

## TENETS AND KEY IDEAS ON CHOICE

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### Goals for Choice:

#### To encourage:

1. The acknowledgment of choice in every circumstance.
2. The development of decision-making skills.
3. Taking responsibility for choices.
4. The belief that mistakes are learning opportunities.

Great Expectations is an eclectic approach to education encompassing the very best of what is known about teaching today. Drawing from their own pedagogic journey, educators strive to model an integrated, holistic approach to learning, in turn, helping those around them to become self-directed, productive citizens, effective communicators, critical thinkers, and cooperative contributors in life.

Based on six core beliefs, or **tenets**, educators can create a **vision** for progression and growth toward their greatest potential. The Great Expectations **17 Practices** support your vision with practical skills, strategies, and resources to make the vision a reality. Our goal is to guide you with a choice; to imagine something greater for yourself and those you lead.

Choice is foundational to personal investment by shareholders - educators, learners, parents, and supporters. It serves as an integral link between general decision-making, goal setting, problem-solving and conflict resolution. The decision-making process encourages, motivates, challenges, and inspires.

Addressing the concept of choice, the **C.R.O.S.S. ROADS™ Decision-making Process** is a tool that...

1. Places responsibility in the hands of the individual
2. Guides an individual through five steps towards making thoughtful informed decisions and achieving results through personal planned effort.
3. Builds constant evaluation and revision skills reinforcing that mistakes are okay, and simply learning opportunities resulting in growth.

**Dr. William Glasser**, author of **The Choice Theory**, is quoted as saying,

*“Students cannot be coerced to learn, nor can they be forced to behave in a certain manner. The choice of how to behave is just that, “a choice.” What education needs to do is to teach students how to make better choices.”*

***“We almost always have choices, and the better the choice, the more we will be in control of our lives.”*** Dr. William Glasser

**The Starfish Story** by Loren Eiseley