

This short documentary, "Making It Count," highlights the extraordinary achievements of Andru Jones, the Davis School Districts 2024 Teacher of the Year. To celebrate this remarkable milestone, the entire school community united for a surprise rally in the auditorium to honor Andru who, unaware of the event, sat in the audience, humbled by the outpouring of support. This prestigious recognition is a testament to his unwavering dedication, his passion for coaching and the profound impact he has made on the lives of his students and the community. Among those in attendance was NFL football player Hunter Dimick, a former student of Jones, who returned to pay tribute to his coach. Andrus commitment to his students transcends the classroom, reflecting his deep belief in the enduring bond between teacher, coach and student. Superintendent Dr. Dan Linford shared, Hes a gifted leader with a brilliant mind for strategy, but he is also humble, kind and a lifelong learner. We are incredibly proud of Andru. When Andru first took on the role of special education teacher and head coach at Viewmont High, the Unified Sports program was a small group of 15-16 students. Today, it has grown to over 40 participants. Whats even more inspiring is how Andru has inspired athletes and peers from other sports to join in, playing alongside students in the special needs program. His leadership and inclusive spirit are transforming lives, creating a stronger, more united student community. From his roots in Davis School District to becoming a head football coach, teacher and head coach of Unified Sports, Andrus journey is a powerful testament to perseverance, passion and community. Overcoming dyslexia as a student, Andru found strength in the guidance of his mentors and now, he passes that same support on to his students. Making It Count was created to highlight this inspiring story in a way that felt personal, raw and cinematic. The team drew inspiration from the trending cinematic techniques seen in top Netflix documentaries but also crafting a look that was true to Andrus narrative capturing the emotional depth of his story through precise lighting, camera movements, and framing. To truly honor the emotion of Andrus interview, the team deployed three cameras to interview Andru in his classroom, ensuring that every intimate and reflective comment was captured from multiple perspectives. The choice of setting the classroom added another layer of authenticity, creating a space that felt both grounded and personal, reflecting Andrus deep connection to his students. The modern style of the film was

enhanced with a careful balance of mood and tone that elevated the storytelling. This project highlights the immense love and support teachers like Andru provide to their students. Despite his own challenges, Andru has made every student feel valued and included. The overwhelming positive response of this video in the district is proof of its impact. We believe this video will continue to inspire others to exemplify love and make it count.