

Dealing with Fan/Parents

Jay Allen -- Otterville R-VI School District

Home of the Eagles -- #LoveLegacyPride -- #AllGoNoQuit



Contact Stuff

Email: jallen@ottervillervi.k12.mo.us

Cell: 660.287.7790



Super Quick Bio Stuff: you wear a lot of hats at a small school...

- Graduate of Blue Springs/Blue Springs South HS -- 1995
- 1st AD gig: Exeter High School, Exeter MO (2009)
- Current gig: Otterville HS, (Teacher, Coach, Transportation Director, & AD since 2016)
- Sports I have coached:
 - HS & JH Football
 - HS & JH Volleyball
 - HS & JH Track
 - Baseball
 - Softball
 - Golf
 - HS & JH Basketball



3 Goals for Today

1. Share Something
2. Learn Something
3. Connect With Someone New



My Two Cents...



1. Prevention
2. Participation
3. Positivity

1. PREVENTION: a Necessary, Utopian Ideal...

1. A pre-season meeting with all players and parents **SHOULD BE MANDATORY**.
 - a. Communicate Expectations (goals, rules, food chain, etc.)
2. Establish a cooperative relationship.
 - a. IDEA: allow your coaches to appoint a “Team Parent”
3. Enable your coaches.
 - a. Allow them to “touch” on the topic of playing time AT the pre-season meeting.

UTOPIA



THOMAS MORE

2. Participation: a different angle for the AD...



1. We evaluate, recommend, and discipline our coaches...
2. But do you participate with your coaches?
 - Sit in on practices?
 - Ask them about game plans?
3. We all have home fan sections...
4. But do you participate with them?
 - Meetings with students
 - Coordinate themes, special occasions, etc.?
5. The Challenge is to make the coach feel like you are on their team.

3. POSITIVITY: the only lens we should use

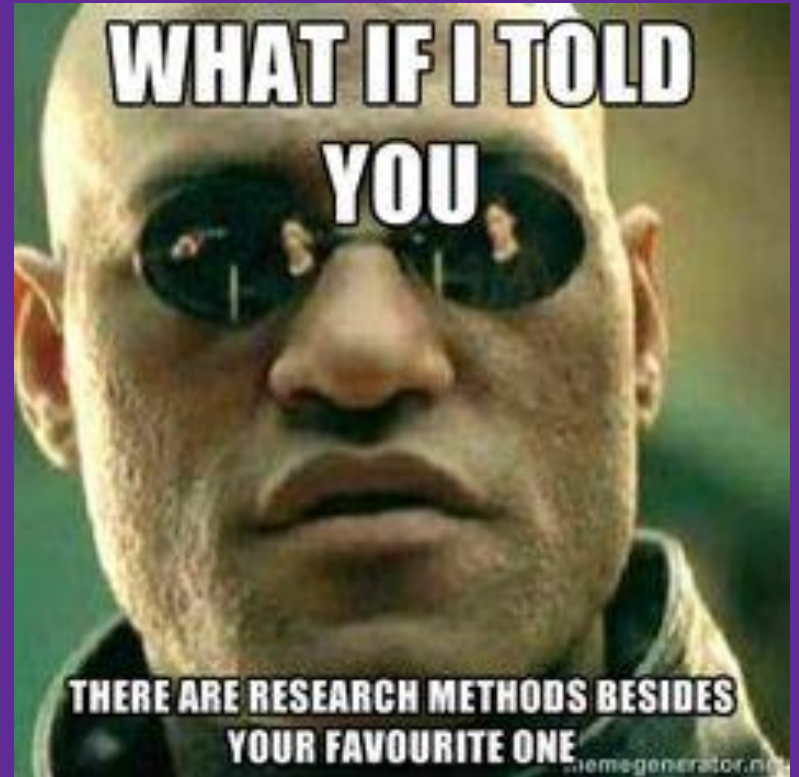
A Positive Relationship is a cooperative partnership that exists/operates within a defined ethos. -- *my definition*

- It is dependant on the goals YOU have established for the athletic program.
- It is also based on the athlete actually being two different people...

→ I want to learn how YOU create, foster, and maintain positive relationships at your school...so let's change this up. This is my session...I say we change the format and learn from all of the experts in this room...right now...

How are WE going to do it?

What possible method (instead of me telling a group of my peers how to do it) could we use?



Like any good educator...we steal from a good source!



Section 1 of 2

Topic is: Abusive Fans

What do you do?

What can you share?

Situation: You are hosting a basketball game (Senior Night), which happens to also be on YouTube Live. A parent of one of your seniors obviously disagrees with an official's judgement call...and is now standing up in the stands...turned to your HUDL Focus camera...and is telling the viewers exactly what he thinks.

Session 2 of 2

Topic is: Parents with Agendas



Situation: Your Girls VB team finished the year 23-3, losing to the eventual state runner-up in the district finals. They have 4 all-conf players. They have 4 all-dist players. And one was voted to the All-State team. A parent is criticizing the coach for “slanting the ball to one girl” most of the year, and playing favorites. Stats show a relatively even spread on most relevant categories. They want more exposure for their daughter.

Session 3 of 3

- Someone in this session said something you want to hear more about. Go find them now. Exchange contact info. Give a positive comment to either them, or someone else in the room.
- That's all! All 3 goals accomplished!

THANK YOU!