

Grading and Reporting after(?) the Pandemic

AEI Education Avengers Chapter 4

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This a CRISIS Part 1

Overall

- Health – Deaths - USA 110,000+
 - World – 400,000+
- Economy
- Unemployment
- Stay-at-home/Isolation/Social distancing
- How long/uncertainty/unrest
- Systemic racism/Protests

This is a CRISIS Part 2

Education

- Sudden shutdown of schools (for the rest of the year? next year?)
- Pressure on teachers – then and now
- **The rapid transition to remote instruction during prolonged school closures has affected teachers and students alike, with a majority of teachers saying they are "somewhat" or "extremely" uncertain, stressed, anxious, overwhelmed, sad and lonely, according to a survey sponsored by the University of Phoenix.**

ASCD SmartBrief June 4th

- Pressures on students – then and now
- Internet and device access

Responses to the Crisis

- ▶ Online, packets, recommended hours
- ▶ Internet access
- ▶ Order of Operations – Connection, Basic Needs, Relationships, Engagement and Equity, Learning (new?)
Feedback, Communication
- ▶ Grades (Pass/Incomplete)
- ▶ Asynchronous, Synchronous
- ▶ Explosion of Blogs, Webinars, Facebook, Twitter Chats, Online Publications, Personal Communications, Newspaper articles
- ▶ **Less is more, flexibility, empathy, equity**

Stop Start Continue with Purpose in mind

- ▶ Where are we? Where do we want to go?
- ▶ Which one applies depends on where you are
- ▶ Perception of common state
- ▶ 'Never let a good crisis go to waste,' someone said. 'Let's make sure things are different on the other side.'

Continue (Start?) - Education

- ▶ Recognition of the critical role of relationships for connection, engagement and learning (SEL)
- ▶ Equity, Empathy and Flexibility
- ▶ Grace before grades
- ▶ Collaboration/ **STRONGER TOGETHER**
- ▶ Focus on what is important
- ▶ Giving - and asking for - feedback
- ▶ Providing opportunities for self-assessment, reflection and goal setting

Inequality

Unequal access to opportunities

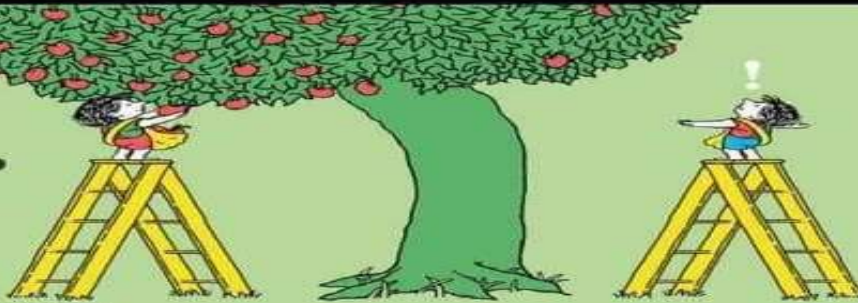
Source: Glassbeard in the 2009 Chicago in Tech Report



Equality?

Evenly distributed tools and assistance

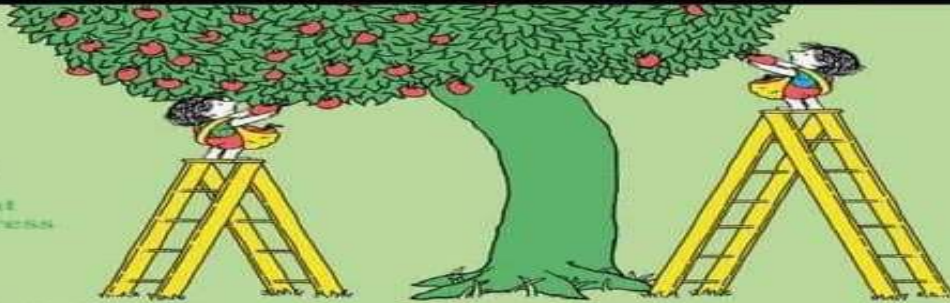
Source: Glassbeard in the 2009 Chicago in Tech Report



Equity

Custom tools that identify and address inequality

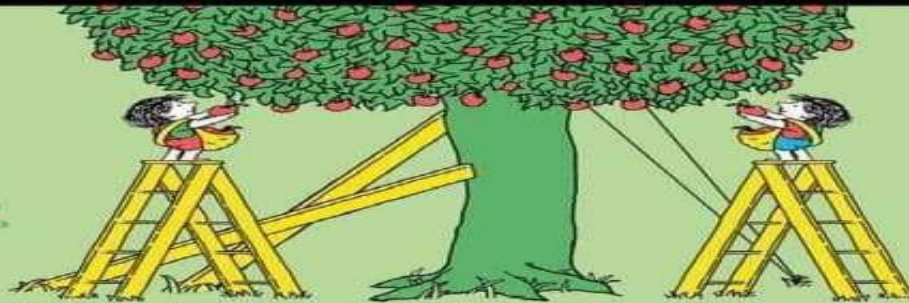
Source: Glassbeard in the 2009 Chicago in Tech Report



Justice

Fixing the system to offer equal access to both tools and opportunities

Source: Glassbeard in the 2009 Chicago in Tech Report



Stop (?) - Education

- ▶ % grades and zeros
- ▶ Averaging
- ▶ Penalties for behaviors - late submission, academic dishonesty
- ▶ Requiring X number of marks per week
- ▶ Saying students are “working” – they are learning, doing, making, demonstrating learning; e.g. rename “homework” as “practice”

Start (Continue?) - Education

- ▶ Pandemic priority standards (Matt Townsley – Endurance, Readiness, Leverage)
- ▶ Grades based on standards and 2 to 7 levels of proficiency, not methods of assessment and points and %; lowest level – Not Yet/Incomplete
- ▶ Grades determined by mode + more recent + professional judgment
- ▶ Student voice and choice (agency) – passion projects, PBL, digital portfolios
- ▶ Emphasis on words, not symbols
- ▶ A more holistic evaluative view of student achievement – summative primarily but consider the whole body of evidence
- ▶ Maximizing intrinsic motivation, minimize extrinsic motivation
- ▶ More use of conversation as assessment evidence, less or better product evidence

Continue (Start?) - Education ???

- ▶ Up to Grade 8, preferably 10, no subject grades, grades for standards plus narrative communication
- ▶ GPA for two years at most and not including everything
- ▶ Reconsider the high school transcript, see e.g., mastery.org
- ▶ Eliminate Class Rank
- ▶ Reconsider Honor Roll, Academic prizes, Valedictorian
- ▶ Eliminate quarters/terms/trimesters for grade determination, use only for administrative and communication purposes

Think About

“If COVID-19 has taught us anything, it's that schools mean the world to their most important stakeholders - the students themselves.”

Source: unknown

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