



High Plains School
Charging through failures, stampeding through challenges

Danielle Feeney
Principal

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Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to share a transformative educational experience our students recently had at High Plains School. As a STEAM Coach, I am always looking for ways to bridge the gap between classroom standards and real-world impact. We found exactly that through our partnership with **Joel and Dianne Feldman**, the founders of **End Distracted Driving (EndDD.org)**.

We have partnered with the Feldmans twice now, working with both our 4th and 8th-grade students on **Problem-Based Learning (PBL) Units**. What makes their approach so unique is how seamlessly it integrates with our core curriculum, specifically touching on:

- **Science & Social Studies:** Analyzing data, human impact, community systems, and civic responsibility.
- **Comprehensive Health:** Decision-making, risk assessment, and wellness.
- **ELA:** Persuasive writing, communication, and public speaking.

Beyond the academic standards, the impact on our school culture has been profound. Joel and Dianne don't just "present" to students; they build genuine relationships with them. Our teachers, principal, and students have formed personal connections with the Feldmans that have fundamentally shifted how our community thinks and acts regarding road safety.

Most importantly, this partnership **empowers student agency**. It isn't just a lecture on what *not* to do; it's an invitation for students to become advocates and change-makers in their own lives and for their families. Watching our students realize they have the power to influence adult behavior and improve their world has been one of the highlights of my year.

I cannot recommend the Feldmans and EndDD.org highly enough. If you are looking for a way to bring authentic, high-stakes PBL or personal safety to your school, I encourage you to reach out to them.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about how we integrated their program into our STEAM curriculum.

Best regards,

Lindy Jones

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