible Learning and Teaching occurs when teachers see learning through the eyes of students and help them become their own teachers.

[What Works Best for Learning](#)

[Applying the Evidence](#)

John Hattie's research got a lot of attention from the media linked to the publication of his [Visible Learning meta-study](#). The problem was that many individual aspects of his research were taken and used as a kind of checklist that could magically improve schools. It won't work like that. John Hattie's TED talk "Why are so many of our teachers and schools so successful" can be a good starting point to putting it all in context.

[John Hattie TED Talk](#)



Growth Mindset

Book:

The Gift of Failure - How the best parents learn to let go so their children can succeed

Author:

Jessica Lahey



Recaps

▼ FUTURE COFFEE TALKS

▲ RECAPS

- September - Maximizing Student Learning
- October - Transformational Learning
- November - Growth Mindset
- December - Teaching and Learning in a Digital Age
- January - A Look at Curriculum
- February - Transitions



Recap of Coffee Talk Presentations thus far:

Coffee Talk #1 (September)- Visible Learning

* *John Hattie*

Coffee Talk #2 (October) - Transformational Learning

* *Sir Ken Robinson*

Coffee Talk #3 (November) - Growth Mindset

* *Carol Dweck and Angela Duckworth*

Coffee Talk #4 (December) - Teaching & Learning in a Digital Age

* *Marc Prensky, Ian Jukes, Jennifer Casa-Todd & John Medina*

Coffee Talk #5 (January) - A Look at Curriculum

Grant Wiggins, Jay McTighe, Rick Stiggins, Heidi Hayes Jacobs & Doug Reeves

Coffee Talk #6 (February) - Transitions and Tours

Rick Wormeli

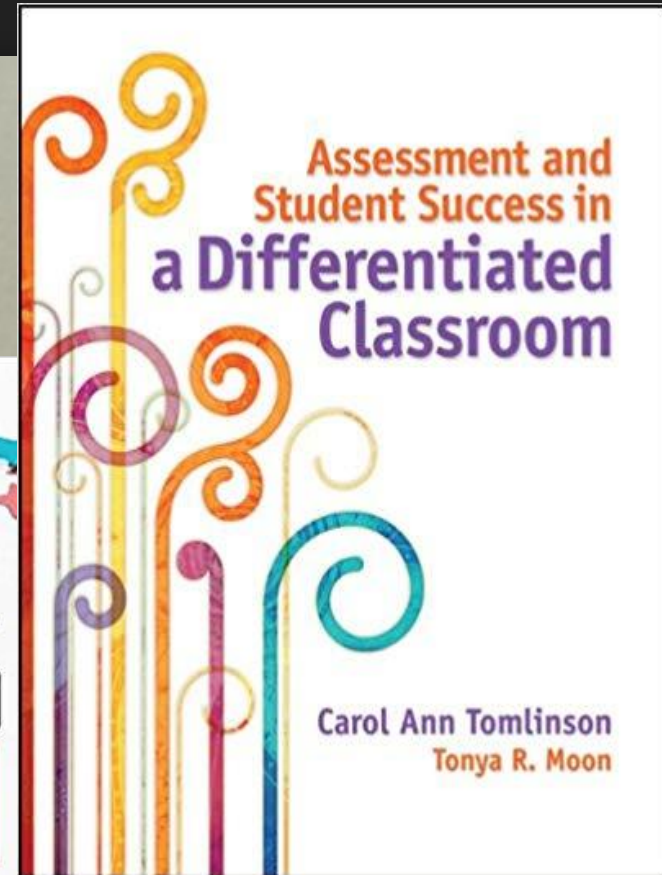
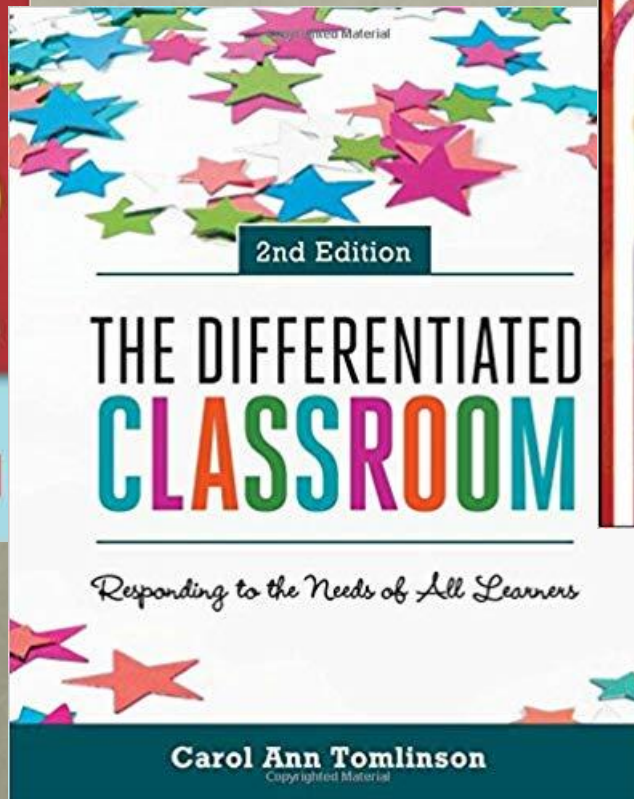
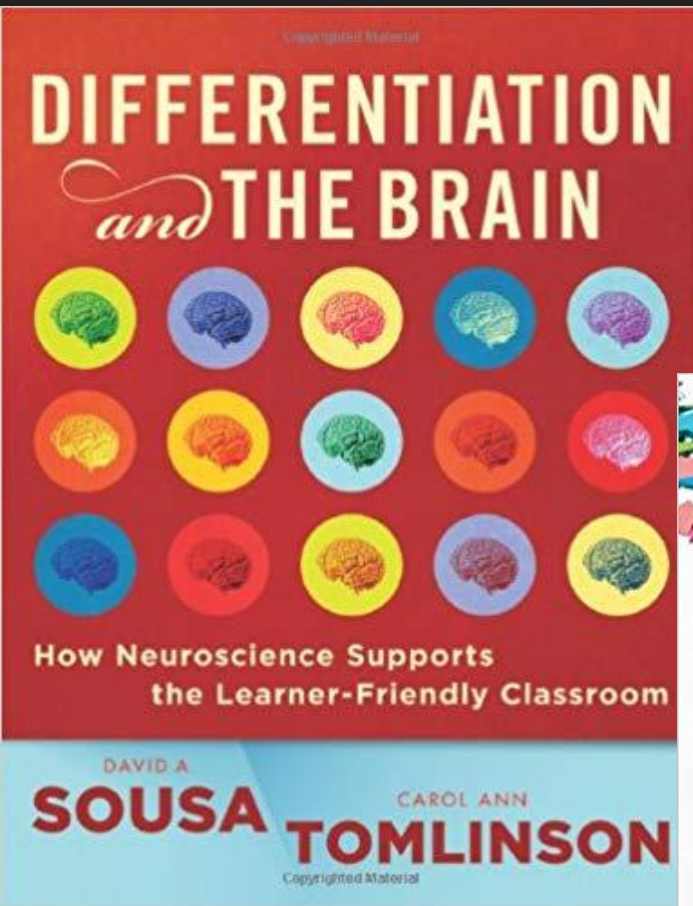
Tie in of Growth Mindset, Passion and Perseverance
and Student Success



