



Standard 1 Reflection on Pecha Kucha - Angela Jurgensen

I have chosen my Pecha Kucha presentation as one of the evidences for Standard 1 of the BC TRB standards. This presentation was intended to inspire younger people to find what makes them truly happy and alive -- their "spark". While preparing this Pecha Kucha, I remembered my oldest son, who had a hard time figuring out his path. He was very unhappy with school, and thought he would never find something he was truly good at, or that would make him happy. I noticed he sang and hummed a lot in the house, and finally suggested for him to enter the High School choir. Soon, singing became his life, and he is now a professional choir singer. But without that initial push, he would never have pursued this dream, or found out what his spark actually was.

One of the grade nine pottery students in my previous practicum was extremely good at drawing. I caught his friends teasing him on how art was not an actual profession. One of them even said that there was no point at all in being good at it, as it made no money. I intervened, and pointed out that he doesn't have to be a professional artist if he doesn't want to be, and that he can have art as a passion forever. I also pointed out that should he choose to follow this passion, there are many successful artists nowadays, particularly now with all the advancements in animation and technology.

Sometimes, all we need is a little push in the right direction; this is the importance of my Pecha Kucha presentation. I also wanted to clarify that the spark is what makes you happy, and each spark is different. You should not let others dictate what is "cool" or what you should or should not be doing. I want my students to follow their dreams, to feel alive while doing it, and to bring light to the world by embracing their true self.

Is enough being done in school daily to help students find their spark?