



Friday Focus 10/28/2022



I haven't been this excited about a Friday since last Friday.

FRIDAY FOCUS:

It's sometimes eerily strange how a certain topic can come up repeatedly in a short period of time. Recently, that topic for me has been the importance of relationships. Full disclosure, the importance of relationships was one of the main focal points of the NDCEL Educators Conference I attended last week.

One of my main takeaways from the conference ties in nicely with thoughts and conversations I've had recently in regard to the direction of and culture in our school. It was also the topic of a Friday Focus earlier this year.

Dave Weber, the conference opening keynote speaker, summed it up in a more succinct and clear manner than I've ever heard before:

Words impact relationships.
Relationships impact culture.
Culture impacts results.

Weber's book, Sticks and Stones Exposed: The Power of Words, states that 'we have become a society of stone throwers and stick slingers.' I've certainly done my share of each.

Weber makes the case for Koinonia - The coming together in a solidified oneness in an atmosphere of openness, honesty, trust, affirmation, support, and encouragement. Weber adds, it's not about the destination, it's about the journey.

If you're interested, I bought a copy of Weber's book. It's about 12 books down in my 'to read' pile so feel free to hit me up and borrow it if your pile is depleted.

GOOD ARTICLE / RESOURCE:

Here is a short article that is helpful in clarifying some of the confusing terminology we encounter as educators striving to help our

students. It ties in nicely with one of the topics we will be focusing on at our upcoming early out PD on Wednesday, November 23.

Accommodations and modifications: Wait, they're not the same?

THE PRINCIPAL'S PRINCIPLES:

A personal goal of mine is to improve my time management and efficiency in day-to-day tasks. The reason for this goal is to help me reach one of my other goals of living a more tranquil life. I'm not doing very well..... Fortunately, a recent Art of Manliness podcast covered those very topics and offered these seven simple ways to achieve Tranquility by Tuesday.

1. Give yourself a bedtime.
2. Plan your week on Friday.
3. Move (exercise) by 3PM
4. Three times a week is a habit.
5. One big adventure. One little adventure.
6. Batch small tasks (Friday punch list).
7. Effortful before effortless - leverage little chunks of time.

THE COUNSELOR'S COUNSEL:

I have the privilege of walking alongside both students and staff members in daily triumphs and struggles. I am aware of a great number of difficult situations that many of us are facing, and often I don't have much to offer in the way of words of wisdom or advice. However, let me offer you this message of encouragement that was shared with me recently.

"An arrow can only be shot by pulling it backward. When life is dragging you back with difficulties, it means it's going to launch you into something great. So just focus, and keep aiming."

They say it is always darkest before dawn. I choose to believe that even the darkest of circumstances, there is a season of light that is coming. So if you are struggling right now, hold on tight, keep aiming, and be ready to be launched into something that will fill you with hope and light. Your dawn is just over the horizon.

THREE sets of three MOST IMPORTANT WORDS:

Words impact relationships.
Relationships impact culture.
Culture impacts results.

THAT'S PUNNY:

Why do witches have brooms?

So they can always make a clean getaway.

ON THE CALENDAR NEXT WEEK:

10/31 - One Act Play 9:00
11/1 - Pie and Labor Auction
11/2 - Certified Staff Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD:

11/9 - That Chess Guy
11/23 - Early Out PD

IMPORTANT:

Nice job yesterday wearing red in support of Red Ribbon week and our PACT students. Thinking back to last week when we all wore our favorite team's attire I've noted how great it is for our students to see us, as HHS staff, unified. Theme days are a simple way to show our unity behind our students and support for one another. With that said, get on your best formal wear for Halloween on Monday. If you're planning to be a witch, be a fancy witch. If I can lose forty or fifty pounds by Monday I could dawn my Dress Blues (not happening.) I hear Mr. Weinmann is getting out his groomsman suit to be a wedding singer. What fun! I sincerely hope everyone takes part. It's important!

Gentlemen, let's dawn our Movember look a day early to go with our costume.

GREAT QUOTE:

“Death and life are in
the power of the tongue...”
(Proverbs 18:21)

SPEAK LIFE!

