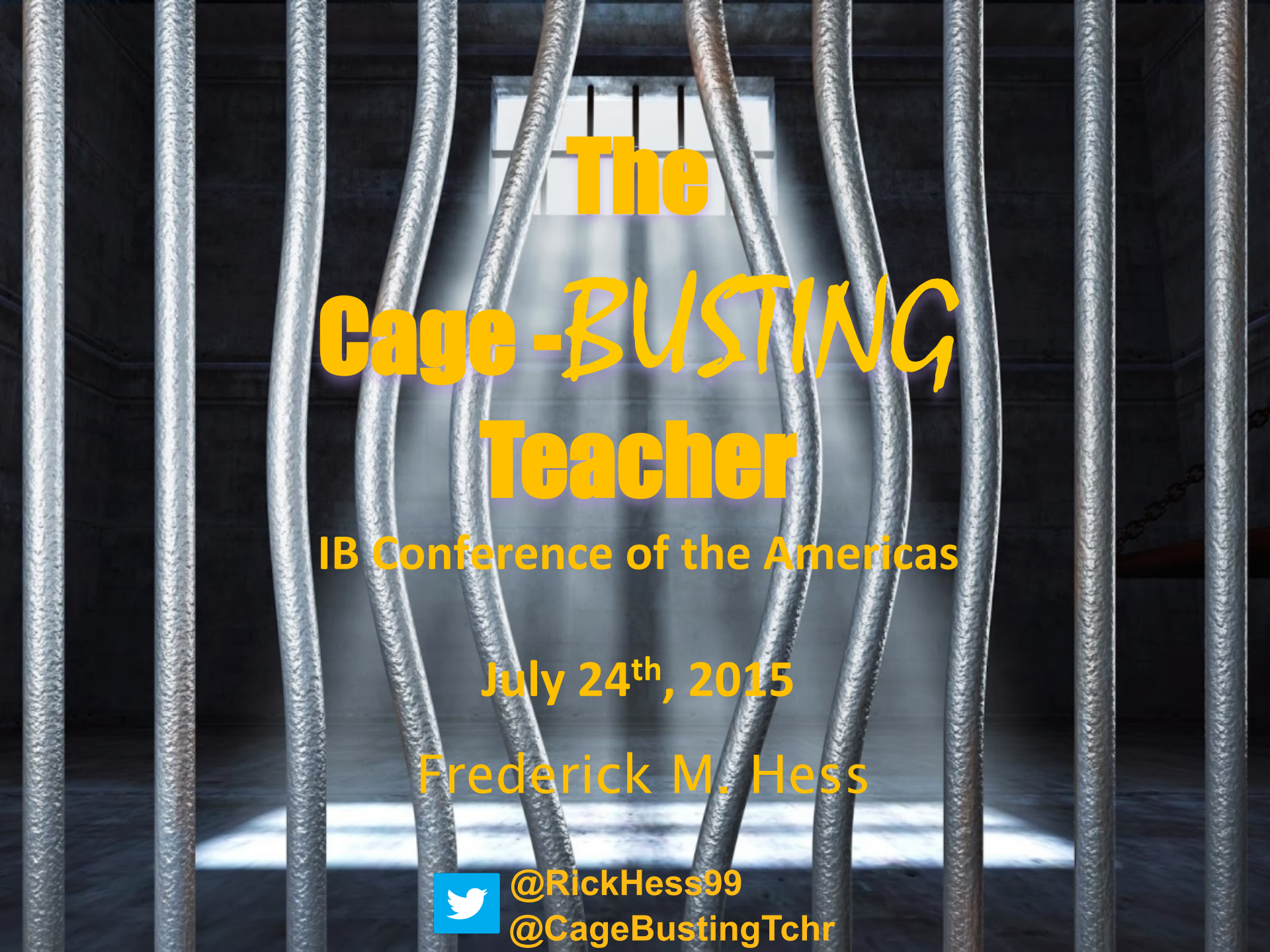




# IB CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS 2015

*Chicago, IL • 23–26 July*



**The**  
**Cage-BUSTING**  
**Teacher**

**IB Conference of the Americas**

**July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Frederick M. Hess**



**@RickHess99**

**@CageBustingTchr**

# The Classroom Cage



# The Bars of the Cage

- Isolating culture
- Being told “Stay in your lane”
- Churning leadership
- Policy that doesn’t make sense

