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Read About:

[Professional Learning Communities](#)
[Building Positive School Climate](#)
[QESBA/AAESQ](#)
[Upcoming Events](#)
[Let's Stay Social!](#)

Quick Links

[Edwards Educational Services, Inc](#)
[More On Us](#)

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Steve's Sound-Off

May 2017

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

As teachers, students, and principals begin to count down the final days until the end of the school year, don't forget to make the days count! Take the time to reflect on the year--the good AND the bad. Be honest about what you did well and where you can continue to improve. Celebrate even the small victories!

All the best,
Steve Edwards

Professional Learning Communities: Who has time?

You do!

Student instruction and interaction must be the most important focus in any educational setting. However, it is necessary for many things to occur behind the scenes to ensure that our students receive the most effective, cutting edge and individualized instruction possible. As the principal, you have the unique opportunity to facilitate and encourage the variables that will lead to student success and a cohesive staff.

There are a lot of factors at play when you put a group of teachers together. The more seasoned teachers may feel that their methods have been tested and tried, whereas the newer teachers may feel that their methods are more effective. As a result, there will most likely be a wide range of learning outcomes and educational experiences for students. The truth of "method effectiveness" lies somewhere in between the two perspectives and is very fluid. Staff "buy in" to this concept is imperative.

All levels of teacher education and experience are necessary to ensure that students are receiving the education they deserve and that we are always able to mix the new with the old in order to implement highly effective instructional strategies that address all learning styles and modalities. Therefore, positive

and productive relationships between seasoned staff and new teachers are most important to ensure that embedded professional development is an ongoing, valued process. This process also creates a pipeline of educators that ensures generations of effective and opened minded individuals will be shaping our most precious resource for the future - our children.

For the full article, click [here](#)

Building Positive School Climate at the National Youth-at-Risk Conference

Building a positive school climate grounded within a supportive, safe, and respectful learning environment does not have to be a completely daunting task when you are equipped with the right resources. At the National Youth-at-Risk Conference this past March in Savannah, Georgia, Dr. Steve Edwards presented viable strategies on how to foster a positive school climate in spite of the inevitable challenges.

And the results are in! An overwhelming majority of attendees found his presentation to be highly useful, effective, and informative.

"Very well-versed in school climate!"

"Great ideas and voice. Loved many of his ideas."

"Very passionate and informative!"

To book Dr. Edwards for your next speaking engagement, please [email us!](#)



QESBA/AAESQ Spring Conference

Steve Edwards was excited to be a featured keynoter this May at the 2017 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA)/Association of Administrators of English Schools of Quebec (AAESQ) Spring Conference in Quebec, Canada. This annual event brings together commissioners and administrators from the nine English school boards across Quebec. This year's event focused on strengthening leadership for administrators of all levels.



Upcoming Events

June 12-14, 2017

Changing the Paradigm: Leading for Today and Tomorrow

The West Virginia Cohort will be holding its 2017 Institute at the Stonewall Resort in Roanoke, WV. The Institute is open to all individuals who are looking to expand their expertise in leadership and engage in meaningful and productive conversations about how to improve teaching and learning in schools. The world is changing rapidly and we need to be ready to face the challenges to come, together.

Register [here!](#)

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All the best,

The ED Educational Team
Edwards Educational Services, Inc.