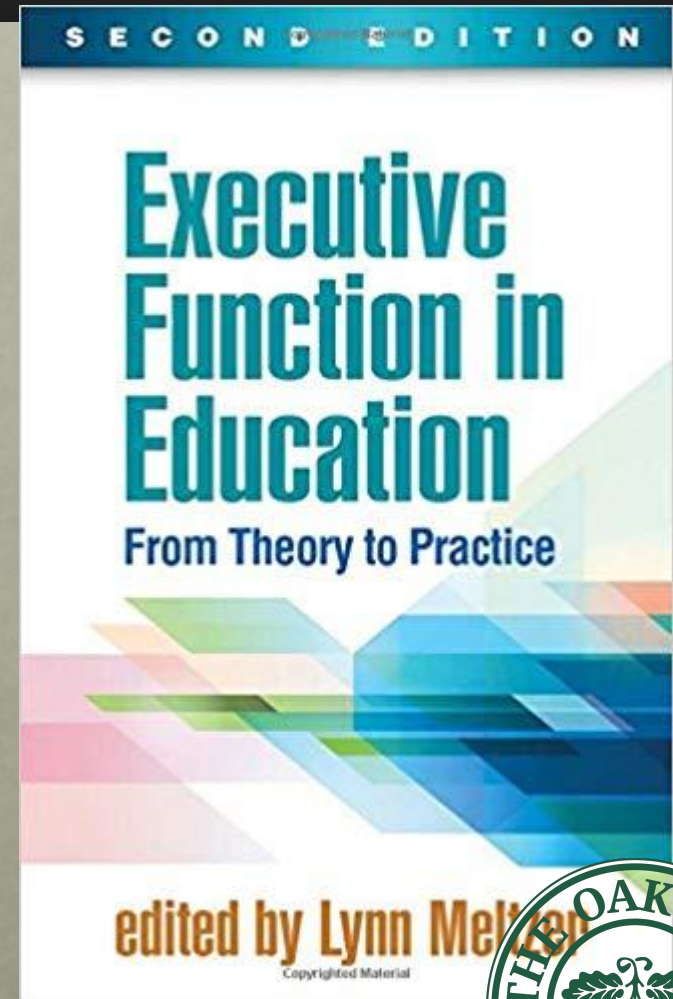
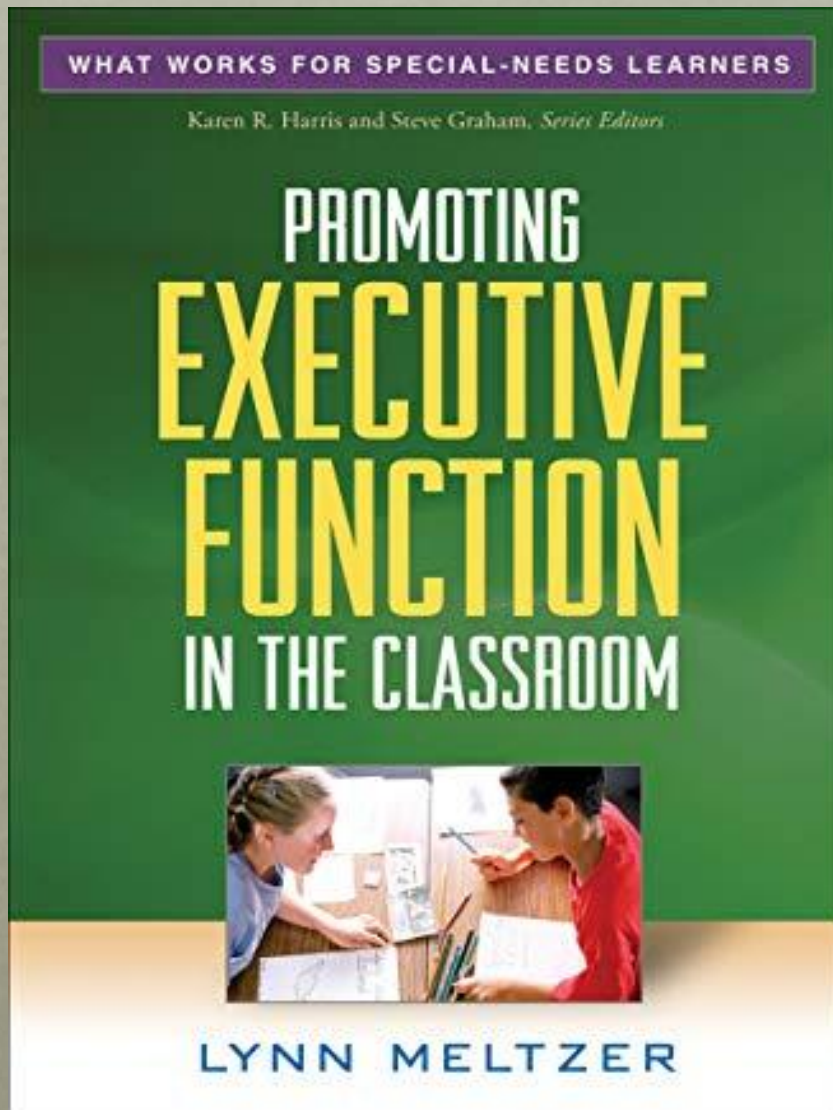
This month's choice is...



