



Menu for Success

The most positive, long-term impact of Dain Blanton’s urgent “call to action” is obtained when students can hear and interact with him on campus *throughout* the school year. Dain’s work is designed for flexibility and customization to your school’s or district’s needs. Four themes are consistent throughout all of Dain’s work: 1) The value of education, 2) Taking responsibility for your actions, 3) Aiming high and reaching for success, and 4) Persevering through challenges. Here is an example of the *recommended* order of events:

Meeting Type	Description	Outcomes
<p>Fall Assemblies</p> <p>All-School or Grade-level (At start of school year or summer session)</p>	<p>60-90 minutes each; “Kickstarter” (Summer or Fall introduction. This is Dain’s most all-encompassing presentation, covering his personal story and what it means to create a vision, set clear goals, establish self-discipline and discover that YOU are the <i>agent of action</i> in your own life. He touches on issues of leadership, attitude, service and character, etc.</p>	<p>Students are moved by Dain’s story; they get emotionally connected in that they feel clear parallels to their own lives. They GET the connection between passive and active roles in their own school achievement as well as personal and social choices.</p>
<p>Classroom/ Athletic Team Visits</p> <p>Fall, Winter and Spring grade-level or cohort (Begins anytime after first assembly)</p>	<p>50 minutes (a classroom period). Dain hones in on his messages of perseverance, resiliency and working through what’s difficult; Self-leadership and the traits to fine-tune when leading others; Character and integrity. Actions speak louder than words. He expands on themes introduced at first assembly, based on most relevant theme in age group (i.e., 9th graders will hear more about creating a vision and a plan, staying strong vs. yielding to peer pressure, etc; 12th graders will hear more about facing adulthood and actionable planning, self-accountability, etc).</p>	<p>Students get a more personalized experience, including Q & A, etc. More interactive than large assemblies. Deepens the commitment to “working the plan” and staying excited about their vision.</p>
<p>Spring Assemblies</p> <p>All-School or Grade-level (March -June)</p>	<p>These are “ramp-up the effort” messages focusing on honest self-assessment of effort and progress; gearing up for state testing; this is the time for a strong “last push” as we head towards summer; asking for/offering help, etc. Looking forward; put your summer to good use (volunteerism); stay focused on your vision and plans. Dain emphasizes the “If I did this, you CAN do this” message and leaves everyone feeling amped.</p>	<p>Students feel challenged to revisit (and be accountable for) how they are <i>actually</i> spending their time; They take more ownership of their effort because they are gaining perspective of how they started out the year and its effect on their grades <i>now</i>.</p>
<p>Spring Classroom/ Athletic team Visits</p> <p>(Following the Spring Assemblies)</p>	<p>50 minutes (a classroom period). Dain hones in on his messages of perseverance, resiliency and working through what’s difficult; Self-leadership and the traits to fine-tune when leading others; Character and integrity. Actions speak louder than words.</p>	<p>Students are more deeply involved and by now may be interacting on Dain’s moderated Facebook page, keeping up with the motivational stories he posts and sharing their own.</p>
<p>Day at the Beach (or Park, etc)</p>	<p>A day of direct experience with Dain; fun, physical games and personal interaction with Dain leading activities</p>	<p>Students will treasure their special experience of interacting with and observing Dain in a fun, casual setting.</p>
<p>Graduation Speeches</p>	<p>Fully customized graduation speech; rousing and emotional, filled with “keep the vision”, “look how far you’ve come” and “you can reach your goals” messages.</p>	<p>Leaves students with a sense of knowing Dain personally and having a connection to him. They are inspired by him as a role-model of success.</p>