

The Energy Bus-J. Gordon

Reflection

#CelebrateMonday #Trendthepositive

These two hashtags capture the essence of this book. As a leader, or anybody in education, there really is no room for negativity. Sure, education is hard but we have the best purpose in the world...to make a positive impact on young people everyday. Whatever happens during the day, weeks, and months of the year it is how you respond to it that makes the difference. When you surround yourself with positive, go-getter people you will be able to drive your bus much further and faster than if you allow 'negative Nancys' to ride.

My favorite line from this book surfaced in the beginning, "we all have challenges". Being in the people-laden field that education is we have to acknowledge that there are stories all around us. Everybody, from the five-year-old to the thirty year veteran teacher, has a story and with that story comes challenges. Acknowledgement and recognition do not equal excuses. We must play off our strengths, accentuate positives, and drive towards better tomorrows.

Notes

You can choose to look at it that way or look at the big picture

We all have challenges

1. You're the driver of your own bus--fuel and steer it how you want
2. Vision, desire, and focus drive the bus in the right direction. Focus on what you want, not what you don't want
 - a. We are winners, not whiners...what do winners do? Solve problems, create, strive
3. Fuel your ride with positive energy--feed the positive dog
 - a. One great golf shot theory: play a terrible round of golf but you always remember the one GREAT shot you had on the course that day
 - i. Use this to wrap up your class/day: share a success you had today or what you were proud of
4. Invite people on your bus and share vision for the road ahead
5. Don't waste your energy on those who don't get on your bus (don't want to go where you want to drive)...don't take it personally
6. Post a sign..."**No energy vampires**". Your vision and positivity must be greater than everyone's negativity and doubt. Positive energy is like a muscle--must work it out to get stronger
7. Enthusiasm attracts more passengers and energizes them during the ride. It is contagious (energy is)
8. Love your passengers. Help bring out the best in others, serve them, recognize them, listen to them, make time for them.
9. **Drive with purpose**
10. Have fun and enjoy the ride