**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Principal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Mr. Tommy Gober

DATE: 11-18-2009

SUBJECT: Six Hats

Sir/Ma’am:

I was recently introduced to the Six Hats Strategy for classroom instruction. I find the approach both novel and creative. I believe use of this critical thinking approach in the classroom will allow students to explore new ideas as well as promote a more engaging learning environment.

In a nutshell, the Six Hats approach is broken down into colors: Red, white, blue, black, green and yellow. Colors are representative of the following approaches to critical thinking: emotional response, information and facts, realistic and functional planning, cautionary and logical judgment, creativity and exploration, and positive outlook, respectively. Each color symbolizes the mindset and students are able to identify each part of the process based on the color “hat” in use. As an introduction, students are given actual colored hats to wear and swap, this helps the student further immerse themselves in the associated pattern of thought. Other students are able to identify a student’s role simply by the color of the hat worn.

The Six Hats give students the opportunity to fully explore one aspect of an idea or lesson. Students are allowed to share their input on the lesson for the benefit of others. By promoting cooperation, students are able to get a better idea of the “big picture”.

I think this is a great approach that we should look into using in our classrooms. I would welcome the opportunity to use this in my classroom.