

SDAMLEmail

October 2020

Updates from South Dakota Middle Level Education

NEWS from OUR SDAMLE SCHOOLS

It's time for recess!! (At home!)

Brandon Valley fifth grade teacher, Jeffrey O'Connell, offers lesson plans for online activities to keep moving at home.

Check out the [article and video](#) on the Keloland news site. Make sure to check out the lesson plans at the end of the article!



Tea football team makes memorable moment for opposing player with autism

Another example of a middle school student being awesome!

Check out the attached [article](#) and video from *Dakota News Now*.



MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATORS - CONNECTING

Happy Hour for Middle School Teachers! SEE YOU ON NOVEMBER 17th, 6-7 PM

Join other middle level teachers for an hour of conversation and support. Join for a bit or the entire hour.

Topic: SDAMLE happy hour, November 17, 6-7 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://sdk12.zoom.us/j/95085711316?pwd=Qm9BL1lIU1VsdmxyTmRZK3NWQkptZz09>

Meeting ID: 950 8571 1316

Passcode: 311006



TWITTER #MSCHAT

Join us Thursdays, 7 PM CST / 6 PM MST to discuss relevant Middle School topics and a great easy way to keep on top of personal professional development!!

#MSCHAT

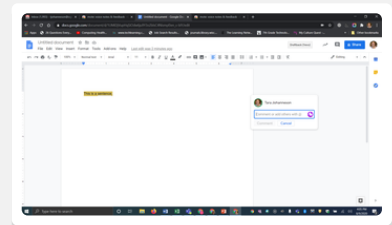
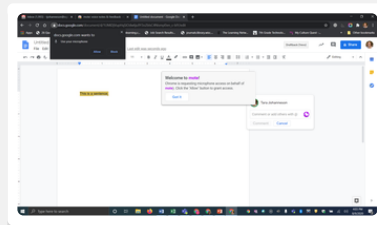
Mini-Survey: Positives in a Challenging Year

Share your experiences with SDAMLE members - Shine a light with your school insights & discoveries from these past months. Results will be shared in our November newsletter.

TECH WITH TARA

App ALERT!

Mote is a new awesome game-changing Chrome extension that allows users to add audio feedback in the comments of Google Docs, Slides, and Sheets.



Step #1:

Go to the Chrome Webstore and install the Mote extension

https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/mote-voice-notes-feedback/ajphlblkfppdpkgo_kiejbjfohfohmk

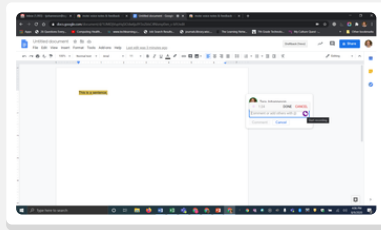
Steps #2 and #3:

Select the information that you want to add a feedback comment to.

When prompted to allow for the Mic, click "Allow" in the top left-hand corner.

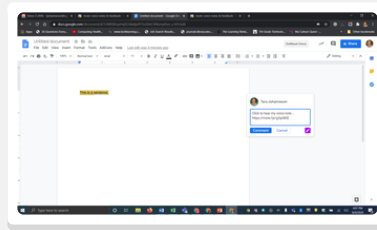
Step #4:

In the comment dialog box, click on the Mote purple M button.



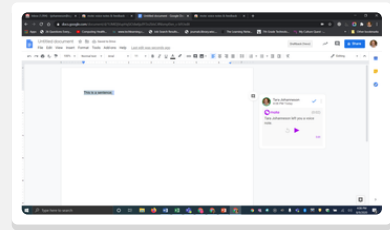
Step #5:

You will have a 1:30 to record your feedback. When completed, click "Done".



Step #6:

This will create a link for the feedback and enter it in the comment box. Click "Comment" to save the comment.



Step #7:

The audio feedback will show as the comment and can be played by pressing on the "Play" button.

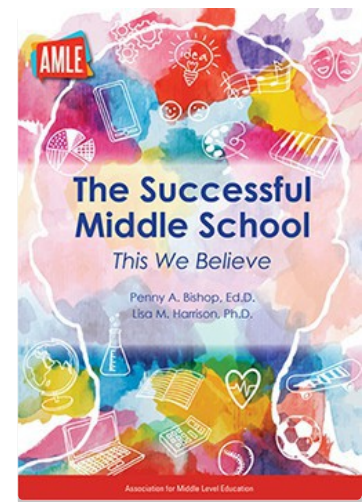
READ THIS - JUST RELEASED!

The Successful Middle School: This We Believe

Just Released!

The fifth edition of AMLE's position paper, now titled *The Successful Middle School: This We Believe* is now available!