# Romanticizing the Cage

O CAPTAIN  
MY CAPTAIN

*Dead Poets Society*



# Why Teachers Get Frustrated



*C. Rowatt*

*"Then, gentlemen, it is the consensus of this meeting  
that we say nothing, do nothing, and hope it all blows  
over before our next meeting."*

CN  
COLLECTION

# Stuck in the Cage

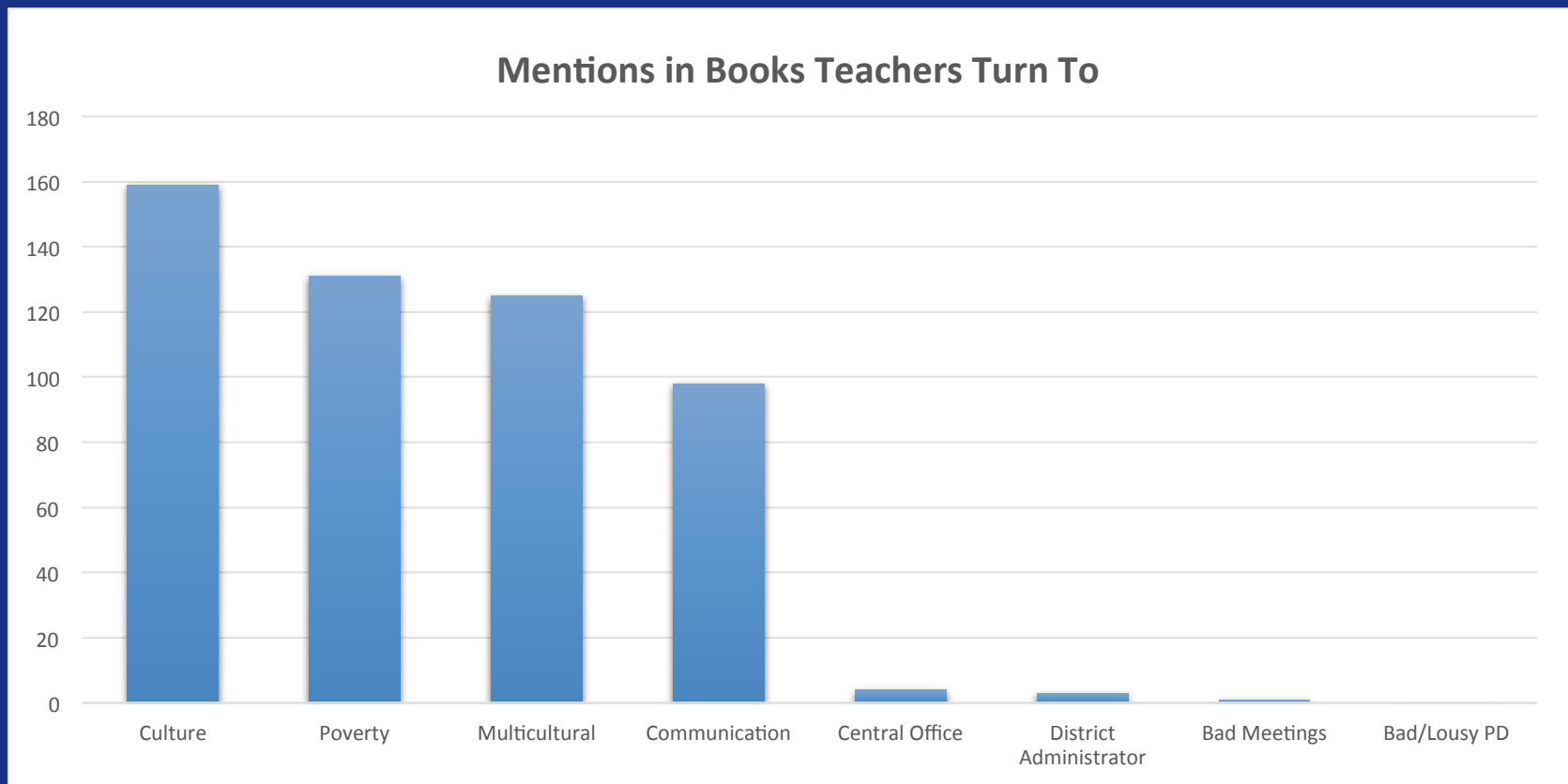


**YOU WILL RESPECT MY AUTHORITY!**





# The Stuff of Cage-Busting Doesn't Get Much Attention



Note: From 29 most recommended books for teachers. Books found by combining GoodReads' top 20 books for "teacher" with a list collected by collating results from first three pages of a Google search for "recommended books for teachers."

