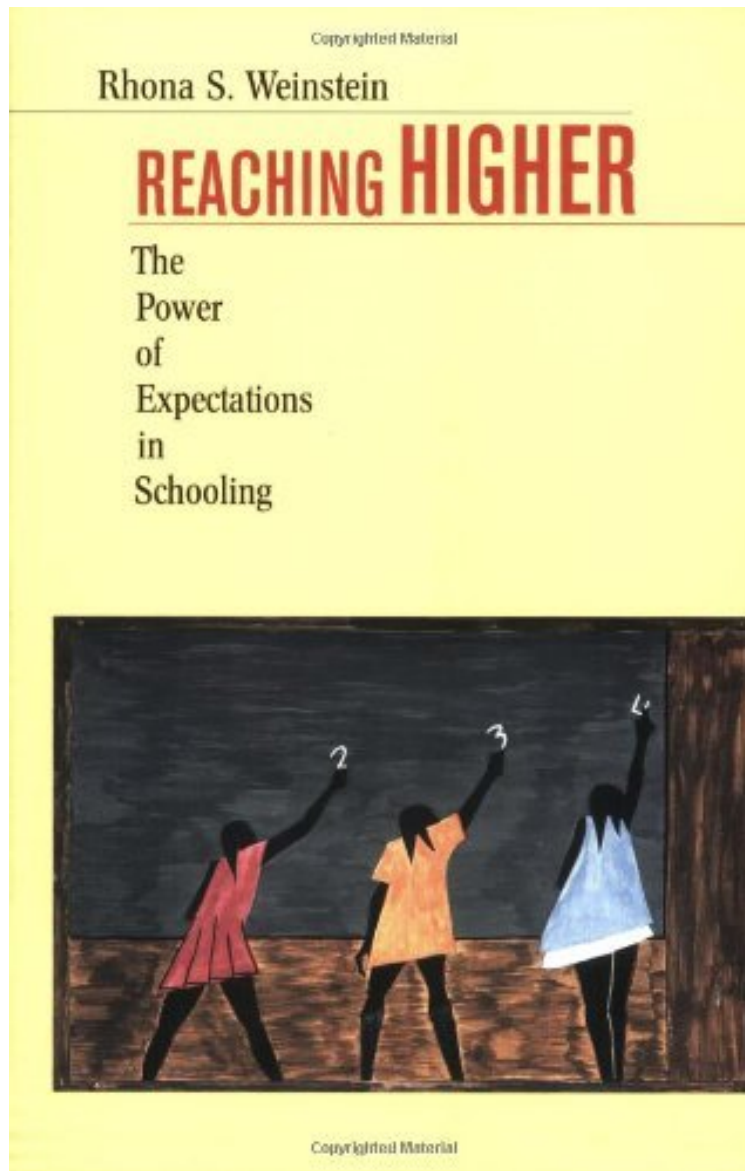


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Reaching Higher

Rhona S. WEINSTEIN

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Rhona S. WEINSTEIN : Reaching Higher before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Reaching Higher:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Even as a graduate student this was a very arduous ...By AlanaEven as a graduate student this was a very arduous read but it was worth it and I'm sure I will use it as a reference in my future papers and discussions about education. Very well written and laid out for educators, students and even parents.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A must read for all educators!By Maria FosterIf you are

serious about wanting to affect change as an educator, then read this book! I think it is a must read for all educators. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. powerful study of the education system By Arlene Rosenbloom Rhona Weinstein's book, "Reaching Higher: The Power of Expectations in Schooling", should be a mandatory reading requirement for all teachers .I have just finished this book and my head is reeling from its implications. It is extremely thought provoking and, in a way, disturbing, because the complacency of the "infallible" structure of the whole system of education is shaken to its very core. I absolutely agree with Rhona Weinstein's self fulfilling prophecies and expectancy theory; I just never had a name to put to it before. I have seen so few teachers who can actually foster that tremendous sense of excitement and capability and possibility in teaching every child to strive to fulfill his/her potential. It is an amazing gift to really see the uniqueness of every child, and to truly believe that every child is capable of doing all that he/she wants; he just has to try and learn and develop and he will succeed. It is a tragedy when teachers cannot see past children like Adam's inability to spell and write in conventional manner; that they can be so blinded by poor spelling that they cannot appreciate the brilliance and the creativity of the ideas underneath. Is the goal of our education system to memorize a certain curriculum in a specified period of time, or to foster a sense of excitement for knowledge, to learn the skills to take a child and create a lifelong learner? What an exciting challenge and opportunity if our education system would embrace Rhona Weinstein's theories, and create a new and better model for learning in all our schools. I wish more educators could think like Rhona Weinstein. The world would be a better place if that were so.

Drawing upon a generation of research on self-fulfilling prophecies in education, Reaching Higher argues that our expectations of children are often too low. Weinstein shows that children typed early as "not very smart" can go on to accomplish far more than is expected of them by an educational system with too narrow a definition of ability. She faults the system, pointing out that teachers themselves are harnessed by policies that do not enable them to reach higher for all children.