



CENTRAL RIVERS AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

Dear Educators, Administrators, & Coaches,

It is with great enthusiasm that we recommend Dean Jacobs as guest author/presenter in your district. Dean joined us at the Central Rivers Area Education Agency Elementary and Middle School Battle of the Books for two consecutive days in April, 2017. Our event included over 460 students from 50 school districts. His willingness to interact and engage with students and coaches, as well as his inspiring message, make him a great choice for audiences of all ages..

Dean has a powerful message to share. *"Dreams aren't for special people, they are for everyone who has the courage to dream."* That message comes to life as Dean shares his experiences through his photos, stories, humor, and videos. Dean came from humble beginnings and went on to a successful career, then left it to follow his dream of traveling the world.

Dean is committed to connecting with your learning community. It is very clear from Dean's communication with us, as well as students, coaches, and teachers that he cares deeply about the quality of interactions he has with participants. Each day, Dean worked tirelessly and above our expectations to engage students and coaches individually, in small groups, and in groups over 200 with the same level of integrity and interest. Dean adjusted his program to meet the needs of our elementary and middle school audiences and shared many memorable lessons, including:

- o *Have your dreams be bigger than your fears.*
- o *Not knowing is never an excuse for not trying.*
- o *Find the reasons why, instead of why not.*
- o *Believe in your ability to figure things out.*

Dean is intentional about connecting his message to the standards and your initiatives. By visiting Dean's web site, it's obvious to see that a visit from Dean will support and reinforce the NGSS and ELA Common Core (Speaking & Listening, Reading, and Writing) Standards. What you might not notice is that Dean's message also supports the Universal Constructs (specifically Flexibility & Adaptability), Communication, and Creativity through the sharing of photos, videos, and stories of how he traveled the world on \$10-15 dollars a day. His program can also strengthen learning around Growth Mindset and Grit.

We highly recommend you make plans to welcome Dean to your school community! We are looking forward to inviting him back to the Battle of the Books in the near future. Please contact us for additional information about our experience working with Dean.

Thank you,

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