

# Key Takeaways from ÉXITO

*a professional development program for teachers of English Learners in inclusive classrooms*

- **Relationships** are key
  - Professionals and students will work harder for instructors that care for and listen to them
  - Professionals and students enjoyed classes where they felt a connection with the instructor
- **Collaboration** is crucial
  - Professionals and students will learn from their peers and create relationships that improve their mental health
  - Students have more opportunities for language development through collaborative activities
- New ideas are wonderful but **don't forget the old**
  - Seasoned teachers appreciated being reminded of “old” ideas that work well
  - “Old” ideas were “new” to some of the newer teachers
  - COVID put such an emphasis on technology that students were often more engaged by “old-fashioned” hands-on activities
- **Relevant and useful assignments** are appreciated and engaging
  - Teachers appreciated having opportunities to put new knowledge to work in lesson plans that incorporated new ideas
  - Students are more engaged with lessons that feel relevant to their own lives and circumstances

