**LDE & CDE Coaching Strategies**

**Ag Teachers Conference 2022**

**Corpus Christi, Texas**

**Thursday, July 28, 2022**

**Description:** How to get the most out of your students to allow them to reach their potential. This workshop is taught by teachers who have competed and won on a State & National Level. These teachers will share tips and tricks for student recruitment, practice structures, student engagement, and other important techniques to guide your students to success.

This document was the outline that we used to create the video, we don’t answer every question in the video, but these are questions that each coach can ask themselves to self evaluate their own coaching styles.

1. **Introduction:** 
   1. Katherine Dalton
      1. James Madison FFA
      2. 2021 National FFA Champion Nursery Landscape Coach
   2. Jacob Price
      1. Katy FFA
      2. 2018 & 2019 – National FFA Champion Poultry Coach
      3. 2022 – Texas FFA State Champion Poultry Coach
   3. David Laird
      1. Taylor-Katy FFA
      2. 2016 & 2021 National FFA Champion Poultry Coach
      3. 2019 Texas FFA Champion Agriculture Advocacy Coach
   4. Erin Stutts
      1. College Station FFA
      2. 2021 National FFA Champion Meats Coach
2. **Before the kids show up**
   1. **Professional Development**
      1. Have you read, printed, re-read, and re-read the rules?
      2. Do you have the student study the materials for your contest?
      3. Have you signed up for professional development to support your learning?
      4. Have you found a teacher / coach mentor that has had success?
      5. Have you created a plan for record keeping?
   2. **Communication**
      1. Do you have a published practice schedule?
      2. Do you have a published contest schedule?
      3. Have you created a “remind” group for your kids to join?
      4. Do you have a clean chain of communication?
   3. **Commitment**
      1. Are you committed do doing more that what you are asking your kids to do?
      2. Can you coach this team without making promises that you can’t keep?
      3. Have you created personal and team goals for the team?
3. **Recruiting** 
   1. Talent Evaluation
      1. It starts in the ag classroom but goes way beyond
      2. Get to know your kids both for the personality traits and their skills
      3. Are they able to do what you are asking them to do from an academic standpoint?
      4. Do they have the time?
      5. How do you balance experience and grade level on a team?
   2. **Commitment and Buy In** 
      1. Have you built a relationship of mutual trust with the student?
      2. What is more valuable a talented student that can’t come to practice or a student that is committed to practice but has less talent?
4. **Practice & Contest Scheduling** 
   1. How many hours of classroom time to effectively teach the contest information to “Classroom” mastery?
   2. How many hours of practice time do you need to prepare your students for competition level mastery?
   3. How long can you hold your student’s attention and effectively teacher content before they begin to burn out? (Per practice? per week?, per semester?)
   4. How many contests can you take your students to before they begin to burn out?
   5. How do you decide which contest to attend?
   6. How far is to far to travel for a contest?
   7. How do you balance student absences with the contest schedule?
5. **Coaching vs Teaching** 
   1. How do you decide when you are going to coach vs when you are going to teach?
   2. What data points do you track and how do these data points drive decision making?
   3. How do you know when your students are burning out?
   4. How do you combat burn out?
   5. How do you keep kids engaged and coming to practice?
   6. How do you handle student attendance, what is excused practice?
6. **Fear vs Cheer**
   1. How do you build positive relationships with your students?
   2. How do you get “buy in?”
   3. Do you use negative re-enforcement?
   4. How do you use positive re-enforcement, without becoming a doormat?
7. **Handling Success and Failure**
   1. How do build students up after failure?
   2. How do you keep students grounded after success?
   3. How do you handle bad contest officials/Judges?
8. **Personal Life vs Ag Teacher Life**
   1. How do you balance your personal life with being a coach?
   2. How do you balance being an Ag Science Teacher with being an FFA Advisor Coach?
9. **Additional Information**
   1. What is your pet-peeve as a coach?
   2. What do you do to re-set mentally as a coach?
   3. What resource materials help you as a coach?