

August 26, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

During our all-district, back-to-school Teaching and Learning Institute, we provided teachers an opportunity to learn, collaborate and grow. However, it was our last session of the two-day institute that had everyone laughing. District officials billed the final session as a “guest speaker” from the state department of education.

However, the guest speaker wasn't from the state department of education, it was Greg Warren. Greg has been on Comedy Central, Late Night with Seth Myers and has a comedy special on Amazon Prime called *Where the Field Corn Grows*. After a full hour of telling jokes (clean), it was just what our teachers needed after two of the most difficult years in public education. Greg's unassuming natural, and master storyteller skills, had teachers laughing until they cried. It was great to see our teachers laughing, smiling and enjoying each other's company. Believe me, you won't look at a peanut butter sandwich the same after seeing Greg's show.

The next day, teachers continued to retell their favorite elements of Greg's show. Now more than ever, districts need to find a way to prioritize teacher self-care to ensure sustainable success for our students. Branson Public School wholeheartedly endorses, supports and encourages other districts to book Greg for their next professional development opportunity. You won't regret it!

Big Fan,

Mike Dawson, Ed.D.  
Executive Director of Instructional Services  
Branson Public Schools