TENETS OF MODERN SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIVISM

- Learning is dependent on the prior conceptions the learner brings to the experience.
- The learner must construct his or her own meaning.
- Learning is contextual.
- Learning is dependent on the shared understandings learners negotiate with others.
- Effective teaching involves understanding students’ existing cognitive structures and providing appropriate learning activities to assist them.
- Teachers can utilize one or more key strategies to facilitate conceptual change, depending on the congruence of the concepts with student understanding and conceptualization.
- The key elements of conceptual change can be addressed by specific teaching methods.
- Greater emphasis should be placed on “learning how to learn” than on accumulating facts. In terms of content, less is more.