50 ways to get students to believe in themselves and their future

Verbal behaviors and teacher choice of language in daily interaction

1. Calling on students
2. Responses to student answers – Sticking
3. Giving help
4. Changing attitudes toward errors – Persevere and return
5. Giving tasks and assignments
6. Feedback according to criteria for success with encouraging and precise diagnostic guidance
7. Positive framing of reteaching
8. Tenacity when students don’t meet expectations pursuit and continued call for high-level performance
9. Pushback on fixed mindset language and student helplessness

Regular classroom mechanisms for generating student agency

10. Frequent quizzes and a flow of data to students
11. Student self-corrections/self-scoring
12. Student error analysis
13. Regular reteaching
14. Required retakes and redo’s with highest grade
15. Cooperative learning protocols and teaching of group skills
16. Student feedback to teacher on pace or need for clarification
17. Reward system for effective effort and gains
18. Structures for extra help
19. Student goal setting

Daily instructional strategies from “clarity”

20. Communicating objectives in student-friendly language and unpacking them with students
21. Clear and accessible criteria for success, developed with students
22. Exemplars of products that meet criteria for success
23. Checking for understanding
24. Making student thinking visible
25. Frequent student summarizing

Explicitly teaching students

26. Effective effort behaviors
27. Student self-evaluation of effective effort
28. Learning study and other strategies of successful students
29. Attribution theory and brain research

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1. Calling on students
2. Student self-corrections/self-scoring
3. Frequent assignments
4. Retakes and redo’s
5. Making assignments visible

6. Giving feedback—Clarify for clarification
7. Giving help—Persevere
8. Sticking with students
9. Giving feedback—Checking for understanding
10. Giving feedback—Nonreports

11. Push, support, and extra help (hierarchy of intervention)
12. Reward system for academic effort and gains
13. Content-focused teams that examine student work in relation to their teaching
14. Scheduling
15. Grouping
16. Personalizing knowledge of and contact with students
17. Assignment of teachers
18. Hiring teachers

19. Teaching students the “principles of learning”
20. Negotiating the rules of the classroom game
21. Student-generated questions and constructivist teaching
22. Stop my teaching

23. Culturally relevant teaching and personal relationship building
24. Nonreports and student experts
25. Learning style
26. Teaching students the “principles of learning”
27. Negotiating the rules of the classroom game
28. Student-generated questions and constructivist teaching
29. Stop my teaching

30. Opportunities for choice and voice
31. Schoolwide policies and practices
32. Programs that enable students to value school and form a peer culture that supports academic effort