Greetings and Happy Holidays!

I would like to express my deepest appreciation for your support of the Teacher Workshop program this year. Now that Thanksgiving is behind us and 2012 is coming to an end I would like to take the opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

It’s not too late for teachers to register for Fall II workshops which will run November 30th through December 8th. Spring I will be offered January 18-26, 2013 and Spring II, March 1-9, 2013. Please visit our website for the complete schedule www.flsouthern.edu/teachers.

Pursuing Your Dreams

For most people Christmas is a holiday of great expectation! It’s the time of year when children (of all ages) dream of finding that perfect gift under the tree. There seems to be something magical about dreams as it gives us something to hold on to and hope for. However, some individuals lose sight of their dreams and it seems that keeping them alive is a hopeless cause. If that might be you, I’d like to share a word of encouragement about pursuing your dreams.

About a year ago my daughter began a new job. A short time after she was hired, her manager told her that she was excited about working with her. They both shared personal details about their lives and at the conclusion of the conversation her manager said, “You’ll find that all of us in this office will encourage your dreams and desires. We realize that even though you are here for a reason, you may or may not make this job a lifetime career. Therefore, as a team we will always encourage you to pursue your dreams.” As my daughter shared this with me I was thankful that she was blessed with a positive working environment and a very wise leader who has a vision and compassion for the needs of others. As I reflected upon her encounter I asked myself, “Am I a dream booster or a dream buster?”

John C. Maxwell says in his book 25 Ways to Win with People, “When a person shares their dream with you, it is the center of that person’s soul.” He goes on to share the following six steps in encourage others to pursue their dreams:

1. “Ask them to share their dream with you.”
2. “Affirm the person as well as the dream.”
3. “Ask about the challenges they must overcome to reach their dream.”
4. “Offer your assistance.”
5. “Revisit their dream with them on a consistent basis.”
6. “Determine daily to be a dream booster, not a dream buster.”

Norman Cousins said, “Death is not the greatest loss in life. The greatest loss is what dies inside of us while we live.” Our dreams keep us alive as they give us hope and move us forward in life. If we lose our hope we lose our vision. Ben Franklin said, “Most men die from the neck up at age twenty-five because they stop dreaming.”

Encouraging others to pursue their dreams comes through reflective listening; believing in their abilities and potential; and being available when they need an ear or word of encouragement. As you listen, not only with your ears but with your heart, what are they really saying? Maybe they just need someone to give them that little word of encouragement and support as they launch out and pursue their dream(s).
Everyday Essentials
“There are dreams we have for our life and then there are the dreams that life has for us.” ~Marcia Wieder
“Goals in writing are dreams with deadlines.” ~Brian Tracy
http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/topics/topic_dreams.html (Retrieved 8/20/12)

The Simple Blessings of Christmas by Mark Gilroy reveals thirty reasons to celebrate the season! Click on the following link and enjoy: http://play.simpletruths.com/movie/simple-blessings-of-christmas/

Teacher Workshop 2013 Summer Schedule
Please note that our summer schedule will be changing this year. Instead of offering four consecutive weeks during the month of June we will offer the following schedule:

- Summer 1 – May 3-11, 2013
- Summer 2 – May 31-June 8, 2013
- Summer 3 – June 10-14, 2013
- Summer 4 – June 17-21, 2013
- Summer 5 – July 15-19, 2013

Earn your Masters through FSC
Florida Southern College offers two Master’s programs; our Master of Education (MEd) and Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT). Beginning this fall, 49% of our Graduate coursework will be offered online, while the remaining coursework will be completed face-to-face on our Lakeland campus. Please feel free to contact Brooke Veal for further information at (863) 680-5004 or bveal@flsouthern.edu

Have an awesome Monday and a wonderful week!

Donna

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