

Career Development Report
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Eric Jensen Game Changers Conference
February 20th – 23rd San Antonio, Texas

The purpose of the Grant was to attend Eric Jensen's Game Changers Conference in San Antonio, Texas February 20th – 23rd. Eric Jensen is neuroscientist and educator who has published numerous books including two Teaching with the Brain In Mind and Teaching with Poverty in Mind that I have read. The latter has been used at inservices at Mountain View to help staff develop a better understanding of the manner in which students in poverty brains develop and the strategies we can employ to help those students be successful. The former was the basis for my undergraduate classroom management class.

Both these books as well as other Eric Jensen publications and papers have a large part of my educational philosophy and the culture we are working to establish here at Mountain View. As such the material from this workshop will be easy to meld into existing practices. In fact I have already utilized some of it at our end of 3rd quarter in-service (PowerPoint attached).

Networking with other administrators and teachers was a large part of the conference. Particularly helpful was a conversation with a K-5 math interventionist who's school also struggled with math facts and was using the same resource we were, Reflex Math, and also did not see the across the board gains in the student population that they had hoped as far as transference from program to application. The take away from that was that they saw more success with focusing on the conceptual side of visualizing and understanding multiplication for an extended period of time before focusing on the automaticity. I passed this information along to my 3rd grade PLC.

A highlight for me was when our table group asked me to stand and speak to the whole group about Mountain Views Positive Response to Conflict Wheel. It was an honor to address 200 people and field questions about this. I had many requests for the poster and once we have the Mountain View logo put on it, it will be in a few districts around the country.

All in all it was a good conference that validated Mountain Views current practices, gave me some ideas for small tweaks to what we do, and some suggestions for moving forward with new ideas. As mentioned the first installment of this has already taken place.



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