TEACHING HUMAN DIGNITY

Lesson #2 Explaining the Critical Attributes of the Common Good

Student Name:

Pairs	Critical Attribute of the Common Good (Provided by the Teacher)	Critical Attribute of the Common Good in Your Own Words
Pair #1: High School Orchestras		
High School Orchestra A wants to play a Beethoven symphony. Jerry, the music teacher, decides he will accept any student into the orchestra who has basic playing ability.		
High School Orchestra B also wants to play a Beethoven symphony. Diane, the music teacher, decides it will be better to audition all players and only allow the best players to play in a smaller ensemble.		
Pair #2: Sports Teams		
Team A has very skilled players who feel a sense of connection to each other as a team. Their coach stresses how each individual must strive to be their personal best and achieve their highest individual statistics.		
Team B has very skilled players, too, as well as a great sense of connection as a team. Their coach focuses on how the team can score the most points and prevent the other team from scoring points.		

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Pair #3: Budget Crunch		
 School A is in a budget crunch. It has to choose between fixing key problems with the school building, such as a potentially unsafe ventilation system and leaks in the roof, or giving much-deserved raises to teachers and purchasing new desks for students. School Board A decides to fix the building because everyone, teachers and students alike, benefit from improvements to the school. They do not want anyone to become ill or injured from unsafe conditions. Teacher salaries and new desks for students, though an important priority, will be funded after the most important and shared safety and environmental conditions are addressed. They are aware that their decision may lead to criticism that they are prioritizing "buildings over people." School B is in a budget crunch. It has to choose between fixing key problems with the school building, such as a potentially unsafe ventilation system and leaks in the roof, or giving muchdeserved raises to teachers and purchasing new desks for students. School Board B fears criticism from teachers and students so they decide to listen to the requests for raises and new desks. They are less concerned that the conditions will be unhealthy or unsafe for those in the building. 		
Pair #4: Restaurant Owners		
Restaurant owner A wants to open her restaurant after COVID-19. She works hard to space her tables out, use disposable menus, keep a very clean kitchen, and have her employees wear masks. She also decides that if any customer seems visibly sick or refuses to wear a mask and stay in place, she is going to ask them to leave. She doesn't like to have to ask her diners to leave but thinks it is the right thing to do.		
Restaurant owner B also wants to open her restaurant after COVID-19. She works hard to space her tables out, use disposable menus, keep a very clean kitchen, and have her employees wear masks. She decides that it is too harsh to ask diners to leave if they are not following the rules about masking and staying in place.		

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Pair #5: Families		
In past societies, the typical household was largely based around the family farm. At very young ages parents had their children begin to work on the farm—feeding animals, tending to the growing fruits and vegetables, and learning other important skills that would be necessary for children to eventually run their own farms as adults. The family worked together to sustain a farming lifestyle.		
In today's society, there are rules against children working at young ages. Instead parents send their children to school so that they can learn how to read and write, necessary skills for children as they grow up and learn how to become members of society. While children are at school, many parents are out of the house at work.		