



California Association of Directors of Activities

Dear Administrator,

The California Association of Directors of Activities (CADA) presents an annual conference providing workshops and presentations targeting teachers who work with middle school and high school leadership students. The conference attracts participants from all over the United States, hungry for answers to questions like “How do I design activities promoting a safe learning environment?”; “What about activities supporting academic, social and personal development in accordance with federal guidelines?”; “Can we capture the hearts of our students so they will look forward to attending school and as a result lower the drop-out-rate?”

The answers to these questions and much, much more are found at the CADA Conference.

Activities Directors are teachers who dedicate many hours and sacrifice personal time to meet the needs of their students. The CADA Conference is the “shot in the arm” they need to rejuvenate, re-charge their batteries, and grow their knowledge base of leadership activities. The conference also helps teachers establish a network with others who love their work, have related challenges and similar goals.

Belt tightening caused by state and federal cuts in education and budget choices at the school board level may prevent activities directors’ attendance. While this impacts activities directors looking for successful ways to; create positive learning environments, improve school climate and culture, and help create a sense of belonging for students at school; it’s truly the students and school communities that bear the brunt of such decisions. If activities programs shrink or worse disappear, it’s the students, the schools and our communities who pay the price. While mainstream academics and achievement occupy much of our educational resources, it is the skills students learn and apply through their participation in a school’s activities programs that serve them most as their lives take them beyond the classroom.

Activity directors take home substantial materials from the conference which is a valuable resource for activities, leadership curriculum and state standards. Activities directors strive to be all they can be to benefit their students, staff and administration, modeling this behavior for their students. In turn administrators and districts can support these efforts by sending activities directors to CADA. Their attendance will ultimately benefit all who are associated with the education of our children.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Howard Zinn