

# The Pepper Effect-S. Gaillard

## Reflection

This book was so cleverly written in the way that it ties in Beatles history and lessons in the school house. We can all take lessons from the Beatles in being creative, forging your own path, accepting ideas from anybody and building upon them, and simply having fun with what we are doing. The lessons from Sean and the Beatles are timeless and powerful. The Beatles broke the mold of music of their time just as we, as educational leaders, should be breaking the mold of what school is and can be in our time.

You...I...We need to be crafting our masterpiece day by day until we create our own Sergeant Pepper within our schoolhouse, our district, our state...the country.

---

## Notes

- unwilling to allow their failures to hinder their pursuit of their dreams
- “guitar groups are on the way out” said one recording company to The Beatles
- “**a splendid time is guaranteed for all**”
- Sgt. Pepper album smashed the established standards of musical expression
- the space where members feel trust, inspiration, and respect to create and innovate=the pepper effect
  - **Believe in your vision, masterpiece, collaborators, & ignore the naysayers**

### 1.

- great principals lead humbly with teachers and students at the center of their agendas
- collaboration has to be nurtured and encouraged
- be open to the best ideas no matter where they originated
- direct & timely feedback is a must for creating a masterpiece
- visible listening: engaging with students and teachers
  - Carve out time to sit and listen (and talk) with students, staff, and parents
    - What is great about our school?
    - What do we need to work on together to grow our school?
    - How can I serve and support you as your principal?

### 2.

- how do we encourage each other to walk away from practices that simply don't produce results?
  - How do we invest in “best practices” that don't inspire creativity in our kids?
- words are useless without action
- leaders should craft a bridge of support for teachers to innovate
- what are you doing that goes against the stereotype of your position?
- come together for the common good of the students
- look for the gifts in others, invite them to share, collaborate using those gifts, try something creative, enjoy the process
- never settle for the tried path**
- do we have the courage to address senselessness and mediocrity?

### 3.

- the world today almost demands we look beyond ourselves
- how are we taking global action?
- How young could we start students on the UN's SDGs? Could we/how can we tie our mandated standards to accomplishing these SDGs at various age levels? Do we start local with younger grades and work out and up**
- we must believe our impact on students is far reaching and world changing

### Interlude

- white space is intentional time taken out of the day for reflection, recharge, or escape

### 4.

- welcome students to the building and make them feel welcomed
- doesn't cost anything to have a positive attitude and celebrate
- the front door should be a place of positivity and happiness

### 5.

- doubt is a paralyzing force. And is also a choice*
- it is educational malpractice to perceive and promote negative marrow of the Schoolhouse
- we must believe. In everyone. In everything

### 6.

- nothing can be off the table when thinking creatively
- how can we do things differently?
- creativity works better when you have a “Yes” partner

### Interlude

- praise and highlight your colleagues and staff
- be genuine
- daily
- sometimes we feel lost and unloved; we need a pick-me-up

# The Pepper Effect-S. Gaillard

7.

- if The Beatles can stop being The Beatles and move away from tried and true hit song structures then we can move away from the “tried and true” teaching
- what can you do to break the ‘typical mold’?
  - Lessons, meetings, PD, procedures

**Interlude**

- make the impossible become the possible

8.

- calculated risks
- our calling is in a root of support to the social and emotional well being of the whole child
  - **Describe a time you threw out the pedagogy to attend to the whole child**
- collaborate with students to create something wonderful
  - **Describe a time you did this (me, creation of rainbow tag)**
- our students bring wonder & gifts to the school
- principal Gaillard will play rock-paper-scissors with you

9.

- be the voice and champion for EACH kid
  - We can have the words and/or actions to change their life
- a collective and cohesive faculty can inspire and create and shift paradigms