“Democracy demands that we acknowledge everyone’s inalienable capacity to be an inventor, dreamer, and theorist--to count in the larger scheme of things.”

Deborah Meier’s book, *The Power of Their Ideas*, details the history and success of the Central Park East Schools, a coalition of four public schools in New York City founded as public schools of choice in 1974. That year, Anthony Alvarado, the superintendent of an East Harlem school district, approached Meier, asking her to head up a small elementary school.

The first CPE school was driven by the ideals of child and community-centered learning, conceptual and tangible curriculum, and a democratic community. Meier and her colleagues began with fewer than one hundred students. There were no entrance requirements; rather, the school accepted anyone who was interested in the same ideas and willing to collaborate with the school.

Over thirty years later, the CPE schools are still an example of high academic achievement and inspired leadership. They also provide the keystone of Meier’s passionate defense of public schools, where “citizens are joined by right, not privilege.”

*The Power of Their Ideas* offers educational leaders lessons on how to revitalize the American public school system. At the same time, however, there are important ideas for individual teachers. I read this book with my personal goals of high standards, academic achievement, and a nurturing classroom community, and found that this small school in Harlem had some lessons for me.
From their more fixed mindset perspective, their intelligence had been up for judgment, and they failed. Instead of luxuriating in the power of yet, they were gripped in the tyranny of now. So what do they do next? I'll tell you what they do next. In one study, they told us they would probably cheat the next time instead of studying more if they failed a test. In another study, after a failure, they looked for someone who did worse than they did so they could feel really good about themselves. And in study after study, they have run from difficulty. But on the right, you have the students with the growth mindset, the idea that abilities can be developed. They engage deeply. Their brain is on fire with yet. They process the error. Perhaps it’s time to learn about the power of the subconscious mind. In 3 steps, this 8-minute video will teach you one of the most powerful and notorious visualization exercises — Napoleon Hill’s Invisible Counselors Visualization Technique. Watch this quick clip or read the transcript of the video (below) to tap into the power of your subconscious mind. Napoleon Hill’s Invisible Counselors Visualization Technique (Transcript). Where do brilliant ideas come from? How do the world’s most prolific artists, business people, thinkers and inventors get the inspiration for their ideas, creation