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Nebraska Family and Consumer Sciences

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"I have come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element. It is my personal approach that creates the climate. It is my daily mood that makes the weather. I possess tremendous power to make life miserable or joyous. I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration, I can humiliate or humor, hurt or heal. In all situations, it is my response that decides whether a crisis is escalated or de-escalated, and a person is humanized or de-humanized. "

-Haim G. Ginott

Call to Action

While Congress is out on recess for the month of August, use this time to reach out to your Representatives and Senators as they return home to see constituents.

Currently, the Senate Appropriations Committee has released its Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill which includes a \$5.4 million increase for Perkins. While no action has been taken, this is an encouraging step.

Take a few moments to make contact with your elected officials to encourage action on this bill upon their return.

For more information and resources, check out the ACTE Policy and Advocacy Page on www.acteonline.org

Welcome to FACS Focus and a new school year!

Welcome to the Nebraska Department of Education's FACS Focus newsletter. This weekly highlight will be published each Tuesday during the school year. Topics will cover everything from reading comprehension strategies to information on course coding.

This Tuesday's edition is focused on the new school year. Whether you have been back for a while or still have a few weeks to spare, I hope you enjoyed a refreshing summer break and are looking forward to another year as a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher. A new school year for a FACS teacher brings new challenges that another classroom teacher may not understand. We spend our time explaining why you should not, in fact, clean a knife that way, while the English teacher down the hall is already assigning their first homework.

However, don't despair when you feel you are starting off the year with baby steps. Each year it seems students will surprise us with what they learn and are able to accomplish. Always remember that by helping them through the baby steps now, you will undoubtedly have a full-grown marathon runner by the end of the term!

Here are some additional ideas to help you start the year off with a win:

- Get to know your students and their interests in and out of the classroom
- Find out what resources parents/guardians can provide to enhance student learning
- Look for opportunities to market your program and the skills of your students to the school and community



Mission

Nebraska Family and Consumer Sciences integrates family and career readiness with technical skill instruction within a critical science perspective. As a result, our students are empowered to navigate the challenges of living and working in diverse communities, while striving for a high quality of life.

- Set up a clear and consistent classroom management plan

I hope that you will find this to be a valuable resource and will use the information to strengthen your classroom, program, and organization. If you have any comments or questions about FACS Focus, please let me know.

CSO Spotlight

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