

Great Stories about Getting Students Caught Up

The following great stories describe two strategies that fellows from this term used to get their youth caught up on their assignments and engaged in school.

Daily Homework Check-ins

After trying a number of different approaches, this fellow was able to get one of her students on track by checking in with him each morning regarding his homework.



*I have a student that was struggling last semester with procrastination and getting his homework done and turned in. During the whole semester we tried various ways of getting him to remember to do his homework, from using different versions of a planner, to emailing home to have mom and dad help to remind him, but nothing was working. At the end of last semester I **decided to have him start meeting with me every morning to make sure that it was getting done.***

*He forgot a few times to come in, which resulted in me trying to find him myself (which still happens occasionally). **But those morning meetings seem to help him a lot because he realized that if I'm coming looking for him every day that he better have done his work.** At the start of it he was still pretty rocky but then he finally bought in to the whole idea. We have continued this routine this semester while also adding a Homework Lab schedule of twice a week. He hasn't missed an assignment yet (don't want to jinx that) and has really taken his classwork for his own. I'm so happy to see him succeeding and more important he's happy that he himself is doing well. I'm hopeful that he can continue this for the rest of the semester. He has really turned a new leaf for the start of the year and you can see how proud he is to be doing well.*

Providing safe places

Some students simply need a positive, stress-free environment in which to get their work done. This fellow describes how he was able to provide such an environment for one of his focus list students.

*One of my students has responded really well to the after school program I have been able to develop. She is struggling with attendance and work completion. **She has health issues in her family and this leaves her helping out a lot at home, stressing her out, and leaving her little time for homework.***

With the trouble she has completing work she often has arguments with her parents about grades. With this after school program I can see her benefiting in two ways. First she will have a supportive and dedicated time to get work done. This will lower her work load and bring her grades back up, lowering her stress level. Secondly she will get a chance to have some fun with other students and adults.

