

Ruby Douglas, CPS
Project Director
Parents Matter Coalition
c/o Growing Up Together
800 E. Dakota Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Parentsmatter@pie.midco.net
www.parentsmattercsd.com
www.facebook.com/parents_mattercoalition
605-224-3189 or
605-222-0638

Larry Weiss, Chairman
Parents Matter Coalition
weisscl@aol.com
605-222-4339

Elaine Scott,
Administrative Asst.
gut2@dakota2k.net

**PARENTS
MATTER**



**Coalition
of Pierre
Fort Pierre**

Let's make a difference

Parents Matter News Letter XXV

December 2012

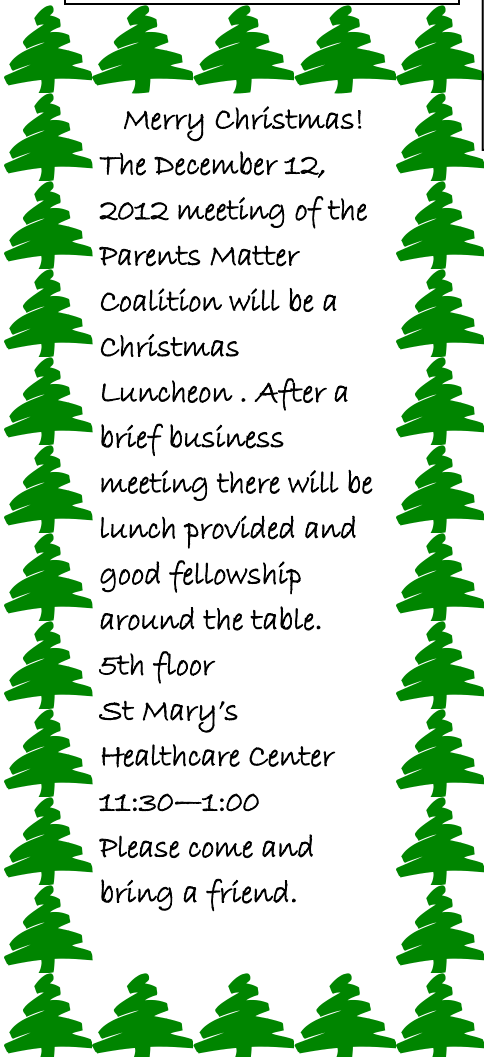


Congratulations! Goes out to Jasmin Fosheim, Larry and Colleen Weiss for their outstanding dedication.

Jasmin Fosheim, Riggs High student was honored as the Outstanding Youth Volunteer 2012 and Larry and Colleen Weiss were given the "Good People Good Causes" award.

The awards were given during the Philanthropy Luncheon November 7, 2012.

Jasmin was nominated by Teen Court and United Way as well as Parents Matter Coalition.



Merry Christmas!

The December 12, 2012 meeting of the Parents Matter Coalition will be a Christmas Luncheon. After a brief business meeting there will be lunch provided and good fellowship around the table. 5th floor St Mary's Healthcare Center 11:30-1:00 Please come and bring a friend.

Parents Matter Christmas Tree At the Capitol

"Joyous Sounds of Christmas" is the theme for this years decoration of trees in the Capitol.

Parents Matter had help with decorations for their tree from the after school program at the Southeast Pierre Community Center, the Busy Beeing Group. They made mitten decorations for the tree, meaning Children are the joyous sounds of Christmas.

If you have time during the business of this season stop in and see our tree. It is located on the third floor. Thanks to those that helped to decorate: Ruby Douglas, Amy Beshara and Diane Inch.



Thank You!...

Doug and Pam Knutson of the Dairy Queen for providing "Blizzards" for the November 14, 2012 Parents Matter Coalition Meeting.

"The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just."

Abraham Lincoln

“The Human Side of Change”: How To Go From Chaos To Control

Don't be just another member of society; be a living example of your dreams and goals.

Dr. Alan Zimmerman's Personal Commentary:

We live in a world consumed with image and frankly I'm sick of it. I'm sick of people doing their best to “look good” but “aren't good.” And I'm sick of the people who talk about morality as they live shameful private lives of immorality.

But that's where we're at in today's image-crazed society. We worry too much about our reputation and too little about our character. As author Michael Josephson notes, “Building a reputation is largely a public-relations project; building character requires us to focus on our values and actions. Noble rhetoric and good intentions aren't enough.”

But there's hope. The very best leaders, the most effective leaders, the truly motivating leaders continue to realize the importance of leading by example. In fact, in the long run...

