



Welcome fellow Recovering Traditionalists to Episode 160: Tips for Getting Kids to Talk in Math Class.

Before we get into the episode, this week's positivity comes from an email we received about the Virtual Math Summit. On the day this episode gets released there's only today and tomorrow to watch the replays from the summit. So if you are registered don't forget to go watch them.

Re: What a great 1st day of the Virtual Summit! 🥰 External ➤  

 Shivohn [redacted] to me ▾

Sat, Feb 24, 2:08 PM (6 days ago) ☆ ↶ ⋮

So much great ideas in the sessions today!! I had to leave around noon, but will watch the remaining session this evening. Thank you for putting this together. I'm a new teacher and am trying to learn all I can on a budget. This was a fantastic opportunity with a lot to gain. And this pairs so well with the CTCL program I am currently in. A lot of talk about how to support ELLs! <3

If you are interested in watching any of the past 8 years of summits, they are inside the Build Math Minds PD site. You can become a member at buildmathminds.com/bmm

During the summit there were actually a lot of ideas given by multiple presenters on how to get kids talking more in math class. In fact, at the end of Day 1, one person posted this in the chat:

[redacted] 12:54 pm 

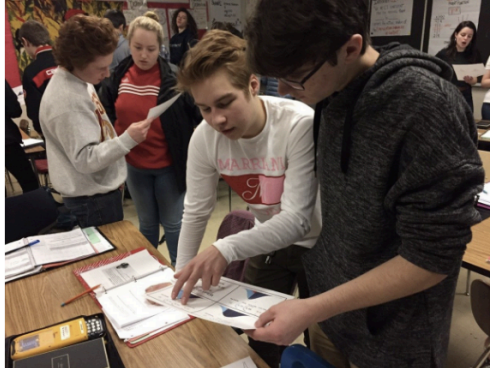
Its so interesting to see the relating topics from todays speakers. We are able to truly see how important some concepts are like sentence stems for differentiation and giving space and time for students to really think about their ideas and understanding while building comprehension.

After the summit, I was doing some research about sentence stems and happened upon a blog post by one of my favorite Math-y people, Sara Van Der Werf. The post is about something she calls Stand & Talks and even though it's from a few years ago, it is still so relevant. I'll link up the blog post on the show notes page which is buildmathminds.com/160 so that you can read the whole thing for yourself...and she even linked up a webinar she did about Stand & Talks on that page.

One of the most touted ideas that's supposed to get kids talking in math class has been Think/Pair/Share or sometimes called Turn & Talk. If you've ever done that in your classroom you know it doesn't quite work the way it's supposed to in theory. So, Sara details out this one instructional move that just tweaks the Think/Pair/Share idea:

THE INSTRUCTIONAL MOVE

From saravanderwerf.com



Think, Pair,
STAND
& Share

I lovingly call this move '**stand & talk**'. If you've been doing think/pair/shares with students already, then this tweak will be easy for you. Basically you give students some private think time (30-120 seconds), have them stand-up and walk across the room to find a partner and share their thinking. It is a smidgen more complicated than this though – because you need to give them something to talk about, something to notice and

describe. The success of **stand & talks** is dependent on the work of the teacher prior. I will tell you that in my own experience, other than maybe the first one or two Stand & Talks I've done, it takes the same or less amount of time to do a **S&T** versus a turn and talk and the results are better.

I love doing **stand & talks** because it fits two of the goals I have for my classroom – that students will move at least every 20 minutes everyday and that students will will say (notice and describe) mathematical concepts before I say it for them. I also know talking out-loud engages students brains differently than just sitting and getting information.

GOAL:
**STUDENTS SAY IT
BEFORE I SAY IT.**

Now, Sara might do this a bit differently now...maybe I can get her to do another session for a Virtual Math Summit...hint, hint, Sara...I know you are a busy lady but I do love learning from you! So anyways...as with

anything you learn, you need to take it in and think about how to apply it to your classroom and use it with your students. I do love that it's getting kids up and moving, which we've learned from Building Thinking Classrooms is a very important thing.

Go check out her blog post and if you've got time go watch the webinar she did on Stand & Talks as well. Her website is SaraVanDerWerf.com but on the show notes page buildmathminds.com/160 I'll link up the specific post I mentioned here.

Until next week my Fellow Recovering Traditionalists, keep Building Math Minds.

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