

SDAMLEmail

November 2019

Updates from South Dakota Middle Level Education

The Relationship of Self-Esteem and Depression in Adolescence

© Dr Kathie Nunley

The importance to teach our adolescents coping skills and also the opportunity to feel a sense of belonging is at an all time high. Kathie Nunley's brain research reiterates the impact that depression and anxiety have on our young people and how we, as teachers, can support the development of positive self-esteem.

[Dr. Kathie Nunley's Layered Curriculum Web Site for Educators](#)

About the Author: Dr Kathie Nunley is an educational psychologist, researcher and author of several books on parenting and teaching, including A Student's Brain (Brains.org) and the best selling, "Differentiating the High School Classroom" (Corwin Press).

help4teachers.com

Quiz Bowl!!!

When

Tuesday, Nov. 19th, 3:30pm

Where

1045 18th Street Southwest Huron, SD

More information

Huron Middle School Quiz Bowl Invitational scheduled for November 19, 2019 from 3:30pm-7:00 pm!!

Contact Colleen.Jensen@k12.sd.us to get signed up as soon as possible!!

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

What's Cool In Our Schools!

Belle Fourche Middle School

The Belle Fourche Middle School 8th grade students are able to attend classes at the new Belle Fourche HS CTE facility. The students participate in the CTE classes on a rotation, completing introductory level courses in Agriculture, Architecture & Construction, Business, Family & Consumer Science, and Welding.

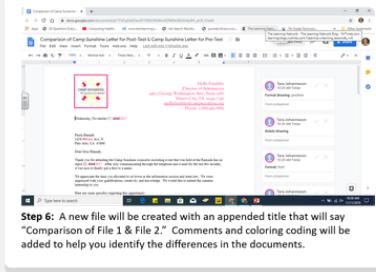
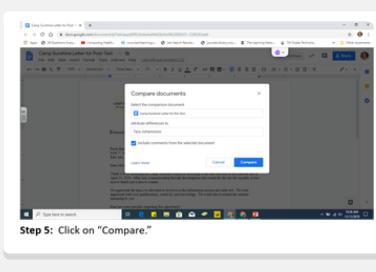
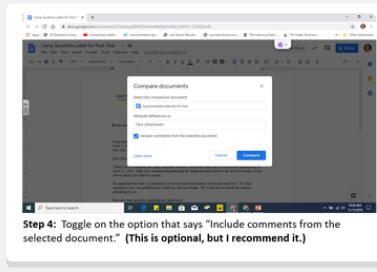
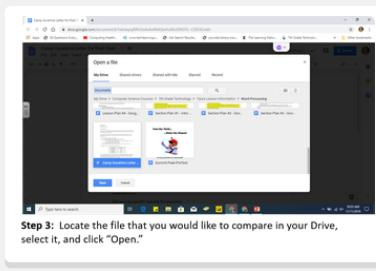
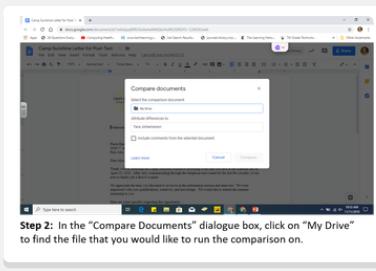
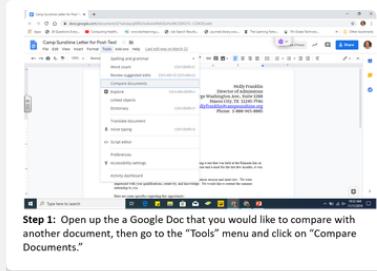


Tara's Tech Tip

Check out this Awesome New Google Feature: Docs Comparison Tool

Google has recently released a comparison tool that can be used to evaluate the similarities and differences between two files. This tool can be found in the "Tools" menu and is called "Compare Documents." The screenshots provided will walk you through the process of running a comparison.

More information on this can be found at
https://support.google.com/docs/answer/190843#compare_documents.



Featured SDAMLE School!

Brandon Valley Middle School

Check out their favorite books, apps, websites and strategies!

<http://sdamle.weebly.com/brandon-valley-middle-school.html>





BVMS Brochure 2019.pdf

 [Download](#)
243.2 KB



Past Board Member Recognized

The SDAMLE Board recognized Marianne Trandall this past month with a plaque for her years of service on the board. We thank you for your time and knowledge shared through the years with us!

