

September 2025

Issue 2

The Bold Educator

Empowering Educators. Reigniting Purpose. Sparking Bold Change.

The Bold Beginning: A Message from Natoya

Hey Bold Ones,

Now that the school year is officially in full swing, I want to take a moment to check in on you—the educator, the family advocate, the counselor who’s been showing up with heart, hustle, and high hopes. September often comes with a mix of excitement, exhaustion, and those quiet moments where we ask ourselves, “Can I really do this for the next nine months?”

I created *The Bold Educator* because I’ve been there. I’ve faced the fatigue, navigated leadership challenges, and poured from an empty cup more times than I can count. This newsletter is my reminder to you—and to myself—that we’re not just surviving this work. We are leading it with boldness, joy, and purpose. This space is where we realign, recharge, and recommit to the work that chose us. So take a breath. You’re doing more than enough. And if you ever need a reset, this is it.

With bold love and leadership,

Natoya Carroll

Founder, Peak Pro Developments



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www.peakprodevelopments.org

What's Inside This Month?

Fuel Your Fire: 10 Bold Strategies to Stay Lit (Even When You're Tired)

The Bold Start: Real Talk for New Teachers

Bold Wisdom for Seasoned Educators: Where's Your Spark Hiding?

The Bold Bookshelf: September Picks to Feed Your Fire

Bridging Boldly Family Engagement Idea of the Month: "Backpack of Dreams"

Bold Spark: Something That Inspired Me This Month

Bold Moves Live: Upcoming Trainings & Events from Peak Pro Developments

Fuel Your Fire

10 Bold Strategies to Stay Lit (Even When You're Tired)

Reconnect with Your “Why”

Take five minutes this week to journal why you started teaching. Reconnect with your purpose beyond the paperwork.

Celebrate the Small Wins

That one student who finally followed directions! That moment of calm! Write it down. Celebrate it.

Create a Space You Love

Rearrange a corner, hang up a new affirmation, or add a splash of color. Your environment affects your energy.

Use Your Voice

Advocate for one thing that would make your job easier this month. A supply? A policy change? Ask boldly.

Try One New Thing

Whether it's a brain break, anchor chart style, or family check-in—shake up your routine with something fresh.

Protect Your Peace

Set boundaries. Say no to something that drains you. Say yes to yourself instead.

Anchor to Joy

Play music during clean-up. Add a silly handshake. Make space for laughter—it's a teaching tool.

Reflect with a Colleague

Call or text another educator you trust and ask, “What’s working for you right now?” Share. Vent. Rebuild.

Honor Your Culture, Your Story

Bring in a piece of who you are. Your students benefit when you show up as your full, authentic self.

Plan Your Rejuvenation

Book a massage. Start that journal. Commit to a nap. Put your healing on the calendar. No guilt, just growth.

You’ve returned, your routines are in motion—and now comes the real work: sustaining your energy and purpose.

The Bold Start

Real Talk for New Teachers

***“I’m already overwhelmed.
What should I focus on?”***

Answer: *Consistency, not perfection. Kids crave stability. If all you do this month is show up with predictable routines, a calm voice, and a smile—even if you're faking it—you are winning.*

 Try this: Post this affirmation near your desk:

**“I am
learning,
and that is
enough.”**

Bold Wisdom

*For Seasoned Educators: Where’s
Your Spark Hiding?*

**You’ve done this before—
but this year is *different*. Let
it be. Instead of chasing the
old version of you, try
discovering the new teacher
you're becoming.**

**Reflection Prompt:
*What part of your teaching
have you outgrown—and
what’s calling you now?***

**This isn’t about staying the
same—it’s about growing
with boldness.**



Bridging Boldly

Family Advocates and Counselors

Bold Conversation Starter:

"What's one thing your child does at home that brings you joy?"

Why it works: It invites families to focus on strengths and opens the door to asset-based communication.

Tool of the Month:

Use this form during intake or mid-year check-ins to identify family assets and build rapport.

Family Strengths Inventory Template

Download from

www.peakprodevelopments.org

Reflect & Recenter

"This month, how am I creating space for family voices to lead the conversation?"

"How am I helping families feel seen, heard, and supported this month?"

Bonus Ideas

You can rotate these in each month to keep the section fresh:

- *Advocate Spotlight* – Highlight a professional making a bold impact
- *Cultural Connection Tip* – Something to promote equity and inclusivity in family communication
- *Boundary Reminder* – A note about wellness and avoiding burnout (e.g., "You are not your caseload.")

Bridging Boldly

Family Engagement Idea of the Month: "Backpack of Dreams"

Send home a paper backpack cutout and ask families to decorate it with one dream they have for their child this school year. Include it in your bulletin board or use it during your school's parent meetings.

Bonus: Invite parents to include cultural symbols, quotes, or traditions that reflect their family's identity. It's a small action that builds connection and respect.

Create a "Family Voice Wall"—a visible space (physical or digital) where family insights, wishes, and strengths are displayed and celebrated. Use anonymous quotes if confidentiality is key.

The Bold Bookshelf

September Picks to Feed Your Fire

"Fierce Conversations" by Susan Scott

Perfect for leaders, coaches, and team builders ready to foster honest, meaningful dialogue.

"Teaching with Fire" (Poetry by and for educators)

A moving collection that will remind you why you chose this work in the first place.

"The Deepest Well" by Dr. Nadine Burke Harris

Learn how childhood adversity impacts development—and what family support professionals can do to promote resilience and healing.

The Bold Spark

Something That Inspired Me This Month

"Rest is not a reward. It's the foundation." — Tricia Hersey

This quote has lived in my journal all month. It reminded me that rest isn't the opposite of productivity—it's the engine of it. As educators, we're taught to give endlessly. But your rest is part of your purpose. Make space for it. Fight for it. Protect it boldly.

Bold Moves Live

Upcoming Trainings & Events from Peak Pro Developments

2025 TLCCA Annual Conference "Boots & Bling" Sept. 12-13, 2025

Hilton Anatole Dallas, Texas

2025 NHSA Parent and Family Involvement Conference Dec. 8-11, 2025

Caribe Royale Orlando, Florida

BakerRipley Oct. 2025-Oct. 2026

San Antonio, Texas

Booking for Winter and Spring Trainings

Planning Roots and Wings 2026 Conference

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