

A young woman with dark hair is looking out of a window at night. The scene is dimly lit, with bokeh light effects from streetlights or city lights visible through the glass. The overall tone is contemplative and serene.

HOW TO HAVE DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS WITH PARENTS

ANDRE' WALKER AND DUSTIN SMITH

WELCOME TO THE FOLICALLY CHALLENGED PRESENTATION

Today you will learn tips and techniques for:

Proper cleaning of combs

Selecting the best shampoo for volume

Turning bad hair days into GREAT hair days

Which hair product(s) provides the best hold...without the hard evidence

How to get the best shine out of your head of hair

MEET YOUR PRESENTERS

- Andre' Walker is the Director of Athletics for the Houston Interscholastic School District. Walker has spent the past 18 years serving students in HISD as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, and most recently as a senior athletics program administrator for the district's Athletics Department.

He is a member of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, National Federation of State High School Association, Texas High School Coaches, Texas Girls Coaches Association, and the Houston Coaches Association. In addition, he serves on the Official's Advisory Committee for the Texas High School Athletic Director Association.

Walker received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Texas Southern University, Master's in Education from Prairie View A&M University, and is currently completing his doctoral degree in Education Administration

- Dr. Dustin Smith is the Director of Student Activities and Athletic Operations at Greenwood Public Schools in Greenwood, Arkansas. Dustin presently serves on the Membership Committee for the NIAAA, serves as a mentor for the NIAAAU EXECUTIVE Leadership Cohort, and is the President-Elect of the Arkansas High School Athletic Administrator's Association. Prior to his time in Greenwood, Smith spent 17 years in higher education, including the last 9 as the athletic director of the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith. He is a recovering Collegiate Athletic Director, an avid reader, and a loyal fan of the Chicago Cubs. His greatest title, however, is husband to Jennifer and dad to Alec (23), Rignee (13) and Raelynn (8).



ICEBREAKER/ QUESTIONS FOR THE GROUP

WHO ARE WE TALKING TO?

ONE THING WE ALL HAVE IN COMMON..... PARENTS!!!!

Unless you work in a orphanage, you will deal with parents. It doesn't matter if you are in a public or private school, a rural or an inner city school, a successful program or a not successful program. It doesn't matter if you serve on a committee, a board, or have won every award known to an AD...you will GET the opportunity to work with parents. And with those parents, things get complicated when their kid is involved. So, how do you have challenging conversations with parents? In this session we will provide some tips, hints, best practices and advice (we will let you determine what is what here).



DETERMINING VALUE

If you asked me if You could borrow...

- My phone
- Some tools
- My lawnmower
- A bike
- The pool for a pool party
- My Kids.....depends on the day

But if you asked if you could borrow....



HAVE YOU EVER.....

- Met a parent who is truly objective about their child?
- Met a parent who didn't truly want the best for their child?
- Had a discussion with a parent where they were not trying to protect their child?
- Had a parent(s) that were not passionate about their child?

BREAKING NEWS.....

Difficult conversations are going to happen....

Like practice...it takes time to get better at them

You won't walk into your first one and be a pro

Unfortunately, it takes repetition to get better at having them

TWO MINDSETS

Immature Mindset

- Sees disagreement as a personal attack
- Are Easily offended
- Get defensive
- Does not stay calm
- Talks AT the parent

Mature Mindset

- Sees disagreement as an opportunity to learn
- Are not easily offended
- Stays Calm
- Seeks Clarity
- Talks WITH the parent

SCENARIO TIME

How would
you handle
this????



