

MAKING THE MOST OF THE MINUTES

We asked two dozen veteran educators for their suggestions on ending the school year well, spending the summer wisely, and starting next year on the right foot. They had wise advice!

"THANK YOU!"

- Send a "thank you" to your students' caregivers. It is an honor to be a part of students' lives every day!
- Give students time to write "thank you"s to adults in the building who have been impactful this year. Leave the notes in the adults' mailboxes as a fun surprise!

PAUSE & REFLECT

- Ask students to share a memorable moment from the year.
- If you saved a piece of work from earlier in the year, return it to students & ask them to reflect on the growth they see represented.
- Write down all of your celebrations from this year! Ponder what you can do to build on those next year.
- Jot down 1 or 2 things about each student (or class) that made you a better teacher this year. Share your thinking with your students.

REST TO RECHARGE

- Look at your summer calendar and schedule "no plans" days to be intentional about taking time for rest.
- Set aside anywhere from a week to a month to "check out" of all education related things, including email & professional reading.
- "Snooze" education related Facebook groups for 30 days; they will automatically reappear after you've decompressed.

TECH TIPS

- Start a document of ideas & notes for lessons for next year. It will help eliminate the "start from scratch" overwhelmed feeling.
- Clean up your LMS sandbox course.
- Clean up your Google drive (Keep Indiana Learning has YouTube videos to help!).
- Clean up your social media & email subscriptions. Unfollow anyone who makes you feel inadequate. Follow those who inspire & empower you!

STRETCH & GROW

- Spend some time, from hours to days, exploring something new that interests you. Even better? Find a teacher friend to explore with you!
- Pick a book to read to learn something new or stretch your thinking.
- Learn a new skill which stretches your creativity - sketch noting, painting, guitar.
- What's a goal you have for next school year? What are steps you can take now toward that accomplishment?

A DAB OF PRACTICAL

- With extra "prep period" time in May, start some lesson planning for August. Even go so far as to cut out bulletin board pieces and make copies!
- When packing your classroom, make 1 box of things you'll need first in the fall - scissors, tape, stapler, etc. Make sure to label the box & leave it on the top of the pile!