

May Staff Development Newsletter

A Newsletter for the Staff by Dr. Dominy

Finishing with a Bang!

Believe it or not, we are in the month of May! Many of the posts that I have included in this newsletter have been about creating moments, which has been our district theme this year. I appreciate how each of you created special moments for your students in the classroom and in extracurricular activities. Your students will remember these moments and your classrooms long after we are gone.

This month I want to continue our theme and encourage you to think about ending the school year on a high note. The end of the school year provides many opportunities to celebrate accomplishments, complete special projects, and showcase academic and athletic accomplishments. The end of the year can also end with a fizzle, but with intentional planning, your students will remember your class well into the future.

Check out this blog from Jon Gordon:

While watching a fireworks show with my family on July 4th it occurred to me that all great fireworks shows end the same way... with a bang. They save the best and most spectacular displays for their grand finale. You can't help but clap at the end. Now compare a fireworks show to many lectures, sales presentations and customer service experiences. They often start off strong but instead of ending with a bang, they fizzle. The sales presentation that has a great hook in the beginning but doesn't leave a lasting impression at the end. The speech that makes you glad it's over instead of making you want to hear more. The restaurant server who makes a great first impression but is nowhere to be found when you want to pay the bill and leave. The teacher who fails to inspire his students to take action at the end of the lesson. The hotel that welcomes you when you arrive but ignores you when you leave. The store that has great merchandise but fails to create a memorable experience. The examples are numerous but the solution is simple. Whatever your job or business add some fireworks to your work. Think of ways you can create a grand finale and leave a lasting impression. Finish your speech or sales presentation with a bang and give your audience a reason to clap at the end. Give your customers something positive to talk about as they walk out the door. Fireworks don't have to occur just on the 4th of July. You can create a fireworks experience every day by finishing strong and making people say "Wow!"

Teacher Evaluation Highlight- School Community Involvement

With all the extracurricular opportunities shared by Mr. Weatherholt and Mr. Moody, this is a great way to shine in this indicator!

Our evaluation model defines school community involvement in the following way: The teacher demonstrates leadership with students, colleagues, and community members in the school, district, and the community through effective communication and outreach. The teacher contributes to the mission of the district by serving on the committees, coaching, and extra duties as needed.

Following is the evidence created by Seward Public Schools teachers:

- Teacher supports extra-curricular activities through coaching, sponsorship or attending of activities.
- Teacher develops leadership in students.
- Teacher develops positive relationships with colleagues, students, parents, and community.
- Teacher is aware of the community's initiatives and participates in accordance with his or her talents and availability.
- Teacher is an active and positive participant on committees as a volunteer or as assigned.
- Teacher is a positive advocate for Seward Public Schools and the City of Seward.

Performance Nutrition

The Seward Public Schools Wellness Committee is pleased to feature a world-renowned leader in performance nutrition at the Seward High School Auditorium on **May 14th at 6:30 PM**. Dave Ellis and his performance nutrition team will be sharing their insight from fueling all of Nebraska's athletes and how we can use this information at the high school level.

Mr. Ellis will focus on the following objectives:

*Explore how food impacts performance.

*Discuss strategies/ideas on how to fuel the student-athlete during the season, during the off-season and leading up to the day of athletic competitions.

All athletes and parents of athletes should plan on attending.