Carol Tomlinson



Lynn Meltzer



**“ Excellence in education
is when we do everything we can
to make sure that they become
everything that they can. ”**

- Carol Ann Tomlinson



What is our focus this morning?

- What is differentiation?
- What an accommodation is.
What it isn't.
- Difference between an
accommodation and a modification



There are common
misconceptions about what
Differentiated Instruction
really means in the classroom.





Differentiation is simply a teacher attending to the learning needs of a particular student or small groups of students, rather than teaching a class as though all individuals in it were basically alike.

— Carol Ann Tomlinson —

AZ QUOTES



Misconception vs. Reality #1

Misconception : Differentiation is a set of instructional strategies.

Reality: Differentiation is a philosophy – a way of thinking about teaching and learning. It is, in fact, a set of principles.



Misconception vs. Reality #2

- **Misconception:** Differentiation is just about instruction
- **Reality:** Although differentiation is an instructional approach, effective differentiated instruction is inseparable from a positive learning environment, high-quality curriculum, assessment to inform teacher decision making, and flexible classroom management. **To the degree that any one of those elements is weak, the others are also diminished.**



What are accommodations?



Three Major Statutory Provisions

- Section 504 - which is a part of the Rehabilitation Act
- IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, most recently amended in 2008**
- Title I and III of the ADA apply to independent schools, regardless of whether the independent school receives federal funding.



Who Qualifies for Protections under ADA?

- The student must have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual
- The student must have a record of such an impairment



Practical considerations in determining whether a student qualifies as a person with a disability under ADA

- Students with hearing, sight, and mobility impairments
- ADD, ADHD, and Other Learning Impairments
- Temporary Impairments



Responding to a request for accommodations under ADA

- A school has an affirmative legal duty to take necessary and reasonable steps to accommodate the needs of disabled students, as long as those steps are within their mission.



What accommodations do we need to provide?

- We need to provide accommodations that are in line with our mission.
- The guidelines are consistent and fair.



ADA requires three inquiries to determine what practice is required:

1. Whether the requested accommodation is “reasonable”
2. Whether the accommodation is “necessary”
3. Whether it would “fundamentally alter the nature of the school or cause undue burden to the school”



Undue Burden

A requested accommodation would impose an undue burden if the accommodation would be “significantly difficult or expensive” in light of a number of factors.

A school is not required to lower minimum academic requirements for admission, retention or graduation. Requiring such modifications would alter the nature or character of a school’s program.



Accommodations

Student must have a current
evaluation

“Current” is within last 5 years
for College Board, but schools
can define for themselves



Accommodations

- Supports or services provided to help students progress and demonstrate their learning.
- These do not mean big changes in the instructional level, content, or standards. Rather, support is provided so that students have an equal opportunity to learn and to demonstrate what they have learned.



Examples of Accommodations that may be required by ADA

- Academic Accommodations
- Auxiliary Aids
- Classroom / Lecture Accommodations



Examples:

- allowing more time to complete tests or other assignments
- substituting specific courses where substituted courses fully satisfy a school's mission and objectives.
- adapting a manner in which specific courses are conducted
- extending the time to complete course/graduation requirements
- adapting the manner in which the course materials are distributed
- creating methods for evaluating achievement of students with sensory, manual or speaking impairments to ensure the result fairly reflects student's achievement.



