

Kenston J. Griffin

Dream Builders Communication, Inc.

"If Better Is Possible Good Is No Longer An Option"



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NEWSLETTER

May 2008

Greetings & Good Day,

WOW!

Only five to eight weeks of school left, nearly two months until the new fiscal year for corporations and many faith-based conferences are preparing to take place continuing during the summer months. So, as some prepare to relax, others are picking up the pace, but whatever you do, this month take a few minutes and read this excerpt from the poem "Don't Quit" by Edgar A. Guest:

*"When things go wrong, as they sometimes will.
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill.
When the funds are low and the debts are high.
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh.
When care is pressing you down a bit.
Rest if you must, but don't you quit."*

Regardless of gas prices, economy, or the fact that you may not be able to see your way through. Whether you may be tired, weak, frustrated, bent, or may be feeling broken, remember these words and lean on the DBC newsletters to support and assist you along your journey towards success.

Remember, *"If Better Is Possible, Good Is No Longer An Option."*

Kenston J. Griffin
Chief Executive Officer

SPECIAL FEATURE:

*Dream Builders Communication, Inc. would like to introduce to some and present to others the **DBC Golden Apple Award.***

*Read more about this award and the recipient, **Mr. Brian Peffley**, on page two.*

Book Special of the Month

***If Better is Possible,
Good is No Longer An Option***



Only \$12.00

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Golden Apple Award - March 2008

Brad Peffley

Benhaven Elementary School, Harnett County

Mr. Brad Peffley is a fourth grade teacher at Benhaven Elementary School in the Harnett County Public School District. The Principal of Benhaven Elementary School is Mr. Brian Graham.

Mr. Peffley is married, has been teaching for three and a half years. He is a team player who motivates and assists all students in accomplishing their educational, as well as, their personal goals. He loves sports and is an Ohio State Buckeye die heart football fan.

Mr. Peffley stated the reason why he teaches with so much passion is because of where he came from. School may be the only place where some students have heat or air, get a meal, or someone pay them some attention; therefore, he wants to make it the best place they come to everyday. The mission of Harnett County Schools is to educate students in a safe environment empowering them to focus on lifelong learning, responsible citizenship, and global awareness. With Brad Peffley on their team, they are well on their way to fulfilling this mission.



Pictured above from left to right: Principal Brian Graham, Mr. Brad Peffley, and DBC Master Trainer, Ms. Yolanda Polk.



THE 7 KEYS TO LEADERSHIP

KEY #2 - PRESENTING

By: Christopher Land

This month we will discuss the second of the seven keys to leadership. Last month we delved into the first key, which is being a good listener. Now let's look at **Presenting**. In order to be a good leader, one must master



the art of presenting. Presentation is vitally important as it gives direction, and purpose to a task, challenge, or change.

Presentation is quite often a major factor in how change is accepted. If one were to say to his or her team, "I don't like it anymore than you do, we've got to make a change, and this is the way it's gonna be, make it happen". Or, "Here's what we've found, so we need to make an adjustment, let's work together and make this happen".

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Now let's take a quick look at some major differences.

“I don't like it anymore than you do” - “I” separates you from others, removes you from the team.

“Here's what we've found” - includes you as a part of the team, and shows time spent in research.

“this is the way it's gonna be” – forces a change.

“we need to make an adjustment” – shows inclusion, necessity, and improvement.

“this is the way it's gonna be” – demanding, forceful, non-understanding and non-caring.

“let's work together” – show that you've got to change also, inclusion, positive light on the entire matter.

“make it happen” – no opportunity

“and make this happen” – shows a challenge for all.

Now while presenting a challenge or adjustment for your team may not be this drastic, it can sometimes feel that way to those who have to make the change. Be sure and careful, be direct not demanding, be firm but fair while presenting, and use this second key of leadership.

“Are You the One?”

By: Tonya R. Allen

This month's insert has taken a slight turn compared to the previous issues. During this past month (April), I attended and prepared for numerous educational conferences across the country, and this statement continued to build and evolved into the profound question, “Are YOU the One”? On the surface, this statement may be overlooked or even down

played. However, just for a moment, allow me to expound upon why this question has become the focal point of my article and even my view on life moving forward.

