

Kate Celej
TEPS Report
Kagan Summer Academy: Structures in Secondary Math
July 10th- 12th 2017

Dr. Hicks:

I recently returned from my TEPS professional improvement plan grant event. I was fortunate enough to attend Kagan Summer Academy Conference. The conference is the largest Kagan conference. The opportunity was invaluable as it was geared specifically towards secondary math. I attended a three-day conference introducing me to many new structures of learning which I will use to implement new teaching methods and procedures once back in the classroom. I am excited to be able to introduce these structures to my math colleagues. Our instructor's presentation focused on using learning structures with older students and how to better engage our learners in the classroom. She shared her experiences and I was able to learn from the experiences of others in the conference.

Our instructor focused on the importance of team building and classroom building activities to build trust within your classroom as well as the support of brain research involving having students moving to fuel the brain. We learning a multitude of structures. I have listed below the ones that I would like to share with colleagues and introduce with my students once I am back in the classroom.

Structures introduced:

Trading Cards: Great way to get kids moving, then pair with another structures

Timed Pair Share: Good for questions with longer answers

Rally Robin/Round Robin: Good for lists or questions with shorter responses

Sage-N-Scribe: Good practice for a newer almost mastered topic

Mix-N-Match: similar to quiz-quiz trade but you are looking for someone with the match to your questions

Simultaneous Round Table: have students do the same steps but with four different problems, that way you are forced to check each other's work.

Line-Ups: Good for classroom building

Pairs Check: Great for practicing new concepts

Showdown: Fun way to review concepts in a game like setting

Team Interview: Students ask each other questions to learn more about a topic

Picking Stickies: Great for "getting to know you" activity at the beginning of the year

Thank you again for the opportunity to attend the conference, it was a great experience. If you need any further information, feel free to contact me.

Kate Celej