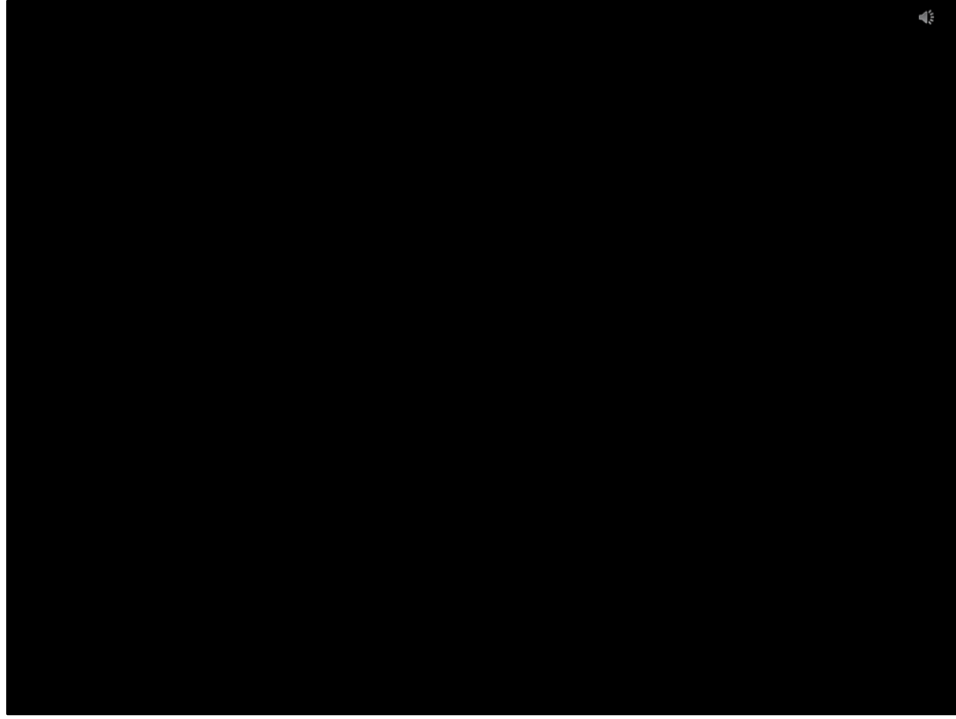


# HUMANKIND BE BOTH

**Fresno Unified Student Advisory Board  
National School Boards Association  
Convention 2015**

**Lori Gambero:** Good morning! Welcome to our session: Humankind. Be Both. We represent the Fresno Unified Student Advisory Board and Administration and are excited that you have elected to attend. (pause) We know we have limited time, so would like to jump right in. We will begin at the beginning: with our students' very first ideas on the Human Element. (advance slide)



YOU'LL NEVER BE ANYTHING  
CHINK YOU SUCK **GAY**  
**FAT** WETBACK I HATE YOU  
LOSER GHETTO **GEEK**  
**STUPID** HO DUMB  
SLUT **FAGGOT** UGLY SKINNY  
**NERD** POOR **NOBODY**  
LONER IS IT BECAUSE I'M BLACK?

Friendship I'M PROUD OF YOU  
*You're so kind* YOU AWESOME  
I believe in you ROCK Good Job  
FUNNY *Thank You* SUPER  
WAY TO GO WOW You CAN do it  
have a nice day LEADER Beautiful  
SMART *You make me smile* Q ♥ U  
I couldn't do it without you

## People see me as:

- *The white Student Body President*
- *The geek in the corner*
- *The rich kid with an iPhone*
- *The stupid gay kid*
- *Nobody*

## **But in reality, I AM:**

- *Just like you*
- *A hard-worker who studies all night to get good grades to go to college*
- *Working to pay for my AP tests and afford my college tuition*
- *Trying to find my identity and go to school*
- *Trying to become somebody*

Ultimately...