During your own personal educational process, can you recall the number of *educators*, not teachers, you had? My personal belief is teachers only provide information, but *educators* provide information and knowledge while investing into individuals' growth and success. Well, as I evaluated my life, I realized that on average, I had about 50 teachers during my entire K-12 experience. But, I know for a fact that I had six (6) *educators* during the same time frame. You may be wondering how I can remember that from so many years ago. Well it's easy! *Educators*, in my opinion deposit the information and knowledge while investing into individuals' growth and success, and these six (6) *educators* changed my life completely.



All of the individuals impacted my life; however, “The One” that challenged me the most and would not allow the “*system*” to label/classify me as a Special Needs Child was Mrs. Martha Mazingo. She worked with me, prior to my mother signing the official paperwork to have me enrolled into, at that time classified as, “Special Education Classes”. I was in the third grade at this time and my reading level was very, very low. However, we discovered I had an eye conduction, which hindered my reading ability, therefore, interfering with my cognitive/comprehension ability. I would read the words as I saw them, all mixed up, which did not make sense. As a result, when it came time for me to answer questions regarding what I read, I was unable to answer the questions correctly. This caused me have low scores on my general class work, homework, and ultimately the Standardized Test.

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You may be wondering, how did Mrs. Mazingo discover my condition. Well, it was not that she conducted any form of test or measurements to determine my medical condition. What she did do was invest some of her time with me, reading to me, and asking me to read back the section she previously read aloud. This process and time is actually how she discovered that I did not have issues comprehending, but actually reading the information in the order it was written on the paper.

From that point forward, my condition was addressed and I was able to continue in regular educational classes, graduate from high school, attend and graduate from college, enhance the lives of people, and become a published author and co-author.



As I bring this article to a close, the question stated initially, “Are YOU The One?” happens to be a very profound question. If you are in the field of Education, and you have difficulty in answering the question “*Are YOU The One?*” with **YES!** Then, my suggestion to you is this, take some time over the summer break and evaluate your current profession, because you are a “teacher” not an “*educator*”. In the school system today, students need to be EDUCATED and not taught. For me, if Mrs. Mazingo was a teacher and not an “*educator*”, someone else would be writing this article and not me!

My goal and intent with my article for the month of May 2008 is to serve as a wake up call for all those in the field of Education. Please ponder what I have stated and the suggestion made, because CHILDREN’S LIVES AND SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU! Mine did. So, “*ARE YOU THE ONE?*”

This is my official disclaimer, “This article is totally based upon the personal beliefs of Tonya R. Allen and not that of Dream Builders Communication, Inc.



What Do You See?

By: Roderick V. Land

Last month I wrote an article asking the question “*Do They See What You See?*”, but now the question is “What Do **You** See? Each and every child you encounter is, as Dream Builders say, “a blessing and a jewel”. We have to be the expert miners of that diamond in the rough. Every child is not cut out to be a doctor, lawyer, dentist or teacher. Some are cut out to be something other than what you may think they should be, but help them to achieve the goal they desire.

I recently heard the story of a young man in middle school years ago, always the class clown, always cutting up, and being generally distracting. One particular innovative and creative teacher saw an opportunity for a win-win situation. She took the young man aside one day before class and told him that if he behaved himself for the first part of the class, he could have the whole class for entertaining the last ten minutes, every day! The class was his to entertain as he saw fit. That is all the young man needed, and from that time forward until the end of the school year, the young man held

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COMMON MISTAKES

Series #2

Source: Investopedia Staff



In continuation with April's Financial Corner, below you will find the next series of Common Mistakes, as it relates to providing insight and strategies for INCREASE in your financial awareness and growth. DBC truly believes in all becoming balanced personally, professionally, spiritually, and financially.

According to the "Federal Reserve Bank" of Cleveland reports that the personal savings rate in the U.S. has declined roughly 10% from 1985 to 2005, while the debt-to-income ratio has nearly doubled.

Common Mistake #3

Depreciating Asset/Liabilities:

Each year millions purchase vehicles or other items that depreciate in value. Consider the vehicle purchased, if you are not able to pay cash for the vehicle, and can afford the monthly car note; evaluate the true reason for the purchase. Remember, you pay interest on a depreciating asset, which amplifies the difference between the value of the vehicle and the price paid for it.

Common Mistake # 4

Purchasing More House than Needed:

When purchasing a house, bigger is not necessarily better. If you do not have a large family or require a large home may cause you to pay more than you need to use. Consider the taxes, maintenance and utilities on a large home will ultimately put a significant long-term dent in your monthly budget.

