



PRESIDENT'S BLOG

More Curious than Certain, Though Still Human

Chris Ouellette, *NEALS President*

Happy October to you all! I hope that your September was both reinvigorating and fruitful as the students returned to being within your walls! When I was selected to become a Leadership + Design fellow for the 2021-2022 school year, I was asked to live the phrase "Be More Curious than Certain." This phrase was one that I wrestled with, at first, because I thought: *of course there were moments that could have certainty. How could we ignore facts?* The phrase really clicked for me when I realized that being more curious than certain was important when there was a human element involved. I was so excited to go back and try out my new phrase. As you can probably imagine, the first time I led with, "I am curious about the choice to..." I was met with some frustration at my choice of words. My colleagues did not believe that I was actually curious about the choice, and they felt as if I was just sugar-coating the fact that I thought they were wrong.

CLICK [HERE](#) to read more...



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!

Annual Member Conference, April 19, 2023

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, [Emma Willard School](#), Troy, NY

More details to come!

OCTOBER EVENTS

JOIN US FOR REGIONAL GATHERINGS (more details found [HERE](#))

Thursday, October 12

Western MA/Capital Region

Tuesday, October 17

Boston/Metrowest/Eastern MA

Wednesday, October 18

Tri-State (CT/NY/MA)

Tuesday, October 24

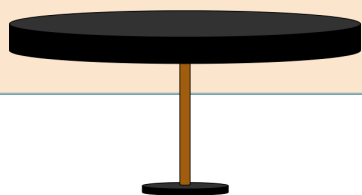
New Hampshire

WHAT WE'RE READING

Adam Grant, author of *Think Again*, added a guest opinion to the *NY Times* where he looked at the shifting landscape of the SAT test, and he dove into thoughts around timing, education, and the future. Referencing questions to his students, Grant shares, "For decades, educators have seen speed as a marker of aptitude or mastery, forcing students to scramble to finish tests. But a race against the clock doesn't measure knowledge or intelligence."

Grant explores differences between the binary genders when time pressure is applied. He tells stories about his own experiences with his daughter, who made less mistakes when time pressure was removed. These experiences led Grant to think about the effect of time pressure on anyone who worried while testing. These experiences led Grant to believe that, "If a significant portion of the students run out of time, it means the test is too long or the time period is too short."

READ the article [HERE](#)



COMING IN NOVEMBER

VIRTUAL TABLE TALK: Managing Difficult Discussions **November 8, 2023, 7-8:30 PM**

NEALS is excited to welcome Dr. Jamie Greene, Clinical Psychologist, to our November Table Talk. Dr. Greene has spent many years focusing on helping adolescents and adults manage their emotions. She has spent time in both public and private settings, and has performed countless evaluations for students.

REGISTER [HERE](#)