
From: Debbie Erikson [mailto:derikson@firbank.vic.edu.au]
Sent: Monday, 22 March 2004 2:54 PM
To: Darren Pereira (Success Integrated)
Subject: RE: Feedback

I apologise for the delay in getting these to you. I have been in the process of selling my home and any spare moments have been swallowed up in a range of essential but timeconsuming tasks

Debbie Erikson

To whom it may concern

I am a teacher who accompanied the year twelve students at Firbank Grammar School to a motivational session conducted by Darren Pereira - Success Coach. This was an afternoon session conducted after lunch and I was very surprised at the sustained interest Darren received from the students. There were close to 100 students in the hall (a venue not really conducive to developing a sharing atmosphere); however, Darren engaged the group and encouraged them to participate. The girls were interested in his presentation and even remained after the usual dismissal time so that he could finish the presentation.

The material was of interest to the students because it was relevant. These students will complete their VCE this year and will have to make decisions in a few months about the courses and professions they will pursue in the coming years. Darren was knowledgeable about the requirements of the VCE and the processes involved in the completion of VTAC forms. He spoke of the importance of maximizing their Study Scores so that many options were open upon their completion of school. Darren could relate to the aspirations of the range of students and talked of the hopes of those who would want to gain places in University courses but also of those who would want to pursue other courses or apprenticeships. In this respect he was very inclusive and so his message had relevancy to all groups in the year level.

Darren has an interesting methodology, which combines vocal repetition of a message, note taking and anecdotal evidence. While repetition is not of my preferred teaching methodologies given the circumstances of the audience and the message of the session it worked effectively. The girls had fun repeating the acronyms and enjoyed the competitive atmosphere of trying to remember the steps that applied to each acronym. The notes made in the course of the presentation meant that all students had a tangible record of the session to take home and revise at a later date.

Darren has developed a package that is engaging and fun but with a memorable message. Subsequent discussions with students revealed the worthiness of the session.

Kind regards

Debbie Erikson
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