For educators committed to success for every student, this updated edition of AMLE's position paper offers a set of attributes and characteristics that define successful middle schools. Rooted in research cited throughout the book, you will find a framework for creating the learning environments and opportunities that all young adolescents deserve. When its concepts are embraced, students are prepared for success in school and career.



Responsive schools for young adolescents equitably implement the full range of structures, supports, and practices known to be most effective with this age group. This edition focuses on the areas of development, including physical, intellectual, moral, psychological, and social-emotional, and acknowledges that various student identities such as race, ethnicity, social class, gender, sexual orientation, and exceptionality are inexorably intertwined.

Schools, districts, and higher education faculty as well as policymakers, community members, and organizations can use this resource to engage in discussion, share views, and put concepts into practice. Here are some activities the book inspires:

- School leaders partnering with faculty to integrate it into their school's professional development.
- School leaders engaging stakeholders—families, boards of education, district office personnel—in learning experiences that will increase their knowledge and understanding of the needs of the young adolescents in their care.
- School communities assessing the degree to which the school currently implements the features of a successful school and developing an improvement plan.

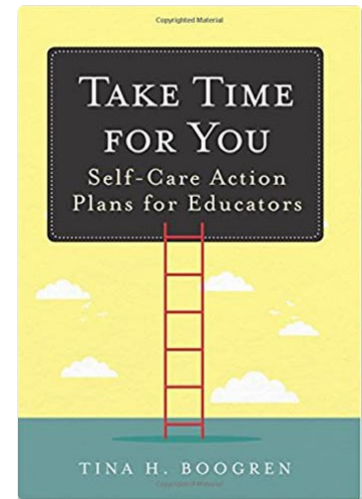
BOOK STUDY COMING THIS WINTER

Take Time for You: Self-Care Action Plans for Educators

Join SDAMLE members for an excellent read in the winter months ahead.

Start date & signups to be announced soon.

Graduate credit will be available.



Middle School Humor - Just in time for Halloween!



An Article about Bringing Stability & Structure in Turbulent Times: "The



Enduring Power of Rituals"

Read the entire article here:

[The Enduring Power of Rituals](#)

Well-designed rituals encourage student participation and are an important part of school culture

By: Chris Balme, Roberto d'Erizans

EXCERPT:

In these times of high anxiety and tremendous change, routines and rituals are more important than ever. For students, they provide a degree of stability and structure in a time when their non-school worlds are filled with turbulence. This is especially true for teens, for whom so much is changing, from friendships to interests to their understanding of the world. Predictable rituals bring people together and provide common ground and safety from which to process and view these changes. They provide space to communicate and hold each other accountable to key values and agreements. Rituals, as exemplified by our eighth graders crossing the creek, help usher in transformative moments, fostering growth and development through communal experiences. [Continue reading at AMLE](#)

Upcoming Events!

#EdcampSDAMLE

When

Saturday, March 13th 2021 at 9am

Where

*3201 South Kiwanis Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD*



South Dakota Association for Middle Level Educators



SDAMLE

Facebook @EdSDAMLE

South Dakota Association for Middle Level Education (SDAMLE) is the professional association of teachers, administrators, parents, and other stakeholders who have joined together to support the development of quality programs that serve the needs of young adolescents. SDAMLE exists to promote a better understanding of middle grades education in our state. SDAMLE is the source of ideas, information, and support for middle level educators in South Dakota.

2019-2020 SDAMLE Board Members

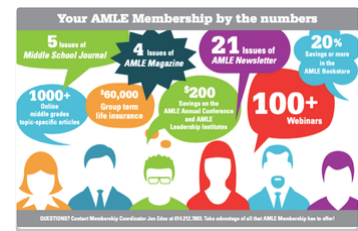
- President: Kyley Cumbow, Georgia Morse Middle School
- Treasurer: Lisa Kissner, Huron Middle School
- Secretary: Tara Johanneson, O'Gorman Junior High
- Membership Coordinator: Reva Potter, Belle Fourche Middle School
- Past President: Todd Brist, Watertown Middle School
- Board Member: Sherri Nelson, Brandon Valley School District
- Board Member: Steven Gors, Madison Middle School
- Board Member: Cotton Koch, Madison Middle School
- Board Member: Madeleine Gonsoir, Simmons Middle School
- Board Member: Kris Evje, Milbank School District
- University Representative: Teri Bauerly, Black Hills State University

✉ sdamlemail@gmail.com ☎ (605) 773-7330
 🌐 sdamle.weebly.com

Association for Middle Level Education

You are a passionate middle grades educator.

You appreciate the uniqueness of every student in your classroom. You advocate for your students every day while helping them along their individual path to achievement. You chose the middle grades because you understand the impact one teacher can make on the lives of 10 to 15 year olds. **You are AMLE!**



AMLE Membership Information:

<http://www.amle.org/membership.aspx>