

April 2021

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A message from our Director

Easter - A time to remember Gratitude.

Gratitude is easy when life is good. Experiencing gratitude and other positive emotions helps us to be more resilient when experiencing negative emotions. Right now, many of our current sources of positive emotion (overseas travel, adventure, in person connection, exploration, hobbies) have disappeared. But gratitude is always within our reach.

Gratitude is one of the greatest win/wins. I love what Brother Steindal-Rast wrote; "If you're grateful, you're not fearful. If you're not fearful, you're not violent. The grateful act out of a sense of enough, not scarcity, so they are willing to share. Grateful people are joyful people; the more joyful people are, the more we'll have a joyful world".

At Easter, let's be grateful for what we have. Share a hug, kiss a loved one. Remember the moment and feeling when a young child finds their first Easter egg. Celebrate that moment, dare to be a child again. May this Easter be a time, where gratitude runs free, full of fun and fantastic times.

Stay well,

*Rick Vagnoni
Director
Critical Agendas*

Adam Kruger



Scott Rumble



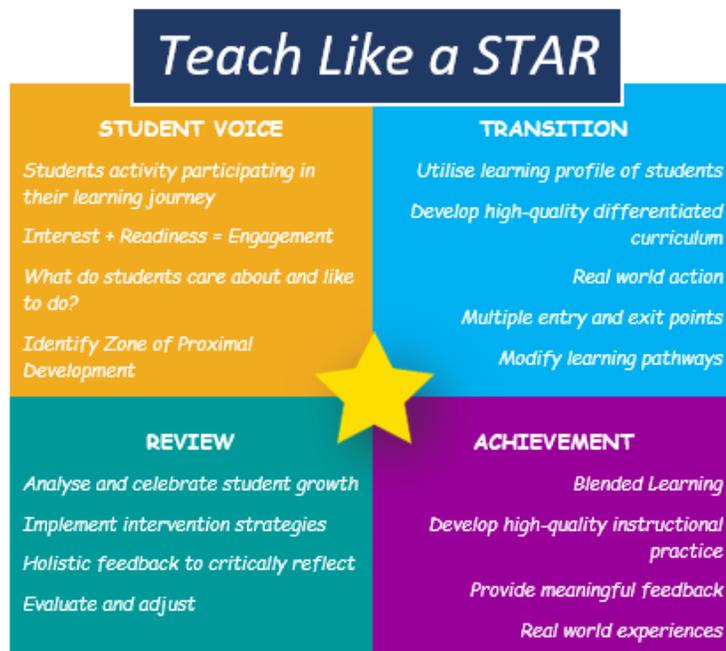
Adam and Scott are energetic, captivating presenters and well-known educators in their area. They are the creators of the STAR Program which is a student-centred approach to learning. Adam and Scott are currently the Assistant Principals of Teaching and Learning and Senior School at Lyndhurst Secondary College but have also served as consultants, co-ordinators and developers. Adam and Scott have led schools to improve teaching and learning through the use of data analysis and effective feedback strategies. They both truly understand how to connect research and practice in education. Their passion for education is alive in their work with students, parents, teachers and leaders.

From the Presenters Desk

Teachers and leaders across Australia are adopting our STAR Framework as a way of creating a school culture that generates a community of learners. This Framework comprises a collection of interconnected research-based strategies for:

- Developing a high-quality differentiated curriculum
- High-quality instruction practice that incorporates effective feedback
- Measuring student growth through data analysis
- Effective Leadership
- Implementing change
- Managing difficult staff

It also provides a common school-wide language for teachers and leaders to use. Participants in all of our workshops will gain access to use our highly engaging teaching, learning and leadership strategies and our renowned data analysis tool.



Students learn best when they are motivated to learn by seeing the value and importance of the information presented. For teachers, the framework comprises proven methods that motivate students to engage in their learning and create an interactive atmosphere which allows for student voice. Building connections through differentiated curriculum and practice will challenge students at their point of need.

Teachers that instill this framework within their classroom allow for students to become life-long learners – always questioning, taking ownership of their learning and celebrating achievement.

Successful school improvement requires that leaders are continually reflective on their capacity to lead. Our STAR framework used by leaders will ensure that students receive a quality education and the best opportunities for success in school and life.

Leadership in a healthy school culture is a balancing act of providing effective support, professional

development, structure and accountability. As leaders it is imperative that we listen to our community, plan for change, develop shared actions and celebrate our successes.

