

CHAPTER 8: ENLARGING

Adding Value to Teammates is Invaluable

According to Rabbi Harold Kushner, "The purpose of life is not to win. The purpose of life is to grow and to share. When you come to look back on all that you have done in life, you will get more satisfaction from the pleasure you have brought to other people's lives than you will from the time that you outdid and defeated them."

Becoming an enlarger of others isn't always easy. It takes a secure person to add value to others.

Team members love a player who is able to inspire them to become more successful. Team players who enlarge their teammates share common characteristics:

- Enlargers value their teammates.
- Enlargers value what their teammates value.
- Enlargers add value to their teammates.
- Enlargers make themselves more valuable.

How do we become Enlargers?

- Believe in others before they believe in you.
- Serve others before they serve you.
- Add value to others before they add value to you. Point out your teammates' strengths, encourage and motivate them out of their comfort zone, but within their gift zone.

There is nothing as valuable - or rewarding- as adding value to the lives of others.

In our extended learning opportunities, our students are not seen as numbers or a just a job to do. Students are valued for the gifts they bring to the program. Our program not only enriches educationally but inspires these students to reach their potential. This summer we had camps where students went swimming in the local pool that had never been in a swimming pool before - where kids went fishing - where kids participated in Karate.....From all of this, these kids had value added.

This atmosphere is observed in the attitudes of our teachers. Their focus is on what is best for students, and how to reach beyond themselves to meet the needs of students and each other.

June Elliott, Director of Federal Programs, Cabot Public Schools, Cabot, AR