Auxiliary Aids

- taped course materials, including testing materials
- interpreters, video remote interpreting
- real-time computer-aided transcription services
- audio books
- magnification software
- auditory programs



Classroom Accommodations

- video lessons (lectures)
- copy of notes
- computer to take notes
- prepared notes from powerpoint/presentation tool
- white space
- extended time on tests
- preferential seating
- use of color inlays



Accommodations do NOT:

- Change the information to be learned
- Change the amount of information that is to be learned...modifications do this



The ADA requires that school programs be provided “in the most integrated setting appropriate to the need of the individual” student



Modifications

Changes in what a student is expected to learn and demonstrate

- Change in the instructional level or benchmark
- Change in the number of key concepts mastered within a benchmark or unit of study
- Changes in content



Modifications

- change the content and performance expectations for what a student should learn.
- Example: a student may work at a 4th grade level instead of a 6th grade level in reading or study fewer concepts or skills.



Examples of Modifications

- Student only has to complete half the homework/assignment
- Student only has to choose from two answers instead of four on a multiple choice test.
- Teacher “reinterprets” test questions so that the student can better understand them.



Quick quiz on some scenarios....

Test your knowledge !



Case Scenario : Marco

Marco is a high school student

In his Algebra I class, Marco often makes mistakes when multiplying or dividing large numbers with decimals.

When Marco uses a calculator, he arrives at the correct answer.

Is this an accommodation or modification?

It is an accommodation



Strategies to help Marco might be:

It is our job to put together interventions and strategies to help each child.



Case Scenario : Bobby

- Bobby has a learning disability in reading. He is overwhelmed by long reading passages, because he cannot read on grade level. Bobby needs to learn about main idea and supporting details. The teacher provides Bobby a story on his reading level. Bobby only has to identify the main idea while the rest of the class must identify the main idea and supporting details.



Is this an accommodation or modification?



It is a modification



Case Scenario : Veronica

- Veronica has a learning disability in mathematics.
- Her teacher has required her to complete the first 10 fast fact problems , but she does not have to reduce to simplest form. The rest of the class must complete the entire page of addition fractions and reduce to the simplest form, including challenging questions numbers 1-30.



Is this an accommodation or modification



It is a modification



Case Scenario : Malcolm

- Malcolm's scores on in-class assignments and assessments improve when he is provided with large print material. The teacher provides Malcolm materials with larger print because she has observed that his comprehension also greatly improves.



Is this an accommodation or
modification?



It is an accommodation



What we do at Oakwood



Professional Development

Faculty Meeting Presentation

Differentiation



We are doing these things, but much like we should be reviewing our curriculum, we always should be looking at and revising what we are doing for the students.



Resources:

ADA Publication

www.understood.org

www.interventioncentral.org



Here are some resources we think you'd like.

	Interventions	Accommodations
Interventions	<p>Supports students to complete a specific task. Interventions are individualized and specific. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the general education program Are evidence-based strategies and techniques Have explicit teaching and/or practice steps clearly laid out to the student 	<p>Is designed to ensure that students have access to the general education program by removing barriers to learning. Accommodations are individualized and specific. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are evidence-based strategies and techniques Have explicit teaching and/or practice steps clearly laid out to the student
Accommodations	<p>Are designed to ensure that students have access to the general education program by removing barriers to learning. Accommodations are individualized and specific. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are evidence-based strategies and techniques Have explicit teaching and/or practice steps clearly laid out to the student 	<p>Are designed to ensure that students have access to the general education program by removing barriers to learning. Accommodations are individualized and specific. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are evidence-based strategies and techniques Have explicit teaching and/or practice steps clearly laid out to the student

The Difference Between Interventions and Accommodations



What Are Academic Modifications



How to Get Accommodations on AP Exams | AP Tests





Thank you for coming today!

