

April Staff Development Newsletter

April 1st, 2024

A newsletter for the Seward Staff by Dr. Dominy

Culminating Projects (and special moments!)

I recently attended two events at the high school that had me contemplating special memories that we carry from our K-12 experiences into our adult lives. I was thoroughly impressed with both the musical and the National Honor Society induction ceremony. Though older than many readers as I just celebrated a birthday, I fondly recall participating in the school play as Coach Hugo Lonclare, engaging with fellow cast members and teachers. While I took part in numerous football games, wrestling meets, and track events, the play challenged me, pushing me out of my comfort zone and preparing me for public speaking. Mr. Rickert and the entire cast and crew delivered an incredible performance! The skills of singing, dancing, memorization, and public speaking will undoubtedly benefit these students now and in the future.

The National Honor Society induction was equally well-executed. While I was a member during my Senior year, my love for politics and occasional contentious nature delayed my membership until then. A passionate stance I took in my Junior year, though lacking foresight, taught me a valuable lesson about the bigger picture. This led to delayed induction, a moment I cherished. Witnessing pride in parents' faces as their children received the light was moving. Passing on the light signifies giving light to others, a responsibility that is as important today as it was generations ago. Kudos to Mr. Oerman and the faculty committee for organizing a great event.

I wanted to highlight that while these events may seem like "rites of passage," they hold significant meaning for our students. I appreciate the time, energy, and patience dedicated to these events throughout the year, not all of which I've mentioned here. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and I am grateful for the lasting memories all of you create for our students.

Jon Gordon- Failure or Opportunity?

I spent the last two days at spring training, speaking to the Colorado Rockies. Whenever I speak to baseball players, I am reminded that failure happens often in baseball.

In fact, many call baseball a game of failure because even a Hall of Famer will fail to get a hit 2 out of 3 times. Most players will fail to get a hit 3 out of 4 times. A pitcher will give up hits and home runs and fielders will make errors.

Yes, baseball is a game where you fail often, but when speaking to the players and coaches, I offered a different perspective.

I said, "I don't believe baseball is a game of failure. I believe it's a game of opportunity!"

No matter what happened on the last play, pitch, or at bat, you get the opportunity to make the next one great.

In the words of Babe Ruth, "Every strike brings me closer to the next home run."

It's the same way with life. Anyone pursuing anything worthwhile will fail and fail often.

I certainly have failed many times, but when I look back, I realize I wasn't failing. I was growing. I wasn't failing. I was becoming.

I've learned that you can dwell on the past or look forward to making the next opportunity great.

You can see life as a game of failure or opportunity.

How you see it has a huge impact on your mindset, attitude, energy and the results you produce in the future!

The Best is Yet to Come!

Jon

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Patriotic Holidays

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 this month.



Matt Dominy

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