



## 5 Minute Activity

### **Ride for the Brand**

Read the following excerpt from *Leadership Values of the Clovis Unified School District* (p. 43) and then discuss one of the prompts below.

#### **Know Whose Team You Are On**

The bleachers were packed as fans from the opposing Buchanan High and Clovis High softball teams prepared to cheer on their teams to a Division I Valley Championship. Tensions were high between the long-time rivals, and it promised to be a hard-fought battle once the first pitch was thrown. As the two teams stepped onto the field, the PA system crackled with an announcement from the California Interscholastic Federation that there would be no National Anthem played before the Cougars and Bears competed since the anthem had already been aired before an earlier Division III play-off game.

No National Anthem before a ball game? Confused looks were exchanged around the stands, as the red-draped Buchanan student section grew quiet, and the student section all in blue did the same. “Oh, say can you see, by the dawn’s early light...” Suddenly the sound of youthful voices rose from both student sections. Quickly joined by adults and players on the field, the National Anthem was sung in heartfelt unity, CIF plans aside.

The final note drifted away on the warm evening air as the cry of “Play ball!” rang out and the game was back on, leaving in its wake an important lesson for leaders to learn from students. Competition and intense rivalry have their time and place, but a leader should never lose sight of common bonds. A Clovis Unified leader rides for the good of the team for which we all play.

#### **Prompts:**

*Emerging Leaders (101):* This story actually gives me goosebumps. Every school, department, and certainly the Clovis Unified District has had defining moments when we come together as a team. Maybe, it’s when the entire district can take pride in Clovis students representing the United States in the Olympics. Maybe it’s when a student or family is in crisis and the school and/or department rallies around them for support. Or maybe, it’s when some event or person shakes the core of our foundation. Think about your career in CUSD and a time you were surrounded with support or a time your team rallied together to support someone else. Describe the event and how you were able to come together as a team. What did you learn from the experience?

*Established Leaders (201):* One of the many values Doc taught us is “We all win together, or we lose together.” Discuss how this value plays out in today’s world. What are the ramifications for our district?

*Tenured Leaders (301):* In CUSD leaders view themselves as part of a larger team. As a leader, how do you demonstrate belonging to a larger team? What systems are in place that perpetuate the value of belonging to a larger team? As we continue to grow, how do we keep this value in place?