

COMMENTS FROM RECENT EVENT ATTENDEES

Powerful and society-changing information! This should be at the top of everyone's agenda in politics, public health and education. Everyone needs to hear this. This is a very powerful world view and I embrace it. Paradigm shifting! I was completely engaged with the presentation format, content, dialogue, materials and the thought-provoking learning. I get it. I am highly intrigued to learn more about this. I am an early childhood director and we are in the trenches with this every minute of our day. The emphasis on the health of children through learning resonates with me and all of my colleagues and I will use your resources to continue to learn. I have experienced the learning process as you described; from frustration, to shame, to unlearning previous constructs, to new understanding. It is powerful to begin to peel back layers of misunderstanding and to see concepts in new ways. I have been studying the reading process for 20 years and never understood the 'unnatural learning process' of reading. I took so much for granted. I have never been exposed to this concept of artificial learning processes of reading before. I will never look at the process of reading the same way again. This will stick with me forever! I will passionately share this vision for 'Stewarding the health of our children's learning' with others. - **B. O'Hearn, Early Childhood Director, Wichita Collegiate School, KS**

Applause - applause - applause. Thank you for coining the phrase that so accurately speaks what the child cannot articulate. LOVE the terminology 'Mind-Shame'. So accurate a description and so accurate its role in learning.- Beautifully done. Excellent content. Very well paced. Very well articulated. PowerPoint was unique and much better than the usual 'copy the text' style. He kept the material relevant to today's classroom while giving us some history as to how we got to this point in education in America. Speaker supported statements with professional evidence. I wish all educators were required to hear this. - **J. Smoot, Children's Dyslexia Center, Cincinnati, OH**

This was very well thought out. I believe this [Mind-Shame] is the biggest hurdle to learning! So powerful this emotion of shame. - **C. Pavetto, Wichita Collegiate School, KS**

The content and presentation was excellent--educational, thought provoking, research based - **L. Schriefer, Educator, Wichita Collegiate School, KS**

BRILLIANT! I thought the presentation was great! I learned so much in such a short period of time; I would really like to learn more about the topics discussed at a greater depth. It just made a lot of sense to me. Overall, I found it to be relevant, fascinating, and motivating! THANK YOU! - **L. Imbus, Teacher, Cincinnati, OH**

Thoroughly enjoyed it! Loved how it made people think! - **J. Hayes, Fundamental Learning Center, Wichita, KS**

I could've listened to David speak for two days straight! He was limited on time, but I soaked up everything he had to say. Awesome information! I had never thought about unhealthy learning before, typically we group all learning together and assume that any learning is good learning. Now I understand the effect of unhealthy learning. I feel like this is the one component that most people don't understand (yet, the most important) - is the mind-shame associated with dyslexia. If all teachers and parents had a better understanding of how mind-shame can completely disable a child's ability to learn - school wouldn't be the "dreaded monster" that it is today. I purchased the Children of the Code DVD set last year when it became available. I absolutely believe these are the best videos ever! There is nothing that hits home more than the interviews. So much information in one place - thank you. - **A. Collins, Educator, Wichita, KS**

Most unusual workshop I have attended in over 30 years and certainly David Boulton presented many things to think about. I found this (Mind-Shame) to be so true and have shared this with several adults and several of my students already. - **H. Ballinger, Dyslexia Tutor, Cincinnati, OH**

An eye-opener for me. My perspective was broadened extensively beyond what I've been focusing on which has been reading (decoding, fluency, etc.). I now consider healthy learning as equally important as the content I teach. I want to help my learners develop a healthy perspective not just for reading but learning in general. I was not aware of the depth mind-shame brings to learning. I want to be sensitive to my learners and do all I can to show them it's an obstacle that can be overcome. I want to foster healthy learning in my students so they won't ever see themselves as failures. Thank you for bringing your message to Wichita! - **H. Perez, Educator, Wichita KS**

Everything he talked about made you really think about yourself and about the children you work with. Since I am a parent as well as a tutor there were things you talked about that my son did throughout his time in school. All of us as parents have probably fallen into the unhealthy learning column at one time or another because you want your child to succeed. Hearing about it through the presentation makes you think about how to approach learning differently. I feel everything is at stake. - **A. Dillman, Teacher, Cincinnati, OH**

Inspiring, informative, exciting thank you for an inspiring and motivating conference. - **K. Martin, Teacher, Cincinnati, OH**

This was such a powerful conference and I know you were only able to scratch the surface of your topic. It was very eye opening and emotional. Excellent information. Every educator needs to hear this. The media clips and slides were excellent. - **K. Brown, Teacher, Fayetteville Public Schools, KS**