Read This!

That One Kid - Brian D. Mendler

Every Teacher has "That One Kid". The one who can make life miserable for the other 25. This book focuses on that one. You will find many of the ideas and strategies fit all kids. But my goal is to help you succeed with the one nobody else in your building can reach...

About the Author:

Plagued by severe undiagnosed ADHD and reading difficulties, I began disrupting class in 4th grade. I believed my peers would laugh at me for being "dumb" so I made sure they laughed at me for being "bad" instead. I was defiant, disruptive, relatively unmotivated. By sixth grade my academic skills were so below grade level that I was pulled / kicked out of school.

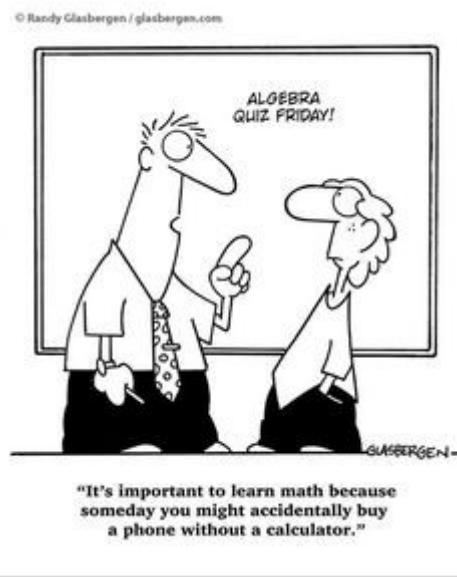


During my senior year, I started gambling. The next five years were a cycle of lying, cheating and stealing to feed my addiction. In 2001 I entered recovery. I am now clean 17 years.

Today I am a certified teacher, presenter, and international key note speaker. I have co/authored six books, including the best seller, [That One Kid](#), [Tips for Teachers](#), [Power Struggles](#), [Tuning Tough Parents into Strong Partners](#), and my newest book, [Watch Your Mouth](#).

<https://www.brianmendler.com/about/>

Middle School Humor!



3 Ways to Boost Middle Schoolers' Confidence in Class



Great article on @edutopia from AMLE Magazine columnist @Pfagell ... Middle school is a distinct phase, and a school counselor has ideas for how teachers can draw out their students' best work.

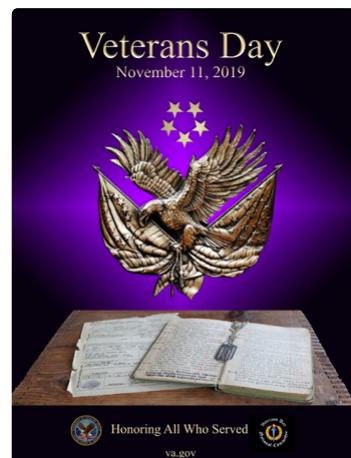
[Click here to read the rest of the story.](#)

Need Ideas for Veterans Day?

Operation We Are Here

Looking for ideas to celebrate Veterans Day? Check this link out that lists numerous ideas and suggestions to create awareness of ways to honor our Veterans.

<http://www.operationwearehere.com/VeteransDay.html>



Watch This!

12. Influence of Policy Politics and Accountability Initiatives on Middle School Education



Influence of Policy Politics and Accountability Initiatives on Middle School Education

Perhaps the two most influential elements of policy are related to teacher licensure and the curriculum, regulations that are generally set by state government. Many state policies acknowledge middle level schools as a legitimate level in a three-tiered system, by creating regulations for specialized middle level teacher preparation and licensure and by providing for a distinct curriculum for middle level learners.

Legacy participants pointed out that policies at the federal level have not been inclusive of middle level education. They discuss how major national bills such as Title I and No Child Left Behind ignore students, teachers, and schools at the middle level. Toepfer calls the lumping of middle schools into the category of secondary an "anachronistic, misinformed stance" when the evidence is clear that a "middle school unit can better address the educational needs of young adolescents." Sue Swaim

argues that the success of the NCLB Grades 3-8 testing mandate rests "squarely on the shoulders of middle school students and middle school educators," even though they are not formally recognized in the law. Middle level leaders further criticized the narrow, content-only focus of "highly qualified teacher" and student success as they are defined in national policy. Middle level educators are challenged to work not only within the ranks of middle level educators but also to form alliances to protect teacher education and public education more generally. Emphatically, George ends this video, with a nod to Sam Houston's famous quotation: "We've got to do right and damn the consequences!"



