

“The Memorable Minute”

Objective: To provide a system for you to promote your desired goals, values, and ambitions which will help build your desired community at your school. The “Memorable Minute Speech” is meant for you to effectively convey brief explanations and descriptions that send a clear and concise message.

What Makes a Memorable Minute Speech?

- The speech hits home to whatever audience it is intended for.
- The speech gives history, intent and direction for the future.
- The speech is intended to allow the audience to interact and become involved with the subject at hand.
- The speech has an action item(s), meant to create momentum for the future.

How do you create the Memorable Minute as it relates to you goal of building a better community at school?

- Think about and answer the questions below:
 1. What do I stand for?
 2. What problems do I see?
 3. What are the main contributions I can make?
 4. What should my audience (other students, faculty, community members, etc.) do as a result of hearing this?

The Memorable Minute (continued)

Let's take a look at the "Gettysburg Address." Can you find where Abraham Lincoln addressed these questions?

- What do we stand for?
- What problems do we see?
- What are the main contributions we can make?
- What are you (the audience) responsible for as a result of hearing this?

The Gettysburg Address

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate - we cannot consecrate - we cannot hallow - this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln - November 19, 1863

What does your Memorable Minute look like?

(Use notebook paper to draft a version of your "Memorable Minute" speech.)