

## *Creating an Environment*

What does this “culture” look like? How can we identify it? And how can we promote that culture? What specific recommendations can we give teachers?

- The environment must be safe, secure, and all student responses valued.
- Questions are never used to punish or embarrass.
- Expectations for student involvement are high and students are reminded of their responsibilities frequently.
- Math is not a spectator sport.
- The responsibility for learning lies directly with the students.
- Teachers do not tell, they ask!
- Struggle is good. Frustration is not.
- Incorrect ways of thinking are just as important as those that are correct.
- Teachers use positive strategies to engage all students.