

Rigor & Relevance

Just what is Rigor & Relevance? This is a term you might have heard in the classroom or in one of our newsletters, but until this time, it might not have meant much. Rigor and Relevance is a revolution in education that does just what it says—focuses the learning on rigorous and relevant content for all students. It is something that Summit Academy is heavily focusing on. Please read on for an excerpt from The Rigor and Relevance Handbook by Dr. Willard Daggett.

“In many schools in the United States, education is a “spectator sport.” The people who should be the most active participants—the students—are all too often put in the role of onlookers. The students sit in the audience and witness the performances of adults—their teachers. Why? Because our education system has traditionally centered on teaching, not learning.

Since 1991, the International Center for Leadership in Education run by Dr. Willard Daggett, Ed.D., has been known for its basic mission:

Make education rigorous and relevant for all students.

Over the years, we have shared our passion for raising student achievement by helping states and hundreds of districts and schools revise their curricula, assessments, standards and instructional practices to better prepare students for all of their post school roles. To achieve rigor and relevance for all, schools must do things differently than they have in the past. They must **focus on learning rather than teaching** and **focus on learning as an individual and active process**. Increasing **rigor** for all students requires using new approaches and methods to reach those students who are not doing well in school. **Relevance** means teaching students to apply what they are learning to real world situations. Understanding how to use one’s knowledge is important for every student. Unfortunately, few students get both rigor and relevance.”

Please continue to look for more information on Rigor & Relevance in upcoming newsletters or check out their website at www.Leadered.com.