Adam and Scott are passionate, knowledgeable presenters and truly dedicated educators. They co-developed the STAR Framework to guide teachers and leaders to have success within all aspects of school life and promote student growth. This Framework has had proven success in improving VCE data, particularly through the use of differentiation and collaboration in professional learning communities. Adam and Scott appreciate opportunities to enable educators to empower young learners in learning for life.

Scott and Adam are offering the following sessions in Term 2, 2021

22/04/2021 [Teach like a STAR](#)

26/04/2021 [Empower your teaching through data analysis and differentiation](#)

14/05/2021 [Introduction to Leadership](#)

20/05/2021 [Real world assessment within the curriculum – Encouraging Student Voice](#)

21/05/2021 [How to create and lead an effective Professional Learning Community](#)

07/06/2021 [How to differentiate your class using effective feedback](#)

09/06/2021 [How to be an effective leader in schools](#)

10/06/2021 [Are you struggling to engage middle school students in the maths classroom?](#)



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Upcoming Term 2 Webinars

- 19/04/2021 | [Set up your students early to perform brilliantly in exams](#)
- 22/04/2021 | [Teach like a STAR](#)
- 26/04/2021 | [Empower your teaching through data analysis and differentiation](#)
- 27/04/2021 | [Teaching English pronunciation to speakers of other languages](#)
- 27/04/2021 | [Brilliant Strategies and Ideas to Engage and Develop Junior English Yrs 5 – 10](#)
- 28/04/2021 | [Effective Strategies to Engage Reluctant Learners](#)
- 28/04/2021 | [Implementing positive psychology interventions with students for success outcomes](#)
- 29/04/2021 | [Coaching the Complex Boys in your Class](#)
- 30/04/2021 | [Fearful, Worried and Scared to Try – Teaching Students with Anxiety](#)
- 03/05/2021 | [Strategies to increase your student's resilience](#)
- 03/05/2021 | [Creative Writing through the focus of Students' individuality & perspective](#)
- 04/05/2021 | [Teaching Complex, Hard to Reach, Disinterested and Disruptive Students](#)
- 04/05/2021 | [Integrating Theory of Knowledge into your IB classes](#)
- 05/05/2021 | [Data Driven Mental Health](#)
- 05/05/2021 | [Creating Powerful Rubrics](#)
- 06/05/2021 | [Developing assessment tasks in Languages](#)
- 06/05/2021 | [Effectively Teaching and Supporting Students with Low Working Memory](#)
- 07/05/2021 | [Turbo Teaching Cognitive Science, HITS and efficient Learning](#)
- 07/05/2021 | [Uncovering the Incredible Power of Student Leadership in your School](#)
- 10/05/2021 | [Advanced Strategies to Thrive as a Year Level Co-ordinator](#)
- 10/05/2021 | [Restorative Practices - An Introduction](#)
- 11/05/2021 | [Engaging Students in Drama Grade 5 to Year 10](#)
- 11/05/2021 | [How to conduct Difficult Conversations](#)
- 12/05/2021 | [Implementing positive psychology interventions with students for success outcomes](#)
- 12/05/2021 | [Dyslexia - Practical Skills and Ideas to use in the classroom](#)
- 13/05/2021 | [Viewing: Managing a new macro-skill in Year 7-12 Language classes](#)
- 13/05/2021 | [Concept based learning in IB Language A: Language and Literature courses](#)
- 14/05/2021 | [Introduction to Leadership](#)
- 14/05/2021 | [Increasing the Knowledge and Skills of your Management and Administration Staff](#)
- 17/05/2021 | [Achieving Excellence in Debating and Persuasive Speaking](#)
- 17/05/2021 | [Behaviour Management for New and Beginning Teachers](#)
- 18/05/2021 | [Developing your Front of Office Communication and Relationship Skills](#)
- 18/05/2021 | [Inspiring Boys to Write and Write Well](#)
- 19/05/2021 | [Masterful Leadership Communication](#)
- 19/05/2021 | [Measure Twice, Cut Once - Tools for Formative Assessment](#)
- 20/05/2021 | [Real world assessment within the curriculum – Encouraging Student Voice](#)
- 21/05/2021 | [How to create and lead an effective Professional Learning Community](#)
- 24/05/2021 | [Effective Strategies for Teaching Students with Dyscalculia](#)
- 24/05/2021 | [How to inspire the best writing from your students: fiction and non-fiction](#)
- 25/05/2021 | [Catering for the Most Gifted Students across the Curriculum](#)
- 26/05/2021 | [Increasing Student Learning Using Metacognition](#)
- 26/05/2021 | [Creating Purposeful Individual Education Plans](#)
- 31/05/2021 | [Managing Front of Office Conversations, Conflict & Cranky People](#)

You can register at www.criticalagendas.com.au