1. Nothing is more critical to a leader's success than his/her example.

Clergyman and abolitionist John Woolman pointed that out in the 1700's. He said, ‘Conduct is more convincing than language.’

Every politician, every sports hero, and every TV and movie celebrity should be required to memorize Woolman's statement...for their own good...as well as the good of everyone else. Otherwise, they may have to lean the hard way, like the baseball player Johnny Todd (name changed).

Perhaps you remember the story. Timmy's favorite baseball player was Johnny Todd. In Little League, he wore the same number as Todd. He collected Todd's souvenir cards and memorized all of his stats. Timmy carried his baseball glove with him

everywhere and hoped to one day meet his idol and get his Autograph.

So the day he walked into the Burger Hut and saw Todd seated at a booth in the corner, Timmy thought it was his lucky day. As he approached the table, an elderly man walked up to Todd and asked for his autograph.

“Look, can't you see I'm eating.” Todd growled at the old man. Timmy stood motionless, his eyes wide with uncertainty. Why was Johnny so mean to that old man? Timmy wasn't sure he wanted to know. Just before he turned to walk away, Todd looked at him and barked, “Hey kid, what are you staring at?”

Timmy was so disappointed that he decided to trade away all of his Johnny Todd cards for the cards of other players. Some of his fellow Little Leaguers did the same thing after hearing Timmy's story.

The incident somehow found its way into internet forums and chat rooms. It came to light that other folks had witnessed similar outbursts from Johnny Todd. For baseball enthusiasts, the dark side of Todd's personality was beginning to overshadow his athleticism and a local paper picked up the story.

Then the minor incident catapulted into a major crisis for the celebrity. Sales of his jerseys dropped, kids lost interest in collecting his cards, and the negative press made him less desirable to sponsors.

Unfortunately, Todd failed to realize that we never know who's watching us. But every effective leader knows he is being watched, and his example has a huge impact on others.

So...

2. You need to be keenly aware of the example you set.

You see...everybody else around you knows what example you set. They

can tell you. Your co-workers, Subordinates, spouse, and kids.

As Joseph M. Tucci, the CEO of the information firm EMC, says, “Every move you make, everything you say, is visible to all. Therefore, the best approach is to lead by example.”

Management consultant Darcy Hitchcock affirms that. She says, “Employees are professional ‘boss watchers.’ That is, what managers say means nothing...unless their actions model what they say.”

If everybody around you knows what your example is saying, the question is...do you know? You can't afford to go to work...or even try to lead at home...if you don't fully understand the example you're setting. You could be leading people in the wrong direction and not even know it.

My advice? Get some feedback. Ask some Brave Questions. First find out how you're coming across and what's going on in the minds and lives of those you lead.

Casey Cropp from Fort Collins, Colorado, did, and she's glad she did. Casey wrote, “I am a high school band director and have been using your ‘BRAVE QUESTIONS’ book to interact with my classes. All I can say is ‘Thanks.’ You've given me the tool I've been looking for in 26 years of teaching. A tool that helps me approach my students in new and more effective ways.”

“Let me give you one example,” Casey writes. “This past fall I was directing the orchestra for our school musical. One afternoon I had the opportunity to spend some time with the orchestra members, getting to know each other using several of your questions. We spent about an hour and a half sharing and bonding as a group, learning details about each other. I was given

Continued on page 3

information about individuals that helped me to understand their needs and allowed me to work closer with them in the preparation of their music. Our trust level of each other went way up, and we became a team. The performances in October were astounding and I could not have been prouder of their growth through this time together."

3. Lead with an example of true character.

Your character is also revealed in the way you deal with the pressures and temptations that cross your path. Do you do the right things all the time? Or do your actions and values take a nosedive when you think no one is looking and you won't get caught?

You see...character has to do with ACTIONS...not words. And that's a tough standard to follow. But as journalist Richard Reeves notes, "All leaders face some crisis where their own strength of character is the enemy."

Bottom line, Reeves is saying...if you're going to be a true leader...

4. You've got to walk your talk.

As someone said, "Your walk and your talk talks, but your walk talks louder than your talk talks." Simply put, you can't say one thing and do another and expect to be a leader who inspires the followership of others.

One doctor knew that. His story was told in Howard Goldman's book, "Choose What Works." The doctor noticed a woman and her son happened to be bickering in his examination room as he walked in. "what seems to be the problem?" he asked.

