Submit Your Final

By

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I am a new teacher to Reno High School this fall semester. Reno is my fourth high school over twenty-four years of teaching and twenty-six years of coaching. I am currently a candidate for the head football coaching position and my involvement in 3D coaching and FCA have served as excellent ways to observe the athletic program at Reno High School and evaluate both the strengths and weaknesses of the program.

As with my previous high schools, much of what I observe involves coaching in the first dimension. Much of this has to do with the fact that the Washoe County School District and Reno High School does not require any kind of formal or organized training that involves second or third dimension coaching. The 3D coaching model is not common nor widely known by many coaches or administrators in this area of the country. Fortunately, the WCSD recently began offering 3D courses for coaches as professional development opportunities. These courses will provide future opportunities for coaches to understand better the second and third dimensions of 3D coaching.

In my opinion, required courses for coaches in the WCSD are put together to educate coaches on the importance of understanding concepts of negligence, liability and making every effort to avoid future lawsuits. A perfect example of this is the WCSD Weight Room Safety Course that is required for all coaches that desire to train athletes in a school’s weight room facility. While this is extremely important, there seems to be little to no “buy in” from district administrators on the importance of coaching education in order to help coaches coach in all three dimensions. Certainly more can be done to help coaches “connect” on multiple levels with the student-athletes they work with during the season.

Unfortunately, I do not see much changing in regards to the school districts views on coaching education. Therefore, I believe it will be extremely important for head coaches of individual sports to develop their coaching staffs in regards to all three dimensions of coaching. In regards to first dimensional coaching, this is possible with the assistance of typical off-season coaching clinics. Even more important, however, will be the efforts of head coaches to introduce and educate their coaching staffs on the second and third dimensions of coaching and the impact all coaches can have when developing the mind and spirit in addition to the body.

Personally, I see tremendous opportunity to develop coaching staffs through the inclusion of FCA into their sport programs as well as coaching workshops offered by FCA and the 3D Institute. Both of these organizations provide excellent opportunities for personal and professional growth as educators, coaches and human beings and I am hopeful that I can share them with others.