



Professional Development through Equine Assisted Partnerships

A Simple Approach



- Cowboys are legendary in Texas. And their solutions to everyday events are pretty simple. If a fence needs fixing—well, you fix it.
- What if some back to basics were applied to teaching?
 - Can a horse and a cowboy help educators?
- Dr. Don Hutson thinks they can. So, he developed the **Cowboy Solution: Pioneering Education.**

About the Cowboy Solution

- Founded 5 years ago, **The Cowboy Solution** is a back-to-basics approach. A simple, yet effective core belief system that starts with respect. One that is built upon trust so genuine that a powerful partnership emerges—which can make a real difference in the lives it touches.
- Dr. Don Hutson thinks that this simple belief system can change the world. After years as a teacher and business owner, Don had a life altering experience with a horse and found his true purpose: communicating the power of partnerships and their ability to transform relationships with extraordinary results. To that end, he developed the Cowboy Solution, a series of unique and inspiring programs for all educators.
- The basic philosophy is to empower participants giving them a set of simple, yet powerful tools, as well as hands-on experiences guaranteed to provide positive results.
- What makes this program unique and powerful are the horses. Horses are great evaluators—and with them, each seminar provides a valuable frame of reference for educator.

Why Horses?

- Unique and fresh visual presentation.
- Powerful demonstration tools.
- Visual and measurable results of application.
- Immediate evaluation.
- Frame of reference which transfers easily to the workplace.



Pioneering Education

- Designed for teachers, administrators, school board members, principals and parents, The Cowboy Solution challenges participants to re-examine their teaching philosophy and explore new and rewarding ways to reach and partner with students.
- Specific strategies re-energize and re-focus teachers, raise their expectations, and encourage them to help each student reach his or her full potential.
- Focus is on the power of partnerships and elements necessary to achieve them:
 - Good Communication
 - Mutual Trust
 - Mutual Respect
- Seminars are interactive and participatory
- Horses are used in interactive tasks

About Dr. Don Hutson

- Training and Operation Consultant.
- Educational and leadership clinician
- 30+ years experience in training and business operations.
- 20 years experience in equestrian operations and training.
- Expertise in operational efficiency management.
- Educator for 13 years.
- Owned and operated a textile manufacturing company – 16 yrs.
- Founder of the Cowboy Solution.
- Owner, 9 horses, one dog and one cat



Cowboy Solution Workshops



Testimonials

The Cowboy Solution brought a perfect message to our teachers and administrators for the beginning of a new school year, "get to know your students, establish a relationship with them, then you will be able to teach them. Don Hutson brought back the reason to our hearts and minds of "why" we teach. It was an outstanding day of Staff Development.

Susie Grider; Rains ISD

All I can say is "Wow!" This is the most effective staff development I have ever been involved with. Teachers ARE using these principles and they are making a difference with our students. I can't thank you enough. I hope we can do this again.

Kevin Parker; Director of CATE; Goose Creek ISD

Our teachers are saying that they have never had such a smooth start to the school year. There is a completely new culture on our campuses this year.

I don't think I could be successful in my job without The Cowboy Solution.

Susan Green; Instructional Officer for Professional Development; Klein ISD

Media Coverage

Don Hutson and the Cowboy Solution have been featured in a number of media outlets including:

- Houston Chronicle
- Houston Family Magazine
- Lufkin Daily News
- Longview News Journal
- KUHF Radio
- KTRK—feature on Hometown Live
- FOX TV
- Texas Horse Talk

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Background

- What does it take to be a successful teacher?
- Is it...
 - Passion?
 - Knowledge of subject mater?
 - More degrees?
 - Acts mandates and initiatives?
- Where do we start?
 - A back to basics
 - A simple approach
 - The Cowboy Solution
 - Who do we look to?

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Definitions

Culture: *A system of shared beliefs, values.*

Conversation: *The informal exchange of views or ideas or information.*

Transforming: *A qualitative change.*

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Defining the Teaching Process

Knowledge: *A full understanding of subject matter*

- Four + years of acquiring knowledge
- Countless hours of staff development
- Additional college training

Transfer of Knowledge: *To move that knowledge from one place to another*

- Defining teach: *To cause to know*
- What is our job as a teacher

The Receptacle: *The place to where the knowledge is transformed.*

- The student

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Defining Who We Teach

Effective School Movement

- All Students can learn.
- They learn at different rates, different times, in different ways.

Teaching the Individual

- Individuals not populations.

The Diverse Classroom

Meeting the needs of each child is the teacher's greatest single challenge.

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Defining How We Teach

The Normal Approach

- Develop “how-to” techniques.
 - How to read.
 - How to write.
 - How to do math.

The Key to Success

- First things first.
- Successfully planting seeds
- Getting to know all about you

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Creating Success through Powerful Partnerships

What characteristic would we like from our students that would guarantee our ability to succeed in the transferring of knowledge?

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Creating the Willing Participant The Tools for Success

Communication: *To express ideas effectively*

- Clear
- Concise
- Congruent
- Consistent

Accentuate Positive and Ignore the Negative

Failure is NOT an Option

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

Putting it All Together To *Transform Culture and Conversation on Campus*

What do I believe?

Where can we go from here?

How can partnerships transform culture?

If we do change what will the conversations on campus be about?

Extreme Makeover; Transforming Culture and Conversation on Campus

*On behalf of **The Cowboy Solution** I want to first say thank you for the opportunity to be with you today. It is an honor to be associated with the greatest profession on earth.*

But most of all, I want to say to each and every one of you, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for all you do every day to make the lives young people better and in turn our world a better place to live.

Thanks,

Don Hutson

Contact Information

General Contact

Don Hutson
The Cowboy Solution
(218) 732-4963
don@cowboysolution.com

Media and Marketing Contact:

Debra Ford
Ford & Company
(281) 415-0673
debra@fordandcompany.com

Website:

www.cowboysolution.com