"My son eats sweets constantly. I've tried telling him that sugar is bad for his health and his teeth," the woman explained. "But he doesn't believe me. He'll listen to you, though. Please tell

my son to stop eating sugar."

The doctor thought to himself for a moment and said, "Bring him back in exactly one week."

Puzzled, the woman did as instructed and returned one week later. "We're back," she said. "I hope you can help me this week."

The doctor examined the boy's teeth, took his weight and measurements, and finally said, "Son, I have some bad news for you. You can't eat any more sugar. It's not good for you. And if you don't believe me, I can draw some of your blood and have a test done on it that will prove it to you."

At the sight of the needle, the boy agreed not to eat any more sugar.

"Thank you, Doctor," said the woman. "But out of curiosity, why couldn't you do this last week?"

"Because last week I still ate sugar," said the doctor. "And it occurred to me that I wouldn't be much of a doctor if I didn't follow my own advice." He knew about walking his talk.

Bottom line? If you're going to be a leader, a truly effective leader, don't point the way with your finger. Lead with your whole body.

Action:
What do people say about you...behind your back? Do they say you practice what you preach? Or do they say you're all talk but not much action?

Article by: Dr. Alan Zimmerman

Coming January, 2013

PRIME For Life

PRIME For Life is available for youth and adult audiences to help them understand their risk for experiencing alcohol or drug problems throughout life.

PRIME For Life includes prevention and intervention content and is designed specifically for groups that typically make high-risk choices.

PRIME For Life's intervention component focuses on self-assessment to help people understand and accept the need for change.

PRIME For Life focuses on information that is needed to bring about behavior change. Although there are several components, this class will be focusing on Prevention Education.

2013—10 Hour (Eye Opener) class

Schedule and location:
 Pierre/Ft. Pierre classes to be held at Riggs High School, Room 302

January 21, 2013—8:00 AM — Noon
 January 22, & 23, 2013—4:00 — 7:00 PM

February 18, 2013—8:00 AM—Noon
 February 19, & 21, 2013—4:00 — 7:00 PM

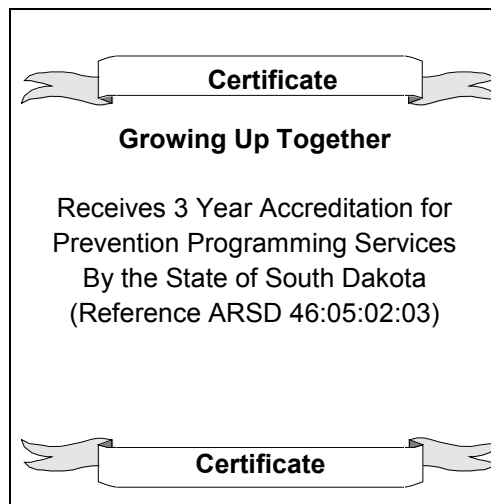
March 25, & 26, 2013—4:00 — 7:00 PM
 March 27, 2013—1:00 — 5:00 PM

April 22, & 23, 2013—4:00 — 7:00 PM
 April 24, 2013—1:00 — 5:00 PM

May 20, 2013—1:00—5:00 PM
 May 21, 2013—8:00 AM — Noon
 May 22, 2013—8:00 AM — 10:00 AM

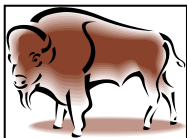
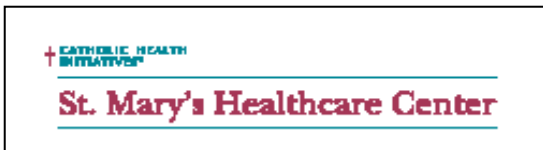
Class Registration Fees:
 10 Hour Class: \$75.00
 12 Hour Class \$85.00
 15 Hour Class \$100.00
 Parent Component—No Charge

Referrals welcome. Please call: 224-3189
 e-mail: parentsmatter@pie.midco.net



Our Sponsor's Thank You!

Curt Merriman Printing



Stanley County Booster Club

Lynn's DakotaMart of Pierre



Retired Seniors Volunteer Program



Pierre Police Department.
KGFX Dakota Radio Group
KCCR Radio
SD Dept of Education
Pierre School District
Stanley County School
SD Dept of Labor, Experience Works
Teen Court (CAC's)
Capital Journal
Hughes County Sheriff
Stanley County Sheriff
Rocky & Skyla Nicholas



4-H Youth Development
 SD Regional Cooperative
 Extension Service

