Please enjoy this complimentary excerpt from *Teaching the Whole Teen* by Rachel Poliner and Jeffrey Benson. Use these feedback starters and responses to inform your strategies for delivering feedback in your classroom that students can use.

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## TOOL 6-1 Feedback Starters and Responses

### Feedback Starters

Remember key qualities to give feedback that students can USE: usable, specific, encouraging.

- Now I understand _____ better.
- The _____ part was really clear.
- The _____ part was memorable.
- I like how . . .
- Your idea reminded me of . . .
- Now I’m curious about . . .
- I am not sure about . . .
- The _____ part wasn’t clear.
- The _____ part confused me.
- I didn’t see how the _____ and _____ parts connected.
- I want to add . . .

### Feedback Responses

1. Take steps so you can be ready to hear feedback.
   - Take a few deep breaths.
   - Have some self-talk messages that you use over time and become your habit.
     - “I can only know how my presentation sounds to others if I hear reactions.”
     - “Listening is just listening; then I’ll decide what to do with the feedback.”

2. Remember that once given, the feedback is yours to use fully, use partly, or set aside.
   “Thanks for your feedback” can be followed by
   - “I agree.”
   - “I’ll think about it.”
   - “Can you explain more about _____?”
   - “Wow, I hadn’t thought about it that way.”