

## OLTD 509 Reflection of Evidence #2- Credo

I have chosen my *credo* as my second piece of evidence for this class. This task was to set some guiding principles for my philosophy of education and to speak to them. Looking at the past 20+ years as a teacher and at my own classroom today, I was able to reflect on what I see in my practice daily and to speak to what's important to me as an educator.

The OLTD guiding question that was addressed in this assignment was to "*Examine current research around technology/pedagogy adoption and change management.*"

My updated credo speaks to the topics of flexible learning, mindsets and emerging technologies, and how they are in my current practice. During the beginning phases of my credo development, I went back to view my original attempt at my credo in OLTD 504. I was surprised at some of the principles mentioned as I had included them as a goal not as an existing part of my practice at the time. I was considering emerging technologies such as mobile technology in the classroom. I wanted to have all students using devices to show learning. Practicing emerging pedagogies such as blended learning models in class was a second piece that I wanted to include in my practice. After looking at the book *Blended* by Staker and Horn (2015) in OLTD 511, I wanted to include models which would meet the needs of my students in the classroom. We have a very busy school and offering flexible learning had to be part of my day. Being able to commit to sustainable change by offering flexible schedules and student centered learning opportunities was another important factor for my practice. Providing students with time to process and to participate in engaging and motivating learning experiences such as Robotics and STEM projects would help them acquire 21st century learning skills such as critical thinking, problem solving and collaborative work. I was happy to see that in this current year, I had some of these pieces in place.

As educators, being aware of the new research around technology, pedagogy and change management will help us to reach more students and prepare them accurately for the 21st century. When considering this outcome, I realize that I am a teacher who is willing to make changes to my practice to benefit student learning and being. I believe that as educators, we need to let go of that constant feeling of being in control and to instead let students have a voice. Educators are frequently asked to be flexible and to adopt new ways of teaching. We are in a system that requires changes regularly. As a brick and mortar teacher, I have a curriculum to follow, but at the forefront, I have students who I need to pay attention to first, before I attempt to deliver anything. I need to understand what their needs are and use current research to guide my teaching.

Horn, M. & Staker, H. (2015). *Blended: Using Disruptive Innovation to Improve Schools*. San Francisco, CA :Jossey-Bass.