Common Mistake # 5

Refinancing and Taking Cash Out:

By refinancing and taking cash out on it gives ownership to someone else, and costs you addi-

tional fees and interest. Building equity is the goal.

The cumulative result of all the Common Mistakes indicated in this series, place individuals into a precarious position, one in which they need every dime they earn. One missed paycheck would be disastrous. It is not that people in such a position do not earn enough money; it is that they spend more than they earn. We all have a choice, so it is just a matter of making savings a priority.

A few suggestions to assist you in steering away from the dangers of overspending:

1. Monitor the little expenses that add up quickly.
2. Monitor the big expenses.
3. Make saving some of what you earn monthly a priority.



The Power of Spirit

By: Yolanda Polk

The fifth month of the year is here and most people need a reason much greater than reality to become financially free. I believe it is the power of spirit. If you ask most people you know (**do your own survey**) if they would like to become rich, wealthy, or financially free, they would say yes. However, reality sets in and takes over. The road seems much too long with many hills to climb. For most people it is easier to just work for money all their lives and hand the excess, if any, over to their broker or financial advisor.

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up his end of the deal, being quiet and attentive. Just as important the teacher held up her end of the bargain and gave the young man the ten minutes at the end of class. Not only did her class become more peaceful and less stressful, she realized that the student could possibly have some success in the field of entertainment.

Towards the end of the year, the teacher and the student had a private conference. During "his" class time she had recorded much of his material and gave him a tape of it. Even more, the teacher had come across a comedy club's amateur night tryout and encouraged him to go. He went, had success, and has continues today, not only as a top-level comedian, but as an actor demanding at least 10 million dollars a movie.

I am not saying that every child not behaving correctly should be given free rule of your class at any time, but you have to really look to see where that child has talents and try your best to enhance it to the best of your ability. Just think, you are in a room full of diamonds not just some

lumps of coal. Be flexible, creative, and innovative, sometimes doing things the way you have never done them before. It is for you to put the right amount of pressure and heat on them to come out as flawless as possible.

The story above is true and if you are wondering who the young man is, he is Martin Lawrence of *Bad Boys* , *Big Mama's House*, *Hogs*, and several other movies. He has also had his own television show and was the first host of entertainment mogul Russell Simmons' *Def Comedy Jam*.



You have to trust your instincts and occasionally go out on a limb. Sometimes you will fail, but sometimes you will prevail, but as I always say, "You cannot succeed if you do not try."

It's your life. You are responsible for your results. It's time to turn up the heat.

-- Sam Parker

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I believe it must be a reason or a purpose that is a combination of wants and don't wants. When I am asked the question, "*why do you want to become financially free?*" My response holds a combination of reasons filled with deep emotions.

Please allow me to share a few with you.

1. **I don't want** my mother to have to work all of her life or for anyone.
2. **I don't want** to work all of my life. The rich and wealthy don't do that. They have the mind set that say create generational wealth (pass it down).

Now, allow me to share a few of my wants.

1. **I want** to be free to come and go as I please (see the world).
2. **I want** control over my life and my time.
3. **I want** my money to work for me.

Now that I have shared a few of my reasons and my wants with you, **what are yours?**

If they are not strong enough, the reality of the road ahead may be greater than your reasons. Most people will look up and the year will be coming to end and they will be in the same place.



As Dream Builders Communication, Inc. continues to assist individuals across the country, we have had teenagers present some very significant concerns. Over the past several months, the students have indicated that adults do not **listen** nor do they spend **quality time** with them. Therefore, future issues of the Dream Builders Newsletter will feature entries written by teenagers in the newly established **TEEN SCENE**. Please feel free to contact our office with comments, suggestions, or potential articles/poems/words of encouragement written by teenagers.

Time In The Eyes of Teens...

Time, means not a lot.
There are teens getin' shot here and there.
Time, you don't know when yours is up.
Time!
You need to make it useful 'cause there are kids dying in the world over dumb stuff.

Time is when God says it is time to come home my child.

So

What

Is

Time

To

You?

You tell me.

-Jade Robinson

Age: 12

7th grade



Like you, I am a human being filled with joys, fears, frustrations, and hopes. And, like you, I want to be understood, accepted, and appreciated. -- Eric Harvey and Steve Ventura

Contact Us:

8801 JM Keynes Drive, Suite 260
Charlotte, NC 28262

(704) 595-1735 office

(704) 595-1736 fax

(877) 595-1735 toll free

www.kenstonjgriffin.com

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