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# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 21, 2023 Release #2023/24 – 010 <u>Contact:</u> Jennifer C. Jones, Director of Community & School Affairs, (478) 988-6390, <u>Jennifer.C.Jones@hcbe.net</u>





HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – The Better Together Servant Leadership Conference will be held in Perry on Saturday, August 26 at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry. The event is from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. and will feature Jon Gordon and Damon West. Tickets are \$30 each and will include lunch.

"Bringing this conference to our area has been a community effort," said Kevin Smith, Head Football Coach for Perry High School. "As a football program, we have used books by Jon

Gordon for several years as sources of motivation and encouragement for our players. During our 2021 season, we shared the book *The Coffee Bean* by Jon Gordon and Damon West as a way to create positive change among our players and coaches for the benefit of our program. We were very fortunate to have Damon West come and speak to our players and a small group of our community supporters."

Based on the response of several athletic sponsors and community members, the conference was made available to a wider group of people with the message of how to overcome challenges and create change. Smith added, "This conference is a way to give back to our community and make it better. There is so much negativity in the world, and this group of community supporters wanted to do something to help promote positivity."

### MORE







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For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <u>www.gofan.co</u> and search Perry High School. Tickets can also be purchased at the door the day of the event. For groups of 10 or more, email <u>bettertogetherperry@gmail.com</u> to purchase tickets. All proceeds from the event will support the REACH Scholarship Program for the Houston County School District.

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#### About the Speakers

#### **Best Selling Author and Keynote Speaker**

Jon Gordon's best-selling books and talks have inspired readers and audiences around the world. His principles have been put to the test by numerous Fortune 500 companies, professional and college sports teams, school districts, hospitals, and non-profits. He is the author of 28 books including 14 best sellers and 5 children's books. His books include the timeless classic *The Energy Bus* which has sold over 2 million copies, *The Carpenter* which was a top 5 business book of the year, *Training Camp, The Power of Positive Leadership, The Power of a Positive Team, The Coffee Bean, Stay Positive, The Garden,* and his latest book *The One Truth.* Jon and his tips have been featured on The Today Show, CNN, CNBC, The Golf Channel, Fox and Friends and in numerous magazines and newspapers. His clients include The Los Angeles Dodgers, Campbell's Soup, Dell, Publix, Southwest Airlines, Miami Heat, The Los Angeles Rams, Snapchat, Truist Bank, Clemson Football, Northwestern Mutual, West Point Academy and more.

Jon is a graduate of Cornell University and holds a Masters in Teaching from Emory University. He and his training/consulting company are passionate about developing positive leaders, organizations and teams.

#### From Behind Bars to Global Inspiration

Damon West, M.S. Criminal Justice, is a college professor, internationally known keynote speaker and best-selling author (with bestselling author and keynote speaker Jon Gordon) of *The Coffee Bean: A simple Lesson to Create Positive Change*. His first book and autobiography, *The Change Agent: How a Former College QB Sentenced to Life in Prison Transformed His World*, was published just three years after his release from a Texas maximum-security prison.





