STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ITS IMPACT TO STUDENT LEARNING

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“Student engagement is the product of motivation and active learning. It is a product rather than a sum because it will not occur if either element is missing.”

— Elizabeth F. Barkley, Student Engagement Techniques: A Handbook for College Faculty

There had been lots of strategies to improve teaching and learning. But to date, many studies on the impact of collaboration, groupings and student engagement in the classroom that are proven to create big impact in a child’s learning. This article focuses on the bringing into voice and intensifying the great effects of making students engaged as they are driven purposely to learn on their own and become responsible of his or her own learning.

In a blog post from edutopia.org which is part of Schools That Work series, it features key practices from Nashville Big Picture High School that there are four (4) practical tips that teachers can adopt to engage their students.

1. Create a close relationship with your students. Call students by their first names, or better yet, by their nick names. To create a bond with your students, engage them in personal conversation.

2. Add humor to your lessons. One thing that a student loves is when a teacher didn't take everything too seriously. Of course, there are many serious moments in the classroom, but students become much more engaged when a teacher would add humor
to the mix. Making a lesson funny, even if it's just a small thing, will really help to keep your students' attention.

3. Give your students freedom of choice on all projects. Freedom of choice makes it more interesting and entertaining for everyone. Most importantly, your students will never get bored because they'll have a choice in their project, and they'll choose to incorporate their passions and interests into their work. Having that choice could greatly help students realize what they love doing.

4. Display your students' work. Put your students' work on your classroom walls or in the hallways throughout your school. Displaying it will push them to do better work and help them feel proud of the work they've done. As a student, when they see other kids looking at their assignment or have them compliment the student on the work he or she had on the walls, it would make them feel great. It will make them want to make the next project even better.

When we think of student engagement in learning activities, it is often convenient to understand engagement with an activity as being represented by good behavior, positive feelings and, above all, student thinking (Fredricks, 2014). This is because students have different ways of accepting our way of teaching.

Remember that learning activities may help increase student engagement behaviorally, emotionally, and cognitively, thereby positively affecting student learning and achievement.
References:

www.edutopia.org*goldenrules-for-engaging-students
