

DQ1: Celebrating Success

Element 3

Strategies For Celebrating Success

Final Status Celebration

- Celebrate each student's final status (or summative score) at the end of each unit
- Recognize all the students who achieved a final score of 3.0, all the students who achieved a final score of 3.5, and all the students who achieved a final score of 4.0

Knowledge Gain Celebration

- Celebrates the difference between students' initial and final scores for a learning goal
- The teacher recognizes a student's growth that has been achieved over a course of a unit. For example, a student who receives a score of 1.5 at the beginning of the unit and completes the unit with a score of 3.0 would be recognized in the same way as a student who began with a score of 2.5 and completes the unit with a score of 4.0.
- Knowledge gains of .5, 1, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, and on up as appropriate can be recognized and celebrated by the teacher.

Verbal Feedback

- Teachers can recognize and celebrate each student's effort and growth by specifically explaining what a student did well with on a task
- Be careful not to attribute students' accomplishments to innate intelligence, talent, or other "fixed" characteristics.
- Appropriate phrases to use when giving verbal feedback include:
 - You tried very hard on this; good job
 - You were very focused while working on this; way to go.
 - You were well prepared for this; keep up the good work.
 - You really thought through this, and it paid off.
 - You became very well informed about this; excellent work.
 - You were ready for this; very good.