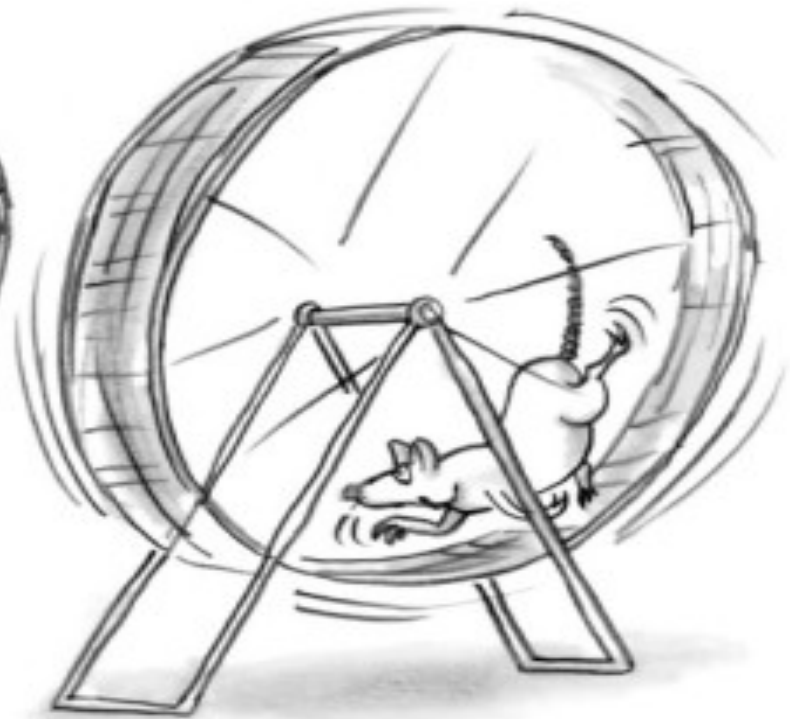
# How Did We Get Here?



# It Doesn't Have to be This Way



KAE



*"I had an epiphany."*

# Cage-Busting and the Classroom



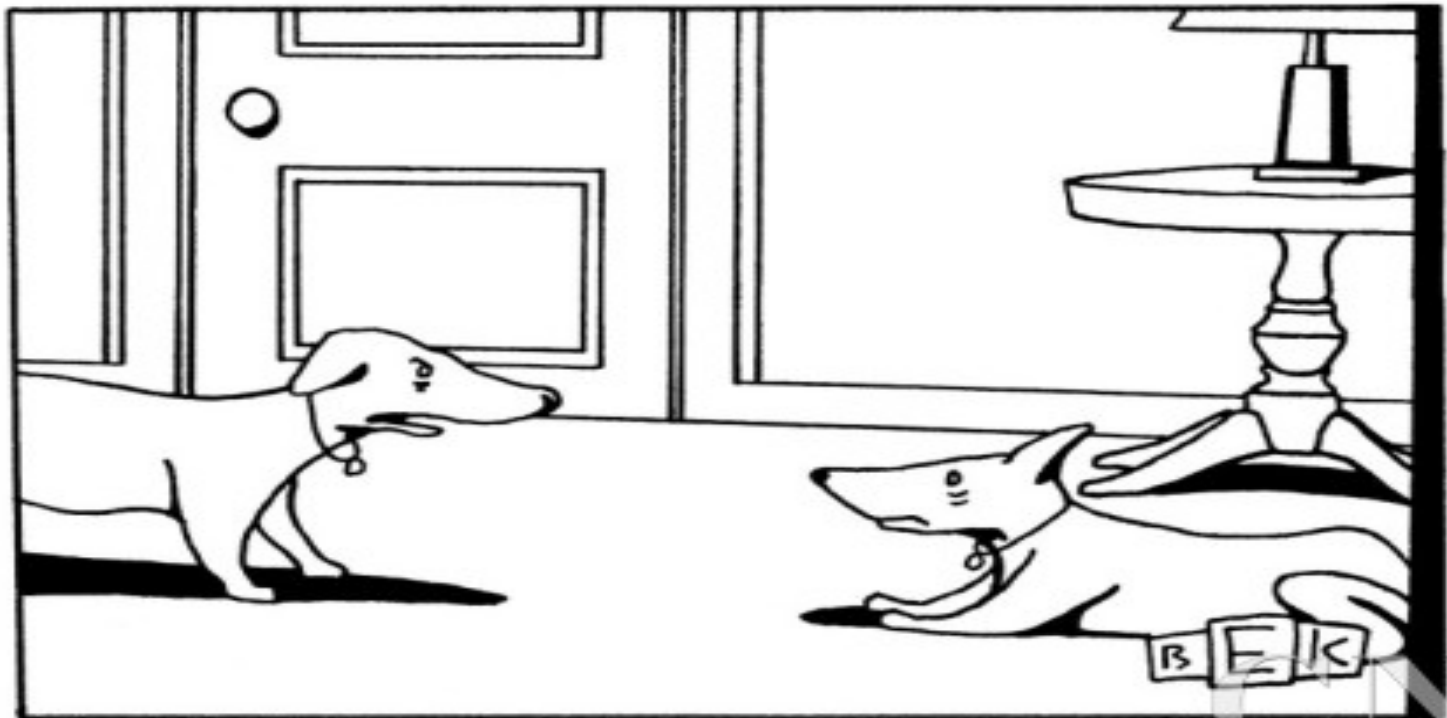
# Cages Can Be Busted If You...

