Dear Stapleton Family,

You have most likely seen the “Yet” banner displayed at the front of the school. We have placed this sign in such a prominent place to remind our students that they possess the ‘Power of Yet’, which is a key aspect of what is termed a growth mindset. Students who have a growth mindset know that just because they do not understand a concept or have not mastered a skill, that simply means they haven’t done so ‘yet’. With perseverance and hard work, they can achieve their goals.

We know that our students are going to be faced with problems and difficulties throughout their lives. We also know that, to be successful, it is crucial that they develop the resilience and self-confidence needed to effectively deal with life’s challenges. If we can help our students achieve a growth mindset in school, they will be well-equipped to learn and succeed academically, and will have critical life skills for future success. This way or thinking is summarized in the chart below which contrasts the fixed and growth mindsets.



There are many ways that you can help your children develop a growth mindset. Here are four that I find especially powerful:

* Remind your child that the brain is a muscle that gets stronger with learning and practice.
* Focus on your child’s efforts, not necessarily results. Catch them being persistent.
* Encourage your child to have healthy attitudes toward failure and challenge. Both are natural and necessary parts of learning, and both are opportunities to learn and to grow.
* Use the word ‘yet’ often and encourage your child to do so as well. Self-talk is powerful.

Working together we can equip our students with the mindset they need to deal with adversity, and the ability to achieve success as they define it. For the amazing children that are the heart and soul of Stapleton School, the best is ‘yet’ to come.

Jim Perry :-)