

"Getting to Gold" Presentation Descriptions

All of the presentations outlined below share the four common themes present in *all* of Dain's work: 1) The value of education, 2) Taking responsibility for our actions, 3) Aiming high and reaching for success, and 4) Persevering through challenges.

Dain Blanton's Presentation Offerings	Duration	Definition & Overall Theme
Fall Assembly (Whole School)	60-90 min.	One presentation for all grades in one room. Introduce and hear Dain's personal story; Importance of education, defining and aiming for success, motivating ourselves, dealing with difficulty & challenge.
Fall Assemblies (by Grade Level)	60-90 min.	One presentation per grade, relevant to grade level. 8th grade: Creating a vision, linking perseverance to success, etc. 9th grade: Drawing up your plan, staying strong in it, etc. 10th grade: Accountability and making changes, asking for help, etc. 11th grade: College and career focus, resilience, etc. 12th grade: Facing adulthood, personal agency vs, victimhood, etc.
Classroom Rotations (by Grade Level)	50 min.	May be all Social Studies classes for 9th graders, or all History classes for 10th graders, for example. Themes deepen from main assembly presentation; students get to discuss and interact around issues.
P.E. Rotations (by Athletic Team)	50 min.	Rousing call to action for teams; relevant to specific sport; Leadership issues, good sportsmanship, respect and supporting each other, etc.
Custom Classroom Visits (Specified student cohorts)	50 min.	Tailored to students' needs as defined by administration; Focus on chosen themes
Winter Assembly (Whole School)	60 min.	One presentation for all grades in one room; Continuing the good fight; Taking account of progress towards goals and areas needing support, Amping up for the next semester and being willing to push yourself, etc.
Winter Asemblies (by Grade Level)	50 min.	One presentation per grade, relevant to grade level. 8th grade: Revisiting your vision, being resilient, etc. 9th grade: Assessing your plan, re-committing and seeking support, etc. 10th grade: Being tenacious and accountable to yourself, etc. 11th grade: How are your college and career plans shaping up? Renewing the vigor of planning ahead, etc. 12th grade: Taking on more responsibility at home and in your community, making mature choices, etc.
Spring Assembly (Whole School)	60 min.	One presentation for all grades in one room. Last push to best your own records. You CAN do it! Self-appreciation for hard work but realistic assessment: Areas needing support? "Using" summer; offering support to others/volunteerism, family and community, etc. Vacation from being the best you can be? No way! Perseverance is the name of the game--always.
Spring Asemblies (by Grade Level)	50 min.	One presentation per grade, relevant to grade level. 8th grade: Goals for summer and next year, Self-responsibility and sense of agency, etc. 9th grade: Making changes to your plan is normal, staying true to yourself, using the summer, etc. 10th grade: Leadership qualities in yourself, managing change, summer work, etc. 11th grade: Summer planning, volunteerism, re-committing to push yourself in senior year, etc. 12th grade: This is it! Self-appreciation and self-respect, the "fun" never stops, etc.
Staff Meetings or Staff Breakfasts	50 min.	Camaraderie-building and establishes shared goals. Helps to motivate staff and understand how best to support students in taking on Dain's challenge to succeed. Dain discusses why <i>direct</i> motivation is important and encourages mutual discussion and shared techniques.
Day at the Beach with Dain	3-6 hrs.	Full day of play with Olympic Gold Medalist Dain Blanton. Offers new and different unifying experiences for students; includes volleyball clinic and great fun.