- Identify Problems



# Cages Can Be Busted If You...

- Identify problems



*"Pee on the carpet!" That's your solution to everything.*

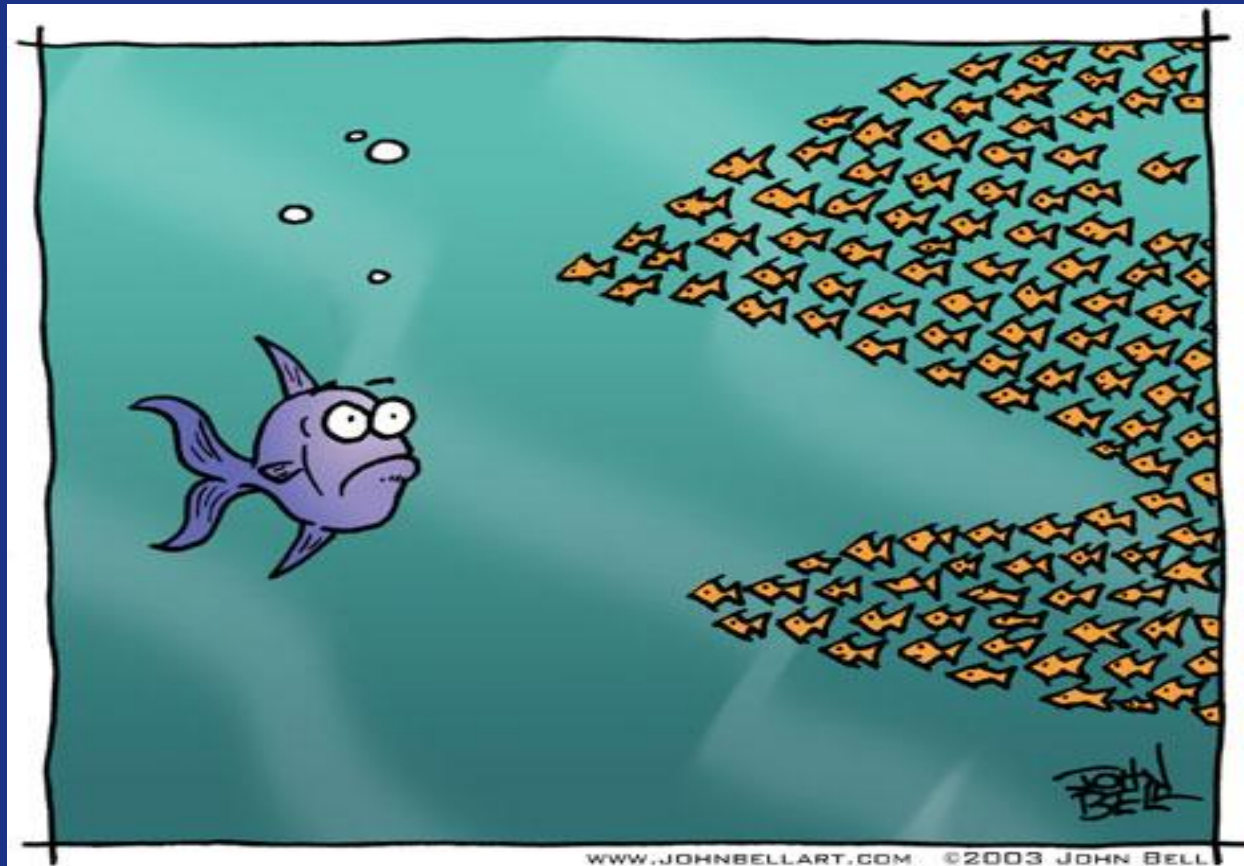
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# Cages Can Be Busted If You...

