



Meet. Share.
Spark Innovation

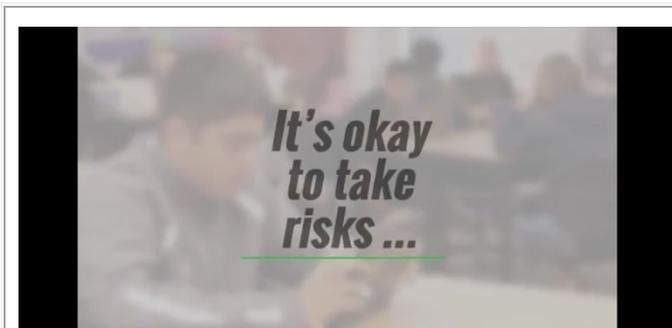
Dear Colleagues,

We offer these resources to spark conversation and innovation in 15 minutes or less. These “sparks” can be used as food for thought or to engage in meaningful dialogue among peers.

November 2019 – Risk Takers

We learn from risks — and those lessons may lead us on important, new paths. What are the practices that encourage or discourage academic risk-taking in our schools?

Videos:



Clip #1: [How to Model a Risk Taking Mindset](#)

Why is it important for teachers to model a risk-taking mindset for students? Hear why one teacher believes risk-taking, making mistakes, and celebrating failure with students is an important part of the learning process.

(2:07 minutes)



Clip #2: [Are grades reducing the ability of students to be academic risk takers?](#)

Most American students strive for a 4.0 GPA and the highest test scores, but research shows that this quest for perfection actually discourages creativity and reduces academic risk-taking. In this episode of “School Myths” by *The Atlantic*, Alice Roth investigates why grades aren’t everything when it comes to education.

(4:57 minutes)

Additional Resources:

- [A Classroom Full of Risk Takers](#) Article from Edutopia
- [STEAM Education Makes Our Students Better Risk-Takers. Here's Why](#) An article from We Are Teachers

- [What Successful People Know About Taking Calculated Risks](#) An article from *Inc.*

Spotlight on Equity and Justice:

- [No Matter the Outcome](#) Article from *The Washington Post*
- [Rethinking schools story telling](#) - How Storytelling can bring your school community together (*Please note you have to create an account to access the articles on the Rethinking Schools website*)

We hope these resources provide sparks for conversation.

Regards,

The ISACS Professional Services Committee & the ISACS Professional Development Team

PAST SPARKS

Please visit www.isacs.org/ISACSSpark to view all previous ISACS Sparks.

This email has been sent to heads of school, division heads, assistant/associate heads, deans of faculty, deans of studies, directors of professional development, and ISACS teacher representatives.