Education 3504 Evaluation of Learning

Reflection one: Making Classroom Assessment Work, chapter 1. Shepard’s article.

I believe the key indicators of the reading is to know the difference between assessment and evaluation. Both are key factors in teaching but more weight is put on assessment. Learning comes from good assessment. Self-assessment is also beneficial because it allows the students to give self-feedback and peer feedback. The chapter also encouraged to use outside sources as feedback as well. This helps them learn on their own and through peers. According to Shepard, the learning is transferred if there is opportunity to practice with a variety of applications thus assessment allows for these applications to exist.

Assessment comes before evaluation. It helps the students prepare themselves for evaluation because they take the feedback and learn and improve. The chapter speaks about the power of the mistakes. More learning comes from understanding the mistakes we make and correcting them. Mistakes are important in self-assessment because they allow us to look at our work, see our mistakes and correct them by making them better. Shepard mentions how tutors are allowing their students to learn by their errors. They don’t focus on the inconsequential errors but forestall the errors by dropping hints, if those hints are not recognized then the tutor intervenes. Which is important because it allows them to work through the problems, problem solving.

Assessment is also beneficial to the teachers because it allows the teacher to know what the next step of teaching should be. It helps them plan when to move on and what needs to be taught.

I have no disagreements with this chapter, while the article was a little harder to understand, the chapter was very simple and to the point. Being a swim instructor, assessment is constantly what we do. We assess before we begin a level and all during the level. Constant feedback to the chid helps them understand what is expected of them. Many times the assessment is changed between verbal, visual, and physical manipulation, each one helping the student better understand the skills that will be evaluated. It helps them prepare for Evaluation.

Assessment also takes the pressure off of evaluation. Many students do not do well under pressure of constant evaluation. Assessment allows the student to learn in a relaxed environment. Therefore I agree with what the chapter was delivering.