



## 5 Minute Activity

### Competition is an Ingredient of High Standards - Competition

Read the following excerpts from *Leadership Values of the Clovis Unified School District* (pages 61, 63 and 64) and then discuss one of the prompts below.

#### Competition...

Competition does not start with schooling. Competition starts with little children just wanting to play – to catch or hit or kick a ball. Eventually, they learn a few skills and all of a sudden, one of them looks at another and says, “Hey! Let’s keep score!” Now they’re interested in winning and losing, which is mostly what life’s all about.

Compete first within yourself  
Then against a standard  
Then as a team

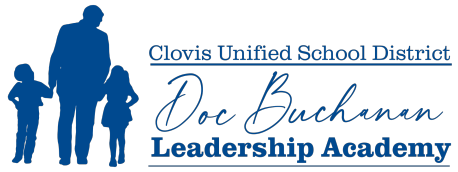
Don’t stop at failure.

#### Discussion Prompts:

*Emerging Leaders (101):* In Clovis Unified we teach our students to *win with class and lose with dignity, no matter what the competition is; academics, performing arts, athletics.* As a leader how do you ensure adults do the same? Draft an elevator speech to give to all coaches, parents, and students regarding winning with class and losing with dignity. An elevator speech is about 30 seconds.

*Established Leaders (201):* A recent survey of high school referees’ response to the question, “Is sportsmanship getting better or worse?” respondents answered: 68.81% worse, 21.25% no change, 10.14% better. More than 50 percent of all respondents have feared for their safety at some point in their career because of administrator, coach, player, or spectator behavior. Sadly, nearly 12 percent of all officials who responded have been physically assaulted during or after a sporting event.

*Tenured Leaders (301):* So many of Doc’s philosophies pertain to not only children, but also the adults surrounding them. This simple statement rings true for what a leader wants for the students, employees, and themselves. *To give your best effort to become better tomorrow than they are today; to overcome obstacles and compete against a standard of excellence; and finally, to compete together to pull from the team a combined performance that exceeds what any one individual is capable of attaining alone is the model of competition that helps students win in life.* As a leader in Clovis Unified, you are the head coach, whether it is at the district, area, division, site, or department level. Identify the written plans that guide how you and your team become better every



day and answer these five questions: Do they exist? Are they of quality? Are they used? Do they make a difference? How do you know?