- Identify problems
- Offer solutions
- Empathize



# There's Strength in Numbers





# It's a Choice, Man

© Cartoonbank.com



*"At what point does this become our problem?"*

# Those Damn Policymakers



*"I want out!"*

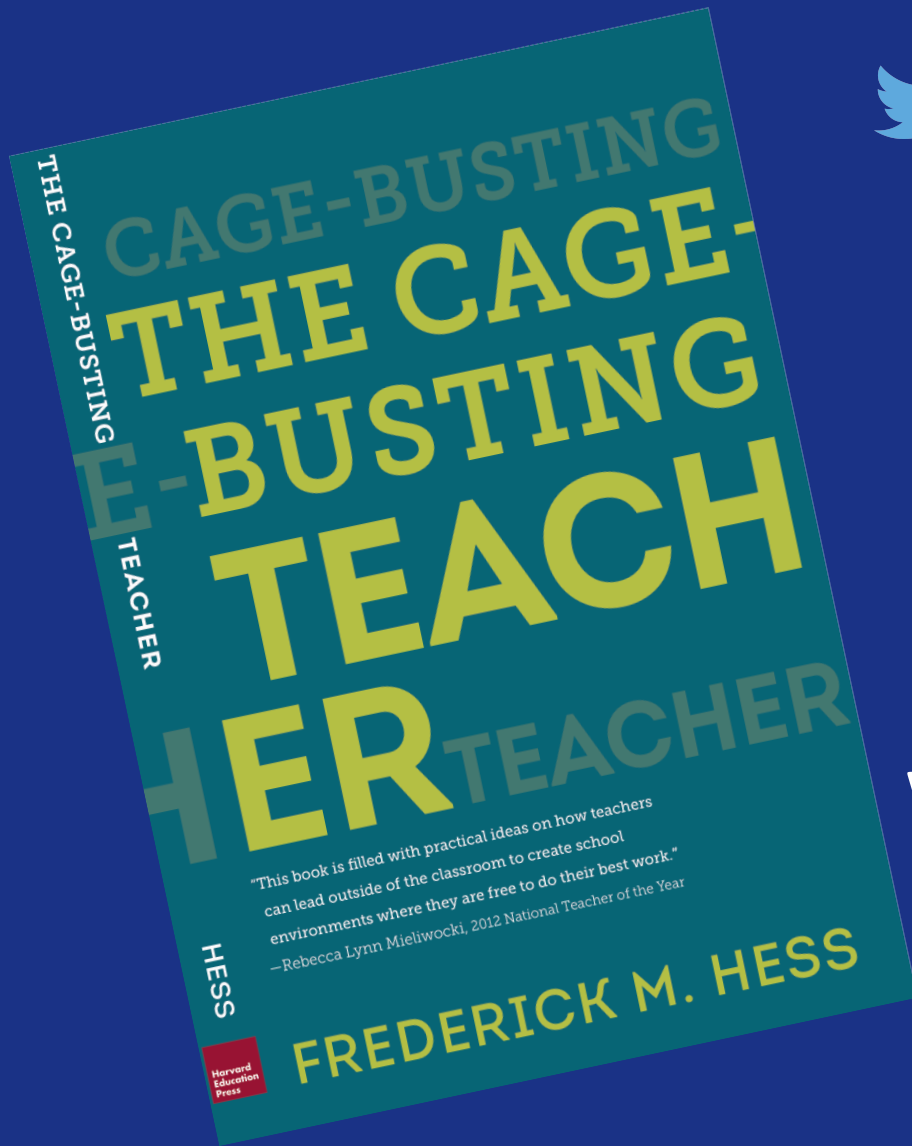
S. Gross  
CN  
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# Getting Started

- Action drives culture
- Start small, be concrete
- Practice before policy

# A Few Tips to Remember

- You can make your principal great
- The “lucky” get luckier
- Focus on solving problems
- Police the profession



**@CageBustingTchr**

**@RickHess99**

**For articles, interviews,  
videos and other resources:**

**[www.cagebustingteacher.com](http://www.cagebustingteacher.com)**



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