



Monday Morning Thoughts

November 11 - 29, 2024

“Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you.”

Greetings ~~

Hard to believe that this MMT will include Thanksgiving week. Thanksgiving – what a wonderful word! A time for giving thanks. I hope you find time to reflect on what you are grateful for.

Let’s wrap up Chapter 5 of Thomas Murray’s book Personal and Authentic with three powerful sayings. Hopefully they resonate with you.

“As educators, we have a key opportunity each day to give students access to new things that we love and that they may not yet realize they love too. Each day we spend with kids is an opportunity to teach a piece of ourselves through our contagious passion for what we share and who we share it with. Let’s face it, if we’re not passionate about what we teach, there is no chance our students will be.” (p. 105).

What a true phrase. I found this out when teaching 5th grade with four other teachers. My students were “begging” me to read A Wrinkle in Time aloud (it was being read in other classes). I just couldn’t get into it – science fiction isn’t my forte’. I tried – really tried; and failed miserably. My students agreed and together with the other teachers we created a “walk to read aloud” where students could choose which book they wanted to listen to. And I was able to share my love of realistic fiction.

“Expecting our children to walk through our doors and desire a ‘standard’ model of education completely ignores the vast differences in interests, passions, and strengths of our learners.

Providing opportunities, both small and large, for these learners to explore areas that are meaningful to them recognizes who they are and reaffirms to them that they matter.” (p. 110).

“Words are singularly the most powerful force available to humanity. We can choose to use this force constructively with words of encouragement or destructively using words of despair. Words have energy and power with the ability to help, to heal, to hinder, to hurt, to harm, to humiliate and to humble.” (p. 117)

There is so much more in chapter 5 but I think I will leave it there. That last quote is a powerful one. **WORDS MATTER.** And not only the words we say but they “way” we say them through our actions. Our tone, body language and inflection make a difference. How many times have you said something and thought, “Oh my gosh, that didn’t come out right.” Or you wish you could just take it back. I think this is why texting and emailing is inherently dangerous. Sometimes what we put into print would sound very differently if we were able to add our “whole selves” to the conversation.

My gratitude is to all of you and the effort that you put forth every single day to make a positive difference in the lives of those around you. You are molding the future and for that you deserve appreciation. I am forever grateful to our veterans knowing that “all gave some and some gave all.” There is so much around us to be grateful for and I hope you take time to reflect on this.

PLANNING AHEAD



- Monday, November 11, 2024
 - Diamond School Board meeting 4:00 p.m.
 - Veterans Day dinner and event at Drewsey
- Tuesday, November 12
 - Cori and Keely at HR Conference - Portland
 - Shannon at Drewsey 7:00 - 9:00 a.m.
 - Shannon at Frenchglen 12:30 p.m.
 - Fields School Board meeting 5:00 p.m.
 - Frenchglen School Board meeting 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 13
 - Cori and Keely at HR Conference - Portland
 - CODSN event at ECC 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 - Shannon meeting with Laura and Josh at Crane 11:00 a.m.
 - ESD IG meeting 2:00 p.m.
 - HESD Board meeting 4:00 p.m.
 - HESD Board, Staff and ECC Christmas Party at the Ivy Stone 5:00 p.m.

- Thursday, November 14
 - RTAP Zoom training 10:00 a.m.
 - SSPS Grantee Zoom meeting 10:00 a.m.
 - HESD Special Construction Follow-Up meeting with Linn Benton ESD 11:00 a.m.
 - OAESD School Improvement Director zoom meeting 2:00 p.m.
 - Fall music program at Diamond 5:00 p.m.
 - Drewsey School Board meeting 6:00 p.m.
- Friday, November 15
 - Oregon Historical Society Primary Sources Workshop at HESD 9:00 - 12:00
- Monday, November 18
 - Shannon at Drewsey 7:00 a.m.
 - ODE ASD zoom training 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Shannon attending
 - ESD/ODE SSA zoom meeting 1:00 p.m.
 - Shannon and Cori attending Zoom Webinar with ODE/COSA - SB 5506
- Tuesday, November 19
 - SEOBAT zoom meeting 9:00 a.m.
 - John, Sallie, Keely, Cori, Brenda, Shannon - conducting interviews 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 - ESD/ODE Regional Support zoom meeting 2:00 p.m.
 - CCAR OSU Outdoor Ed Zoom meeting 1:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 20
 - Small Rural District zoom meeting 8:30 a.m.
 - Double O School Board meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 21
 - Opera To Go Event at Fields 9:30 a.m.
 - Shannon at Silvies Bend - teacher observations 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.
 - Shannon and Cheyenne meeting with Wayfinder 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, November 22
 - Shannon and Cheyenne attending Wayfinder event in Bend 8:00 - 3:00
 - Paint and Punch at ESD for ESD and ECC staff 10:00 a.m.
- Monday, November 25
 - ESD/ODE SSA zoom meeting 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 26
 - YCTC All Partner zoom meeting 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 27
 - MDT Monthly meeting at courthouse - Cheyenne - 8:00 a.m.



- Thursday, November 28
 - Office Closed
- Friday, November 29
 - Office Closed

What kind of a difference will you make today?