

Prof. Rex Li's Writings

Category: Education

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Title: Book Summary and Review of Diane Tavenner (2019):
Prepared - Chapter 6 and 7 Reflection: Max's Mentor

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Summary/ Abstract: Diane Tavenner is the school principal of Summit Public Schools, which gained media attention since its first batch of graduation in 2007. *Prepared* is her story of how to make a school succeed in America.

This is a summary of Chapter 6 – 7.

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**Book Summary and Review of Diane Tavenner (2019): *Prepared*
Chapter 6 and 7 Reflection: Max's Mentor**

- p. 107 Teachers writing reference letter – a real life case.
- p. 109 Speaking out project in G9
- p. 110 Max's story – it helped him face stuttering (use some acoustic device)
- p. 112 R: It is always threats that leads to breakthrough!
- p. 114 • TED Talk in English Sophomore
- p. 115 • Students review scoring guide
- p. 117 Project with goals – outcome of impact?
- p. 118 – 119 Parenting – writing a thank you note
- p. 121 Asking the right questions
- What do you want from this situation?*
- What emotions do you have?*
- What behaviors are you exhibiting?*
- What is working or not working? Why?*
- Put yourself in the other person's shoes—what do you think their perspective is?*
- What role can you play in getting to your desired outcome?*
- Is there anything you need to do to make the relationship right?*
- p. 122 – 123 Quarrel between girls (pink reflection sheet!)
- R: similar to G.T. reflection note.
- p. 125 Philosophy underlying it

Equipping kids to develop and maintain healthy relationships is not traditionally the domain of schools, and so taking it on requires the school to make a commitment. Schools have to create a community where every relationship matters. If everyone doesn't believe relationship skills are part of

p. 126 – 128 Career counselling and “ing” = feeling / working

p. 130 – 131 A meaningful games with a moral Ball-popping game
Collaboration

p. 132 The promise to all

Every family who enrolled a child at Summit had spoken either to me or to a member of our team. In those conversations, no parent ever said to us, “It’s okay if my child doesn’t make it to graduation or college or into a good life. Don’t worry. Someone’s got to fail. It’s fine if it’s my kid.” In fact, in my nearly three decades of being an educator, I’ve never heard a single parent willingly give permission to a school to fail their child. I had looked every parent in the eye and prom-

R: This is exactly what is excessive in Tavenner’s ideal. Now she retreated to “every summit graduate would to live a good life, on their term.” (p. 131 – 132)

p. 133 Founding parents are professionals / employers.

p. 135 Prisoner’s dilemma experience

R: She’s got good interpretation

p. 135 China question!

R: As early as 2002, elites in Silicon Valley were aware of Chinese competition

p. 137 Consensus management

Diversity, 7 schools – 250 teachers now

p. 138 – 139 organization formation and development

p. 140 – 141 Decision Grid (IPDV) + MBI

p. 143 The mascot experience

p. 145 S (Status) T (Target / criteria) P (Proposal)

p. 148 Nature of independent work and group work

Independent work – good for single, simple, discrete answers

Group work – good for different experience and expertise

R: however, when there is deep thinking, group work may pull down quality of ideas.

creating a pathway to preparedness for our kids. Collaboration requires real-world opportunities, and also self-direction, because you cannot be an effective collaborator if you're not self-directed. Collaboration and self-direction, in turn, each require self-awareness. The most successful collaborators know themselves. They know who they are, what they care about, what they know, and what they don't know. Knowing themselves comes from being reflective. Successful collaborators know their strengths and what they are working to improve, and they know what they can contribute. They can work with their classmates to pick a mascot, their friends to pick a movie, and their family to plan a trip or even choose a pet. And when they grow up, I'd hire them for my team any day.