

## THE KEY TO TEACHER'S GROWTH

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Feedback and critique play a vital role in the professional growth of educators, offering opportunities for reflection, improvement, and refinement of teaching practices. In the ever-evolving landscape of education, it is essential for teachers to continuously assess and enhance their methods to better meet the needs of their students. Constructive feedback helps teachers identify their strengths and areas for growth, enabling them to make adjustments that foster a more engaging and effective learning environment. As teaching is a dynamic profession, regular feedback—whether from colleagues, administrators, or students—helps educators stay connected to best practices and the evolving educational landscape.

Receiving feedback, particularly constructive critique, can be an uncomfortable experience for many teachers. However, it is essential for their professional development. Critique encourages teachers to step outside their comfort zones, recognize blind spots, and address areas where improvement is needed. When feedback is framed positively and delivered with empathy, it becomes a tool for growth rather than a source of discouragement. In the process of reflecting on and acting upon critique, teachers can refine their skills, experiment with new strategies, and become more adept at adapting to the unique needs of their students.

In addition to enhancing teaching techniques, feedback also promotes a culture of continuous learning and self-improvement within schools. A strong feedback culture encourages collaboration and shared learning, where teachers can learn from each other's experiences. Peer observation and feedback offer teachers valuable insights into diverse

teaching styles, classroom management techniques, and subject-specific strategies. By engaging in this collaborative process, teachers expand their own knowledge and become more resourceful, ultimately leading to improved educational outcomes for students. Furthermore, a positive feedback culture fosters mutual respect and support among educators, creating a more unified and motivated teaching community.

Feedback from students is also an invaluable aspect of teacher development. Students' perspectives on how lessons are delivered, what works well, and what could be improved offer teachers' direct insight into the effectiveness of their teaching methods. Student feedback, whether formal or informal, can highlight areas where teachers may need to adjust their pace, teaching style, or clarity of instruction. By actively seeking input from students, teachers demonstrate a commitment to creating an inclusive and responsive classroom, ensuring that every student can succeed. Additionally, student feedback often helps teachers refine their approach to fostering a positive classroom environment.

Overall, feedback and critique are essential elements of teacher development. They serve as catalysts for reflection, improvement, and innovation in teaching practices. By embracing constructive criticism and using it as a tool for growth, teachers can evolve into more effective educators who are better equipped to meet the diverse needs of their students. A culture that encourages regular feedback—whether from peers, administrators, or students—ensures that teaching remains a dynamic and evolving practice. Ultimately, fostering a feedback-rich environment benefits both educators and learners, resulting in a more engaging, effective, and supportive educational experience.

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