*Everyone, no matter who they are, where they came from, or what they look like, has one thing in common; They are HUMAN.*

**Fresno Unified School District  
Student Advisory Board 2012-13**



## How we got here:

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- *The words 'anti-bullying' were not creating the change we wanted to see*
- *Tired of hearing the slurs, hateful words, and feeling and observing actions*
- *We wanted to make change*
- *Kindness is a culture*
- *Vision: To protect and support each other through kindness as a culture*

**Daniel Lee:** Good morning, my name is Daniel Lee and in the 2012-13 school year I served as ASB President for Hoover High School in Fresno. As ASB President I had been a part of the Student Advisory Board for more than a year and was familiar with our annual SAB project. In the past, each project was suggested to us by District Leaders and honestly, we always did our best to produce a good project, but we rarely bought in or got really excited. This year would be different. At that time Ms. Gambero was the District Campus Culture Manager, and Mrs. Loewen, who you'll meet later, was my school's Campus Culture Director. Ms. Gambero saw the apathetic attitude by many in our group and decided to make a major shift. She put the project in the hands of the students. With the support of all Campus Culture Directors she let us play in the sandbox, so to speak, and decide where we wanted to make a difference. That's where the Human Element was born: in the SAB sandbox. After all, wasn't it Plato that said, "You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation." That's how we got to the Human Element (read slide)...

## **First Steps:**

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- *Passionate Students*
- *Relevant topic...and made it POSITIVE*
- *Total creative control given to the students*
- *Adult Guidance, but no Hijacking!*
- *Created Partnerships with local business leaders and District leadership*
- *Complete support from School Board*

**Gianna Pantaleo:** I am Gianna Pantaleo and in the spring semester of 2013 the Human Element became my passion as well. \_\_\_\_\_ (personal story) (Highlight the slide info then advance)



**Gianna Pantaleo:** By the end of our first year we had developed our vision, garnered support using the slideshow you just saw, and developed a plan for next year's group...

**Daniel Lee:** We purchased our first promotional materials, developed our social media presence, and tried to inspire the next SAB students with our first set of videos (play)

## Implementation 2013-14:

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- *Human Element Committees*
- *Student Training Day*
- *Goal #1: All High Schools will produce an all school assembly and HE Week*
- *Goal #2: 13-14 Human Element Video*
- *Goal #3: Field Test MS Assembly*
- *Goal #4: Wristband Promotion*
- *Goal #5: Reach out to Region*

**Alondra Aguirre:** Good morning, my name is Alondra Aguirre and in the Fall of 2013 I became a member of the Student Advisory Board's Human Element team.

(Personal Bio and Human Element story)

(Highlight the slide info then advance)



**Alondra Aguirre:** At our training day we had some help from our friend Stu Cabe. He is a national speaker and leadership trainer and the originator of the cool “big bands” we all couldn’t stop wearing. He helped us plan our assembly structure and inspired us to take risks for kindness. (Play Video)

## TRAINING DAY ASSEMBLY BRAINSTORMING



**Sanoeun Sary:** Hello, my name is Sanoeun Sary and \_\_\_\_\_ (bio and story)\_\_\_\_\_. At our training each school was given time and safe place to develop a story that would resonate with our peers. (play video)



**Sanoeun Sary:** Our performances were rough at first, but this creative work time lead us to amazing experiences at schools around our District.

