



NEWS RELEASE

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The Cutting Ed Podcast Will Showcase Innovators in Education

When innovation expert Ted Dintersmith first visited the state of North Dakota to promote his award-winning documentary, "Most Likely to Succeed," he was struck by our state's high-quality education system. Convinced our state could "out-Finland Finland," he felt it was important for people across our state and the entire nation to learn about the exciting innovation and progress here. To do so, he needed a partner organization in our state, with easy access to all of the many stakeholders in our public education system. The natural fit for his vision was North Dakota United, the state's leading champion of public education and public services, with 11,500 members in K-12 schools, universities, city, county and state government.

North Dakota United is proud to announce this groundbreaking partnership we have formed with Dintersmith, as well as the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, to present a weekly podcast, The Cutting Ed, which will facilitate inspiring and thoughtful conversations with all of the stakeholders in our public education system. We'll be celebrating great teaching practices, interesting innovations, and diving into an innovation playlist (www.ndplaylist.org) that Dintersmith has pulled together with impressive national partners to support our teaching force.

Listeners will hear one-to-one conversations with our skilled educators, K-12 teachers, professors, school support staff, administrators, businesspeople, elected officials, parents and students, every Tuesday on The Cutting Ed. The first-ever guest on The Cutting Ed will be Gov. Doug Burgum, on Tuesday, Nov. 21, and he will be talking about his overall vision for education in the state of North Dakota.

The podcast's host will be NDU Director of Public Affairs Tom Gerhardt. Tom is a veteran broadcast journalist in the state of North Dakota, whose voice is familiar to thousands of our citizens. He spent 23 years in television news as reporter, anchor and news director, and has established himself as a known and trusted name all across North Dakota. He is a veteran story-teller, and knows well how to pull out the life lessons from education stakeholders in a concise and educational manner.

(more)

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“This is a terrific example of what collaboration around and dedication to innovative teaching can be,” said Nick Archuleta, President of North Dakota United. “Special thanks to filmmaker and visionary Ted Dintersmith for providing the inspiration and resources to make this podcast possible. Thanks, too, to Superintendent Kirsten Baesler for her leadership at the Department of Public Instruction and promotion of innovative teaching. In addition, thanks to Tom Gerhardt and Kelly Hagen in the NDU communications shop for their exceptional efforts in taking this podcast off the drawing board and making it a reality. All of us at NDU hope you enjoy The Cutting Ed.”

The Cutting Ed is available for streaming and download on iTunes, at SoundCloud.com/ndunited, NDUnited.tumblr.com, Google Play or wherever you listen to your favorite podcasts. For more information about The Cutting Ed, visit www.ndunited.org/aboutus/the-cutting-ed-podcast, or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thecuttinged or Twitter at twitter.com/thecuttinged.

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North Dakota United is the largest professional organization of public educators and employees in the state, representing more than 11,500 public school teachers, school staff, university faculty and staff, and city, county and state employees. Our association represents members in the state Capitol, the Legislature, in schools, on college campuses and at worksites across the state, and in our communities, promoting the great public education and great public services that the citizens of North Dakota deserve.

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