

6 Basic Tenets or Beliefs of GREAT EXPECTATIONS

1. **High Expectations**...Robert Rosenthal and Lenore Jacobson Educators – who hold high expectations for their learners, communicate those expectations clearly, and encourage learners in their charge to work hard in order to rise to the level of those expectations – can make a difference in students’ success. High expectations move learners forward, even if those learners don’t achieve total mastery. Educators also have a role in helping their 21st century learners set significant aspirations for themselves in a media-rich, global network of unlimited possibilities.
2. **Teacher Attitude and Responsibility**...Haim Ginott, John and Eunice Gilmore Educators are accountable, not only for imparting content, but for developing virtuous citizens. Educators’ own attitudes toward their responsibilities are a model for all whom they meet. To lead by example means to hold oneself to a higher standard and to support others as they develop their own sense of responsibility. Great leaders create an influence that others strive to follow.
3. **All Children Can Learn**...William Glasser All learners can achieve a level of success greater than their previous success, no matter what labels (disabled, special needs, low socioeconomic status, unstable home life, inner-city, rural, or gifted) are placed upon them. Innovative educators are cognizant of the planning, problem-solving, communications, and creativity needed for work in the twenty-first century.
4. **Building Self-Esteem**...Harris Clemes, Reynold Bean and Aminah Clark Learner’s self-esteem is closely linked to their internal motivation to embrace all that is asked of them in life and in the learning environment. It greatly affects their courage to try new things or express their own ideas. A healthy self-esteem is a positive factor in drop-out prevention and is at the crux of a student's sound choices about their safety and health.
5. **Climate of Mutual Respect**...Rensis Likert Learners are empowered to take risks necessary for growth when they are in a learning environment where mutual respect is evident. In the ideal situation, learners are valued, their ideas are considered, and their mistakes are seen as opportunities for correction and reflection. Additionally, there is courteous regard for one another, and time is structured to allow all learners to process and produce ideas and opinions.
6. **Teacher Knowledge and Skill**...Benjamin Bloom Innovative educators are knowledgeable and skilled in techniques that enable learners to maximize the benefits of each learning experience. Innovative educators continue to expand their arsenal of pedagogical techniques and focus on keeping pace with current educational initiatives. Innovative educators realize their influence in the learning environment; they can motivate, inspire, and challenge individuals to achieve excellence in living and learning. Innovative educators are life-long learners.