

## MAKE YOUR DAY

A SCHOOL-WIDE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS  
TEACHERS TO TEACH AND ALLOWS STUDENTS TO LEARN

[Earl's Corner](#)

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Two-Cents](#)

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**MYD  
Conference  
Arizona**

**Register  
on-line  
at the [website](#).**

**Or, go to  
[www.sporg.com](http://www.sporg.com)  
and search for  
Make Your Day  
events.**

### Earl's Corner

#### Making Every Month Count

After spring break, the atmosphere in many schools can change. If you ask most students and teachers how much time is left before summer, they can tell you the days, hours and minutes remaining. The change of seasons and thoughts of vacation can cause both students and teachers to lose focus. The most effective method used in MYD to avoid this springtime lull is to refresh and renew.

Just as schools have re-upped the program after winter break, those schools who re-up after spring break experience a higher level of compliance and focus. It isn't necessary to start over, but it may be beneficial to establish the rationale for the various components of the program. A reiteration of the school rule and the implications in each classroom clarifies any late-year confusion that students may have. It also allows the teacher an opportunity to restructure their setting if there has been slippage. If expectancies for the last three months of school are not explicitly spelled out, the structure can and will suffer.



They often feel that they have little to lose because they won't be there next year anyway.

As academics wind down, it is important to fill the void with activities that encourage focus. Free-time, additional recesses, movies, and parties will require the greatest teacher focus. Allowing your students to create the structure for those activities is not only consistent with the philosophy of the program, but gives you a greater chance for peaceful coexistence.

Next month, we will visit techniques for assessing successes and failures for the school year, along with making decisions about modifications to MYD for the



## **Regional MYD Trainings**

Designed for staff that work at MYD Schools and have not received the training or for staff who would like a review. Parents and students are also welcome to attend.

**Phoenix, AZ  
August 3-4**

**Kennewick, WA  
August 17-18**

**Tacoma, WA  
August 21-22**

**Everett, WA  
August 24-25**

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**[Website for  
Teachers](#)**

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**[Website for  
Parents](#)**

Although, it is important that all grade levels refocus and recommit, it is imperative that the highest grade within the school articulates the structure. Many of the oldest students begin to lose their commitment and loyalty to their school as they now see themselves heading to the next step in their school journey.



## **Cheryl's Two Cents**

### **More Support**

Based upon feedback from the research, we are providing additional opportunities for collaboration and support.

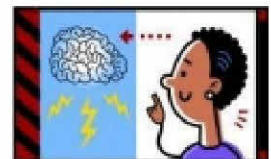
There is a new ListServe that will allow educators to share ideas and techniques on topics such as student committees, homework, and whatever else the group deems important. Find the link on the website.

Also, we have a new phone number that will allow anyone to call with questions. Please feel free to contact us at:  
**1 866 MYD QUESTION**  
**1 866 693-7837.**

As always, email support is readily available:

**[EarlandCheryl@makeyourdays.com](mailto:EarlandCheryl@makeyourdays.com)**

Lucille Umbarger School staff in Burlington-Edison School District, Washington, has developed a description of MYD at their school that describes their goal, the ownership and the collaboration of the school community.



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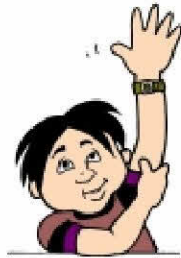
## My School Wants MYD

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### Make Your Day...

...a school wide citizenship program, where students and staff do what is expected and their best without interfering with the learning, safety or well-being of others.

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What

About

This

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Student

Questions

Points are a waste of time. Why do we have to do them? (Asked by two students in a gifted program at an elementary school in Arizona.)

There are two types of students who always receive a great deal of teacher attention. One group is students who whip through their work, help the teacher, and earn excellent grades. ("That's us," they said.) The other group of students who receive a large amount of teacher attention are those with behavior challenges. (They nodded in agreement.)

What about those students who don't fit into either group, but they come in every day and work their hardest? When do they have an opportunity to be recognized for their efforts? Points. Every period of every day, they have the opportunity for their efforts to be noticed. Everyone gets to take credit for what they've done - I earned 43 points because I learned how to write a complimentary letter, but I need to work on staying on task.

Are points a waste of time when everyone has the opportunity to take credit for their work? These young ladies decided that it was OK to take the time because they realized that many of their classmates didn't have the same opportunities they did to be recognized for their efforts.

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