*Everyone, no matter who they are, where they came from, or what they look like, has one thing in common:*



**Hoover Human Element Kickoff Week:**  
It's time to celebrate and fire up the Kindness Culture at Hoover!

<b>MORPH MONDAY:</b> Changing our Ways	<i>To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.</i> - Winston Churchill
<b>TRUST TUESDAY:</b> Trust Falls and Blindfolded Obstacle	<i>Trust and honesty is an investment you put in people. I admire those who trust and are trustworthy.</i> - Rachel Scott (2 <sup>nd</sup> Victim of Columbine)
<b>WORDS MATTER WEDNESDAY:</b> Say what?	<i>Words have the power to both destroy and heal. When words are both true and kind, they can change our world.</i> - Buddha
<b>THANKFUL THURS:</b> What are you thankful for?	<i>Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you'll never, ever have enough.</i> - Oprah
<b>FRIDAY:</b> PLEDGE FOR KINDNESS	<i>Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for a kindness.</i> - Lucius Annaeus Seneca

**Sanooun Sary:** We also developed Human Element kickoff weeks at all high school sites. Many sites, like mine shown here, hosted theme days, shared online motivational video clips, integrated quotes and writing, and had lunch-time activities planned. (advance)





**Sanooun Sary:** Some lunch-time activities even changed the lives of adults on campus...

**Leslie Loewen:** Hello, my name is Leslie Loewen and at the time of this activity I was the Campus Culture Director at Hoover High School. On Morph Monday, the students you see here wrote their personal story out on a piece of butcher paper. They then jumped into morph suits (the green man suits here), in essence, becoming invisible. One of the students, our strong, smart, nice Student Advisory Board Representative, wrote his story and as I read it I began to cry. Cory's story said, "I was born with a birth defect. I have a sunken chest. I was made fun of in middle school until a teacher helped be, trained me, and told me that my chest didn't define me." What that student didn't know is that my son was in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, that he also had a sunken chest, that he too was worried about being picked on, and that he had just been denied surgery to fix it. I hadn't told my son yet because I didn't have the words. When the other students saw my tears, I had to tell Cory. Do you know what he said? "Do you think your son would be my friend?" When I went home and retold the events of the day, my 7<sup>th</sup> grade son said, "Do you think Cory would be my friend?" Today my son is in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, earned MVP honors as the water polo goalie (they play practically naked you know) and texts Cory when he needs a friend. He still has a sunken chest, but has no desire to fix it anymore. He said, "Mom, it doesn't define me."



**Aaron Caldwell:** My name is Aaron Caldwell and \_\_\_\_\_ (bio and story)\_\_\_\_\_. What you are about to see is our 2013-14 Human Element video and it is a glimpse at our year's work sharing stories of kindness and redemption across our District.

Everyone you meet  
is fighting a battle you  
know nothing about.

Be kind. Always.

**Aaron Caldwell:** Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be kind. Always. What battles are you fighting? How does it affect those around you? How can the sharing of our stories make an impact at our schools and help us to be more kind?



**Aaron Caldwell:** Our story was shared by thousands online and gained national recognition in the No Bull Teen Video Awards Contest. After being selected as one of the top 25 anti-bullying videos from an international pool of candidates, we headed south to Los Angeles for the Oscar-type ceremony.

**Angela Romero:** Not only was it a once-in-a-lifetime experience, but it was also a wonderful opportunity to be around other students striving to make their schools more kind. When our video won the award for “Best Message”, we all went crazy. We felt fortunate to just be recognized.

**Aaron:** When they opened the secret envelope for “Documentary of the Year” and said, “Humankind. Be Both.” Even the chaperones lost it! Our efforts had been validated and our message had resonated!



**Angela:** Being a part of the Human Element last year as a junior and attending the No Bull Teen Video Awards were two Amazing experiences. However, the overwhelmingly positive District and community response we got upon our return was a primary motivating factor in my decision to run for Student Advisory Board Representative. My name is Angela Romero and today I represent the 73,000 students of Fresno Unified as one of two Student Advisory Board Representatives. In addition, I represent the 2213 students of Fresno High School as ASB President. \_\_\_\_\_(Human Element Story) \_\_\_\_\_

Whether it is the positive press we receive or the personal notes of affirmation, I am reminded that the stories we tell and the kindness we pass on, changes the way our city looks at the students of Fresno Unified. And more than that, we hope it also changes the way the people of our city treat one another.



