



## What does it mean to be reflective? Truly reflective!

December 1, 2016

I am excited to share a reflection from Nardi Routten, a fourth grade teacher in St. Lucie County and the 2014 Florida Milken Educator Award winner.

At a recent Leadership Florida institute in St. Petersburg, I was reminded of data that was shared with the Florida Teacher Fellowship during our institute in Tallahassee. The New Teacher Project (TNTP) conducted research regarding teachers' understanding of the standards, shifts in standards, and designing student work aligned to the standards. The results were astonishing! Only 7% of Florida teachers made instructional changes required by Florida State Standard. Only 36% of assignments indicated alignment to the standards. While 64% of Florida students met expectations of assignments, only 27% of Florida students met the expectations of the standards.

This information led me to my own reflection on my understanding and implementation of Florida's Standards. Do I really understand the standards? Do the tasks I plan for my students align to the standards? Upon returning to school and my classroom, I quickly analyzed an assignment my fourth grade team and I designed for our students to meet ELA standard 4.RI.2.6, (Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided). As expected based on the knowledge I had recently acquired, the task did not meet the depth of the standard.

Read what Nardi and her team did after this insight [here](#).

Please continue to share your stories with me through email and Twitter.

Best,

Abbey Stewart  
Teacher Liaison

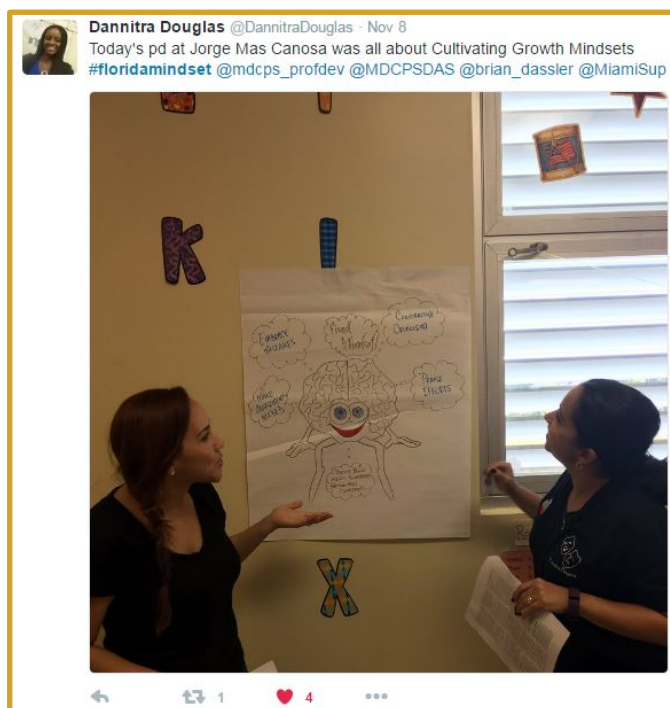
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## Featured Tweet



## Resources

### New Online Tool to Empower and Inform Florida Families

The Florida Department of Education unveiled a new website that will help Florida families make critical education decisions by enabling them to access school and district-level data and will better inform families about the state's college and career ready standards and the quality of learning taking place in their students' classrooms.

The website is live at [www.FloridaStudentsAchieve.org](http://www.FloridaStudentsAchieve.org).

Learn more [here](#).