

#EducatorVoices: Hidden Stories – Thomas C. Murray

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1 min

Keywords

expectations, story, talk, authentic, empathy, experience, hardest, hidden, blind, admit, little bit, serving, goodbye, day, completely different, softened, write, personal, culture, completely

Speakers

Thomas (100%)

Thomas C. Murray 0:00

Where else do I have blinders? Where am I serving people that they have completely different experiences than me, and maybe I've been completely blind to things? One of the things I write in Personal and Authentic [is] that I believe the difference between making a judgment and having empathy is understanding the story. I love to joke with teachers and say, you know, "You don't have to admit it, but I will." But you ever have the experience on the first day of school where you're thinking to yourself, like, "180 days with this one right here?" Why is it, at the end of the year, that one right there is often the hardest to say goodbye to? That one right there, Mrs. so-and-so, is the...right? You know what I'm talking about. Because as you got to know the story, your heart probably softened a little bit. And again, when I talk about the hidden stories within, and I talk about, it's not that we're going to lower the expectations for kids that have been through things because if that's the case, now, we're part of the problem, a huge part of the problem. We keep the expectations high, but we also provide more love in the process to help get them to where they need to be, and I think that's a really important point that goes along with this. And I also think a key to building culture is having empathy for the hidden stories inside of other people.

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