

## #EducatorVoices: P Is for Passion – Dave Burgess

**Dave Burgess 0:00**

We know we're supposed to be passionate about our work, but the truth of the matter is, we're not passionate about everything that we teach. Let the freedom wash over you. Like you know there's those days where you're looking at your content standard, that part of your unit, that part of your curriculum, and it's just not your thing. There might be lots of stuff that you love to teach, but you know there are those days. So if it's so important to be passionate, but yet you can't bring passion for every single thing in your curriculum, what do you do then? And so, what I did in the book is I broke passion into three categories. One is your content passion. So what is it about your curriculum, your content, that you're on fire about, right? But that's not gonna catch everybody, right? But there's two other areas. One of those is your professional passions. What is it about just being an educator that you're passionate about? Most people don't choose their profession of education just because of their content passion. It's something much larger. It's a mightier purpose behind being an educator and having that life-changing impact on students, for example, right? And then the third area of passion is your personal passion. What is it, completely outside of education, are you passionate about, and are there ways that you can embed that into what you do as an educator? Like, if we're at work too high of a percentage of our lives to unplug ourselves when we walk through the doors of the building, that's part of developing rapport and relationships with kids and having them come to see you as a human being, as opposed to like a test-preparing automaton or something, right? And so, when you can start to combine all three areas of this passion together, that's when you become uncompromising and relentless in that pursuit of excellence and greatness, and you are able to sail over those obstacles that a lot of other teachers crash into and burn out. It's about this mightier purpose.