



August 2019 Edition

## Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year!

Hello Teachers,

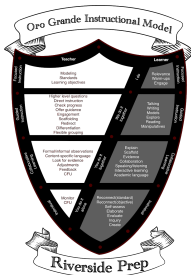
The Instructional Team is excited to roll out our first newsletter! In this newsletter we will spotlight some of our suggest general instructional strategies, re-engage with any recent MDSS PD, and RP staff using effective teaching practices. We are excited to work alongside you this school year and meet your students! Thank you for taking the time to read and please contact the instructional team for support or reflection on implementing any of these instructional strategies!

### *Suggested Strategy: Cultivating a Learning Environment with our Parents!*



As a suggested welcoming strategy for our parents, phone calls, newsletter, or emails home in a positive light are highly encouraged! A personalized touch and a positive message first goes a long way when we have to contact our parents for other types of messages. At the secondary level, personalizing for over 100 students is overwhelming so aim to begin with 10-20 students!

### *Instructional Model*



The Oro Grande Instructional Model Shield has been launched! It is a visual tool indicating the Gradual Release of Responsibility required for any successful lesson implementation. The visual also indicates how much leverage each student or teacher should have in each step with suggested instructional strategies to use. At the new teacher training, great conversations held were around how each step can be interwoven and presented in various order.

### *Planning with Purpose*



Thank you to our returning staff members for welcoming our new teachers as we plan with **intentionality**! Our teachers brainstormed ways to engage students in developing norms and began planning lessons that cultivate connection. They were strategically planning lessons that align activities to their scope and sequence. Pictured are some of our English Department teachers planning together: Shelby Gagliardi, Grace Letner, Elizabeth Merket and Reagan Childers.

### *Instructional Resources*

The Why of Culture Building <https://www.edutopia.org/article/two-step-process-reducing-chronic-absenteeism>  
10 Ideas for Class Culture <https://www.edutopia.org/article/10-powerful-community-building-ideas>  
Promoting Growth Mindset <https://www.teachingchannel.org/growth-mindset>