**Depth and Complexity**

The motto of the Salt Lake City Extended Learning Program is “Discovering Through Depth and Complexity.” Following this motto, ELP provides depth and complexity to the standards and curriculum in the students’ classrooms.

In her book *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*, Carol Dweck, describes two “mindsets,” the *fixed mindset* believes qualities of learning are set in stone and the person must constantly prove they exist—failure is not an option; the *growth mindset* believes student’s qualities can be developed through their efforts—failure is a step in growing and learning.

ELP magnet and neighborhood classrooms strive to guide students in developing their growth mind set. The ELP motto “Discovering Through Depth and Complexity” offers the welcome “struggle” with a growth mindset that enjoys challenges and recognizes that struggle is a component of growth.

Sandra Kaplan has developed dimensions of depth and complexity as processes and products to guide learning for the growth mind set. Depth is built through learning the language of the discipline, and discovering details, patterns, trends, recognizing and identifying unanswered questions, and working with rules, ethics and big ideas.

Complexity is developed through skills of relating ideas over time, finding meaning in multiple perspectives and seeing these skills across the disciplines.

This newsletter is published by the ELP Office. Contact us at 801-578-8573.

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**ELP Quote**

“If there is no struggle, there is no progress.”

*Frederick Douglass*

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**Considering ELP?**

Do you see your child in several of these traits? You may want to consider an ELP assessment:

- displays advanced reasoning skills.
- quickly sees why things happen and what causes them to happen.
- understands new ideas or subjects with little effort.
- shows a great deal of curiosity.
- sees and creates patterns in areas such as speech, art, music, numbers and nature.
- obsesses in an interest area.
- insists on perfection.
- recognizes the humor in different situations.
- makes connections.
- perceives and observes beyond his/her years.

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**Keys to Activate Deeper Learning (Depth):**

- Language of the Discipline: categorize, identify
- Details: describe, differentiate
- Patterns: summarize, make analogies
- Trends: prioritize, predict
- Rules: judge credibility, hypothesize
- Ethics: judge with criteria, determine bias
- Big Idea: prove with evidence, identify main idea
- Unanswered Questions: note ambiguity, distinguish fact from fiction

**Keys to Activate Complex Learning (Complexity):**

- Different Points of View: argue, determine bias, classify
- Relate Over Time: relate, sequence, order
- Across Disciplines: compare and contrast, show relationship

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**ELP Testing Information for the 2018-2019 School Year**

**Elementary Registration:**

Dec 6, 2017—Jan 26, 2018

Assessment windows:

K—3, Jan 29—Mar 1, 2018

4—6, Feb 20—23, 2018

If your child is entering grades K through 6 next year, you might be interested in exploring assessment for a magnet placement.

You are invited to attend a Parent Information Meeting:

- Wednesday, January 10, Hillside Middle School Auditorium, 1825 S Nevada St
- Thursday, January 11, Northwest Middle School Auditorium, 1730 W 1700 N
- Thursday, January 18, SLCSD offices, 440 E 100 S, rooms 112-113

All meetings are from 6:00 — 7:30 PM. Choose one to attend.

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*Sandra Kaplan*