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Wow! Your presentation was very informative and eye opening. Every parent and teacher needs to hear this!! It definitely showed me a lot I need to guard against in my parenting and teaching. What you were saying about their not being inert plastic to be molded - it is definitely a paradigm shift and requires a lot of reflecting. Very powerful! - **J. Lancaster, Educator, Wichita, KS**

Great Speaker! Loved the visuals! The information presented was very needful to help understand our Children of the Code. It was an eye opener. Never thought of the difference (healthy v unhealthy learning). Never thought of artificial learning. I was glad to understand what first-person learning is. It helped me to better understand about the beginnings of learning. Hadn't heard it spoken this way but enjoyed hearing every bit of it. - **S. Marr, Citizen, Wichita, KS**

I learned, or was reminded, of several things that I had forgotten. You presented a much bigger picture of what's at stake. It was important to hear about the shame factor and be reminded that it is not their fault! I really don't have issues with my younger children, but by MS we teachers tend to focus more on their 'attitude' and 'motivation' as the factors that they aren't doing well.... SHAME brings a whole new dimension to that... I liked how it wasn't solely focused on dyslexics, good to know (and sad) that 90% of the kids that come to us have environmentally spurred reading disabilities and only 10% are truly dyslexic. Loved the PowerPoint's, love that most of them seem to be online. Thank you for all the work you've done to help bring about understanding to reading and literacy :) - **N. Trujillo, Educator, St. Marks Elementary, Wichita, KS**

I so enjoyed your presentation - it really made me think (am still thinking) about how we approach teaching/learning as well as how mind shame easily comes into play. I really liked how you incorporate various video clips into your presentation to support your findings/research. I loved that you didn't have a 'set' power point presentation and were able to address the audience with a click on your many icons. - **S. Packard, Parent, Wichita, KS**

Made me think about the path that education is taking today. Learning has an emotional component that cannot be ignored. There is way too much unhealthy learning going on in schools today and no way near enough healthy learning. There needs to be reform in the healthy learning direction. It made me think of personal experiences of my own and those of my students. I will do my part the best I can to steward the health of our children's learning. The future of society as we know it is at stake. There is hope. Looking forward to learning more. - **S. Woedl, Teacher, Cincinnati, OH**

I think you are right on with mind-shame. I would like to have heard more about when shame is appropriate vs harmful. Mr. Boulton is a very captivating speaker. He certainly made me question some of my own misconceptions about learning. I wish that we would have had more time to get into how to advocate change to make a better learning environment for our children! - **C. Fowler, Parent, Wichita, KS**

The presentation was exactly what I wanted. I get tired of how-to presentations, so I appreciated the philosophical, big-picture approach. - **C. Woods, Educator, Cincinnati, OH**

I am a student in the College of Education at WSU and this conference opened my eyes to so much and I hope to use some of the strategies and information when I become an educator. I never thought of learning as being unhealthy but it is so true. Knowing the history of the code makes me realize how complex our code is and why it is rare to be an efficient reader. We definitely have to make sure that children don't blame themselves and think there is something wrong with them when they have issues learning the code. - **A. Winkel, Educator, Wichita, KS**

I appreciated learning more about the big picture in education, and how I can help focus my teaching as well as any input to the school district. I see this (mind-shame) all the time in my students with labeled learning disabilities. Why do all the school districts and the people responsible for formatting curriculum and standards not know about this? Every parent and teacher should know this information. My students have felt shame and it is a difficult spot to help them through as the "world" tells them it is their fault. Thank you for your insights and being a voice of reason in the now insane world of educational standards and expectations. - **S. Gawronski, Educator, Cincinnati, OH**

Because of our time constraint we didn't get to hear much about healthy learning, but it was helpful to consider what constitutes maladaptive learning. Shame is crippling to many areas of our lives. It is important to consider how a child w/mind-shame might be affected in the classroom. I found this (Stewarding the Health of our Children's Learning) to be the most compelling. - **S. Brooks, Educator, Central Christian Academy, Wichita, KS**

I have followed the online interviews with several of the experts before the videos and DVD's were published during this project's development. Attending a presentation by David Boulton has helped me to understand the bigger picture of how learning unfolds in a human's life and the vital importance of healthy, loving nurturing in order to maximize the potential of an individual's inborn characteristics. This information has helped to confirm the learning I have developed over a lifetime as a student, mother, teacher, grandmother, and language tutor for struggling readers of K-adults. When the ambiguities of the code are made understandable explicitly and systematically, I have seen confidence develop and hope renewed in my students. Thank you for persisting in such a valuable social project and making this visual format available to share with others. - **A. Gardner, Educator, Cincinnati, OH**