

#EducatorVoices: Relationships: A Foundation for Everything, with Tom Cardamone

students, harvard, concept, intentional, curriculum, stand, feel, illinois, success, greater, establish, build, campus, profound, foundation, educational, kid, relationships, responsibility, positive impact

Speakers

Tom (100%)

Tom Cardamone 0:00

I'm Tom Cardamone. I'm the principal at Harvard Junior High School in Harvard, Illinois. What I can say is I feel that it's really the foundation of everything that not only AVID stands for, but really just good educational practices stand for, that concept of, 'We have to have a kid's heart before we can have their head.' And I feel like that is the key to success for absolutely everything that comes afterwards. Build intentional relationships, you get to know who the students are. You give yourself an excuse and a reason to hold off on curriculum the first week or two of the school year and really just build that community within the classroom. Get to know who your students are, not only the students that come into your classroom but all of our students on campus. If we have happy teachers, we have happy students, and happy students leads to greater academic success, but really a greater social/emotional success all the way throughout. So it really starts with the tone that we establish from the moment our students walk in Day One, our staff walks in Day One, this concept that every second that we have in the building with our students, we have a profound responsibility to have a positive impact on our kids.