

October Staff Development News

— A NEWSLETTER FOR THE SEWARD STAFF BY DR. DOMINY —

A NOTE FROM MATT

Wow! I have been in several classrooms observing our new ELA curriculum in action, and all I can say is you are amazing! I appreciate all of the extra work that goes into implementing a new curriculum and trying to prioritize each aspect of the materials. All of this in addition to starting a new year, helping students learn a new routine, etc. Thank you, keep at it and let me know if there is anything I can do to support you in your implementation. I know that this hard work will pay off in student achievement and a love of literacy down the road. To the rest of you not implementing the new ELA curriculum, please know that I see you and I am so thankful that you are teaching our students!

JON GORDON- STRUGGLE LEADS TO STRENGTH

My wife calls me ChatJG because whenever she asks me for the right words for one of her social media posts, I can spit out exactly what she needs like the AI tool ChatGPT. I realized the other day that I can do this because I wrestled with words for years and spent thousands of hours in the past writing books, newsletters and social media posts that made me a better writer. Sometimes it took me hours to decide what I wanted to say the way I wanted to say it.

My struggle with words led to my strength as a writer.

During the pandemic my daughter earned a living delivering food via Postmates. She had to provide for herself and the struggle made her stronger. I also see the same thing happening to her as a speaker. She's on the road dealing with all the same challenges I've had over the years and I can see it building her resilience and character.

My son just graduated college and is working in his first sales job selling door to door. I'm watching him grind and having both success and failures. There are days he's struggling and I'm smiling because I know in the long run the struggle will lead to strength and skills for his life and career in the future.

If we are honest with ourselves, we want things to be easy. But we must remember that easy won't make us stronger. You have to struggle if you want strength. Anything worthwhile takes time and struggle to create. That's why meals that are made, not microwaved, are much better.

Just as lifting weights makes your muscles grow and getting sick builds your immune system, adversity, challenges and struggles are woven into the fabric of our existence and are part of our growth and refining process.

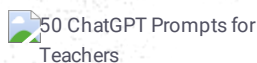
So, the next time you are struggling, don't run from it. Don't wish it was easier. Instead choose to embrace it knowing it will make you stronger.

I told my wife the other day that instead of asking me (ChatJG) for input when she's stuck writing something she should wrestle with the words on her own in order to become a better writer. She agreed and decided she was going to do that from now on.

Struggling will make her stronger and it will do the same for you.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

I mentioned in my last newsletter that there are certainly advantages to AI for teachers. Sometimes it is hard to know what to ask for. The article below has some great examples of prompts that you can ask MagicSchool or Chat GPT to generate, please read through the list and see if it generates some ideas for you.

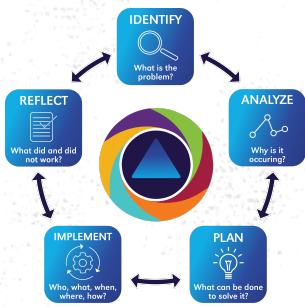


50 ChatGPT Prompts for Teachers www.teachingchannel.com

Not only can ChatGPT's AI save you time and improve your teacher workflow, but it can also help you create innovative learning experiences and build easy assessment opportunities.

MTSS

The website linked below has great information about why we need MTSS as well as it's purpose. We will dive more into this during the October PD, but this is a nice lead in to this learning.



[Why MTSS?-archive | NeMTSS F...](#)

nemtss.unl.edu

The NeMTSS framework is built for success. It houses the tools educators need for continuous improvement, problem-solving and decision-making. It provides schools with meaningful data to positively impact students and their families, setting them on a path for success.

PATRIOTIC HOLIDAYS

Nebraska Revised Statute 79-724 requires the following:

Appropriate patriotic exercises suitable to the occasion shall be held under the direction of the superintendent in every public, private, denominational, and parochial school on George Washington's birthday, Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, Native American Heritage Day, Constitution Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving Day, or on the day or week preceding or following such holiday, if the school is in session.

There are no patriotic holidays listed in the law for October. Happy Halloween!

