

CAROUSEL REVIEW WITH A METACOGNITIVE SPIN

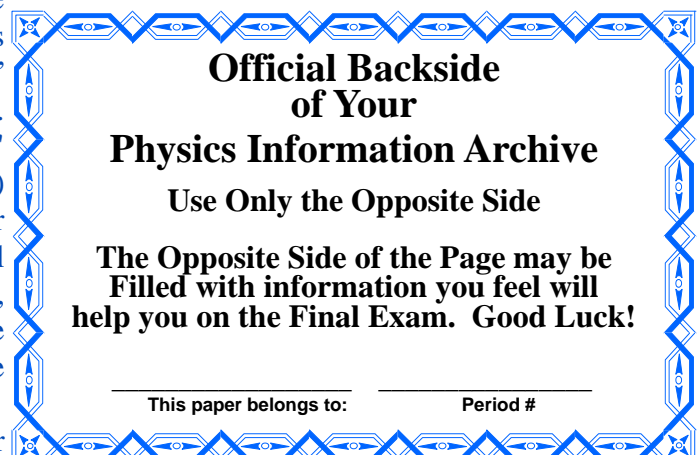
Last school year, Mr. Bob Bruns, Honors Physics teacher at Downers Grove South High School in Downers Grove, Illinois, used a *Carousel Brainstorming* review with students. They created posters on major topics, such as “waves” and “Ohm’s Law”, as a review for his honors physics final exam. However, he added an additional poster to be constructed by students on the topic, “Advice for Next Year’s Students”. He thought it might be fun to share the insights of this class with his new honors physics students starting in the fall.

Comments on the “Advice for Next Year’s Students” poster included:

- “Find real world application for everything.”
- “Read the chapters.”
- “Learn things conceptually.” (Another group added, “If you don’t, you don’t stand a chance.”)
- “Read the lab procedure the day before.”
- “Make good note cards.”
- “Get physics friends and use them.” (Another group added, “Get their phone numbers, you’ll need them.”)
- “Keep your 3x5 study note cards for each unit for the final exam.”
- “Come in early before school.”
- “Always do your homework problems. They’ll be good practice for the test.”
- “READ THE BOOK!!!”

The next morning, Mr. Bruns grouped the charts on the same topics from all four of his classes on his wall. Students did a “Gallery Walk” recording useful information for their final exam. He allowed them to create one 8-1/2" x 11" summary sheet. (See the “Official Backside.”) His students found this process very helpful for studying and learning the material for the final exam. According to an e-mail from Bob Bruns, “The final exam curves for honors physics were about 10% higher at both ends.” This is the kind of data we love to hear!

This fall, Bob will share the “Advice” poster with his new students.



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