Eight Counseling Techniques Every Middle School Educator Can Use

Taking the time to help your students navigate the highs and lows of adolescence

By the time Catie, 14, stormed out of her last class of the day, she felt disconnected from her emotions. She had no idea how deeply she'd been impacted by a minor fight with her mother on the way to school. In homeroom, she took offense when her friend Trevor made an innocuous comment about her weekend plans. At lunch, she felt rejected when friends turned her away from their full table. As the day went on, she was increasingly irritable. When her teacher chastised her for being chatty during seventh period, she yelled out to no one in particular that she always got blamed for everything, then ran out of class.

I counseled Catie that evening, and it took a while for her to identify the precipitating event. It's easy for middle schoolers to get derailed by an argument, rescinded invitation, or ambiguous comment, but hard for them to connect the dots between their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Tweens may think bad feelings stick around forever, struggle to interpret feedback, or have no idea how to make themselves feel better. All of this can interfere with their functioning at school, but educators can use the following eight counseling techniques to help kids navigate the highs and lows.

[Read the rest of the article here.](#)

It's Different Now

Four experiences for educators to consider about today's young adolescents

It's not our imagination, kids really are different.

Today's youth face four constructs that adults either did not experience at all or did not experience in the same way as youth today.

[Read the rest of the article here.](#)



Middle Schools: A Place to Belong and Become

Presenter: Patti Kinney, Laurie Barron

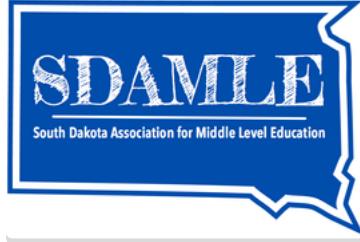
Wednesday, November 20, 2019, 4-5pm ET

If we reduce down what research tells us about quality middle level education, two concepts rise to the top—belonging and becoming. Schools must be places where students feel they belong and are both respected and valued. They must also be places where students can become, where their academic and personal potential is recognized and nurtured. Based on the AMLE book of the same name, the authors, both award-winning former middle level principals, will share practical strategies they used to ensure their schools were a place where students could both belong and become.

[Click here for more information about the webinar.](#)



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: Jason Whiting, Sioux Falls School District

University Representative: Teri Bauerly, Black Hills State University

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(605) 773-7330

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Board Bio of the Month

Lisa Kissner teaches 8th Grade Math and 8th Grade Sheltered Math at Huron Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year. Previously she has taught 6-8th Sheltered Math; 6th Grade Math, Reading, and Social Studies; as well as 7th Grade math for a few years. She is also active in coaching at the middle school level with 7th grade girls volleyball, basketball, and track. She earned a bachelors degree in Elementary Education with a Math minor from Northern Statue University, and furthered her education at Black Hills State University earning a masters in Curriculum & Technology.

Lisa has three children; Caitlin is an RN at Sanford Hospital in Sioux Falls, Tarryn lives in Huron and is employed at Trendz Day Spa as a Cosmetologist; and Tj who lives in Volga and is self employed at his own Kissner Paving Company.



lisa.kissner@k12.sd.us

2018-2019 SDAMLE Board Members

Left to Right--Taylor Hamblin, Lisa Kissner, Kyley Cumbow, Teri Bauerly, Sherri Nelson, Reva Potter, Todd Brist, Steve Gors, and Tara Johanneson



Upcoming Events!

MMSA 2019 Annual Conference

When

*Thursday, Dec. 5th, 7:30am to Friday,
Dec. 6th, 4:30pm*

Where

*DoubleTree by Hilton Bloomington
Minneapolis South*

More information

Travel to Minnesota on **December 5th and 6th** for the annual Minnesota Middle School Association Conference. **Rick Wormeli** is this year's keynote speaker.

[Click here for more information on the conference!](#)

#EdcampSDAMLE

When

Saturday, March 28th 2020 at 9am

Where

3100 West 41st Street Sioux Falls, SD

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>