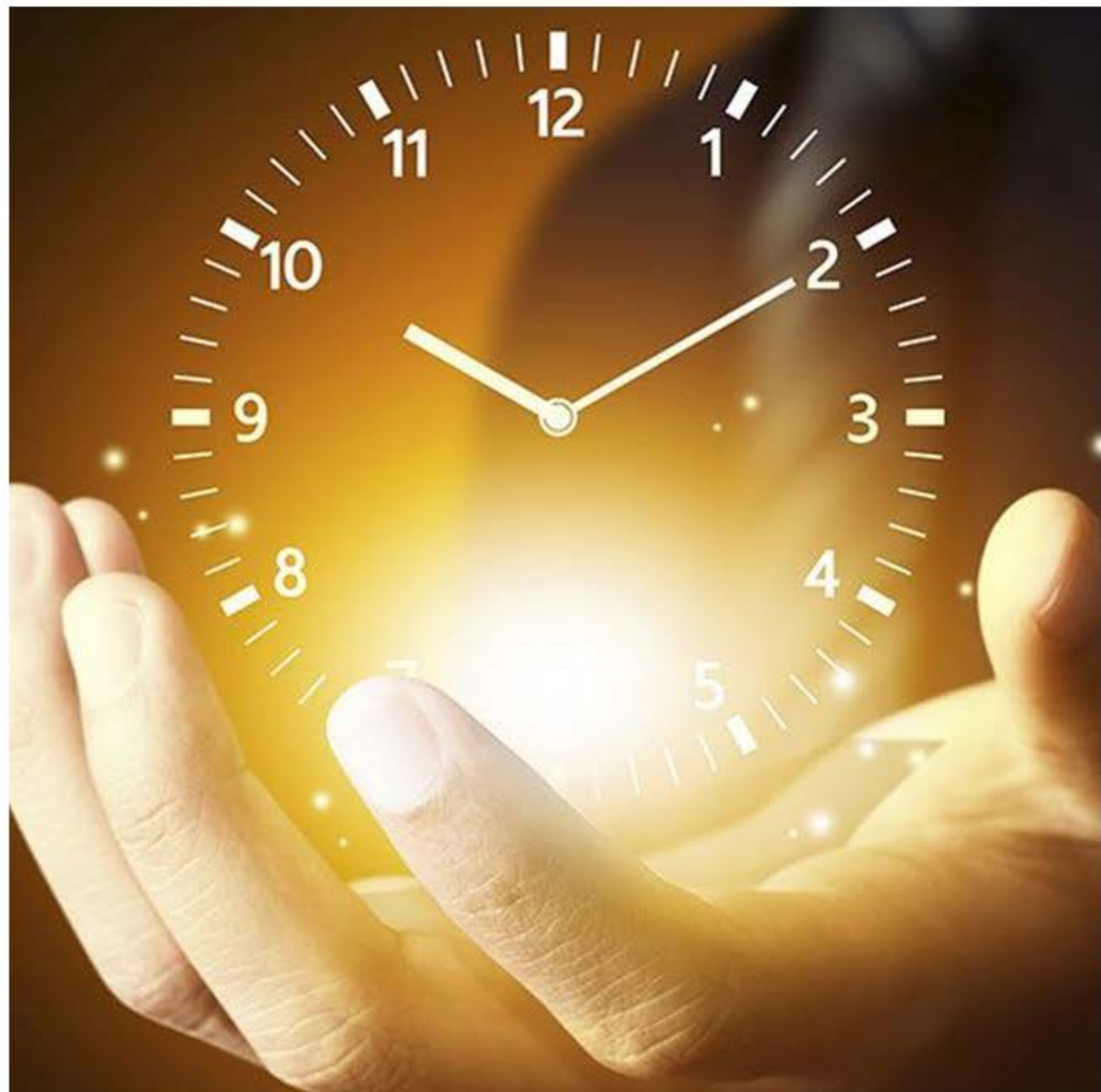
PUTTING IT OFF

Time never makes these conversations easier

Address them and get them over with

Don't react on emotion

Don't punt it down the road hoping it will go away



DO TAKE THE TIME TO....

- Truly LISTEN
- Listen with empathy and purpose
- Listen to understand, not to respond
- Be fully present in the conversation – no distractions
- People will know if you are truly present in the conversation
- Be genuine...be real

SCENARIO TIME

How would
you handle
this????



CONNECT WITH US

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