**Anthony:** Thank you again for attending our session. My name is Anthony Gonzales and I too represent the 73,000 students of Fresno Unified as the other Student Advisory Board Representative. On the campus of McLane High School, I serve as ASB Vice President and \_\_\_\_\_ . I got involved with the Human Element to \_\_\_\_\_ (story). In addition to the great community support we receive, we can always count on School Board Member and Superintendent support. It is fun to see the places our message goes and I would encourage all Board Members nationwide to get into the world of technology so that your students can see how much you believe in them like we know our people believe in us.

## Lessons Learned:

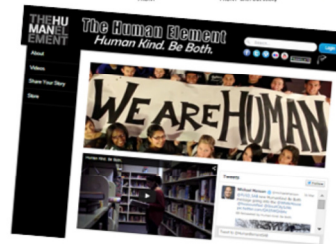
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- *Time is needed to imbed as culture*
- *Outreach Down, Not Up (HS-MS-ES)*
- *Real student experiences*
- *Commitment from every site/leader*
- *Support that is seen and heard*
- *Ongoing training for student leaders*
- *Leader structure*
- *Resources (Financial, technical, human)*

**Leslie Loewen:** Today I have the opportunity to work with this great group of students in the role Lori played last year: District Campus Culture Manager. I would like to pass on to you some of the important lessons we have learned so that you may benefit from our experience. (highlight the slide and advance)

# Keep Moving Forward:

- *Assembly Package*
- *Adult Presentation*
- *Community Outreach*
- *Elementary Ambassadors*
- *NEW Promotional Materials*
- *Web Upgrade*
- *Human Element Store*
- *2015-16 Videos/PSAs*
- *GoFundMe*



**Anthony:** Here is how we are making strides and planning for the future. This year we will put together an assembly package that we can distribute to any site wanting to produce a Human Element Assembly. This way, if our team members are not available, our sites can use our tools to fit their needs without us having to present. We are using this presentation and ones like it to take our message even further into the community, by presenting to adult organizations and civic groups. We have worked with elementary schools in our District to become ambassadors of kindness. We have designed a new line of Humankind Be Both promotional items to be shared by our sites and sold to the public to raise awareness and funding. Finally, we have upgraded our website, created a way to purchase our materials, created public service announcements, and started a GoFundMe site.





[go.fresnounified.org/humanelement](http://go.fresnounified.org/humanelement)  
[www.facebook.com/HumanElementFUSD](http://www.facebook.com/HumanElementFUSD)  
[twitter.com/humanelementsab](http://twitter.com/humanelementsab)  
[www.gofundme.com/humankindbeboth](http://www.gofundme.com/humankindbeboth)

**Angela:** This past week our current SAB members had one of the most inspiring Human Element experiences. The Human Element team from Manchester GATE Elementary came to our meeting to present the amazing work they are doing at their school and beyond to promote kindness. They traveled to Disneyland and the Holocaust Museum of Los Angeles and took their message with a bracelet and spoke to all who would listen and pass it on. After two full days and 150 bracelets handed out, they returned with their stories to share within their home region. Their presentations touched the lives of more than 300, including our own. If these 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have the courage to spread the word...why can't we all?

## Replicate It:

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- *Passionate Kids - Meeting Regularly*
- *Adult Coordination - Not Dictating*
- *Train your student leaders*
- *Creativity for your region/schools*
- *Develop a MANTRA*
- *Year 1: Adult Conversation/Board Support*
- *Year 2: Students take the lead @ HS*
- *Year 3: Culture Building/Ongoing Support*
- *Year 4: Stay Relentless*
- *Year 5: Raise up others to lead*

Lori Gambero: (please write out your encouraging words...I don't want to put my words down for you) 😊 \_\_\_\_\_

**HUMANKIND  
BE BOTH**

**HUMAN  
ELEMENT  
PSA**

# HUMANKIND BE BOTH

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