



## BUILDING CHARACTER, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

A Community where good character is encouraged, recognized, and rewarded; where character awareness is a high priority; and where modeling of character is valued.

March, 2021

**“Energy, confidence, and decisiveness is 90% of the battle.”**

**— Craig Cackowski**

### *Decisiveness*

“Processing information and finalizing difficult decisions.”

### *Deferencia*

“Procesar información y finalizar decisiones difíciles.”



"Promoting Character & Community"

#### CITY OF OWASSO

200 S. Main  
P.O. Box 180  
Owasso, OK 74055

Phone: 918-376-1500

Fax: 918-291-1632

Email: mdempster@cityofowasso.com

### Decisiveness in the home includes:

- Firmly establishing the family commitment to good character by forming habits based on desired qualities.
- Discussing with each other the decisions that need to be finalized to avoid making rash choices based on the impulse of the moment.
- Making decisions based on a commitment to character vs popular opinion.
- Keeping each other accountable to not procrastinate.

### Five “I wills” of Decisiveness:

#### **I will:**

- Not look back.
- Do what I say.
- Make the right decision and stick to it.
- Look at things from more than one point of view before making up my mind.
- Not give in to peer pressure.

## KEY CONCEPTS OF DECISIVENESS

### Gather Accurate Information

Develop the habit of gathering correct information and retaining trusted advisors.

### Keep a Clear Perspective

Learn to separate and weigh facts, goals, feelings, and opinions.

### Make the Right Choice

Make decisions based on sound morals, wise priorities, and accurate information.

### Follow Through

Demonstrate your commitment to a decision by investigating the necessary time, resources, and effort.

### Weather Criticism

Acknowledge mistakes when necessary and learn what you can from your critics.



### Decisiveness in Nature

The badger's body is uniquely equipped to allow quick adjustments in direction as it sniffs out prey underground. Besides being remarkable digging implements, its legs are set so that the badger can run forward or backward through its winding tunnels.

These highly efficient excavators can dig themselves out of sight within 90 seconds.

### The Dogged Applicant

A well-looking dog was trotting down the street one day and saw a sign, "Parts Clerk Wanted," in an auto parts store window. Inside, the dog looked at the lady behind the counter and wagged his tail. Then he walked over to the sign, looked at it, and whined a bit.

Getting the idea, the parts clerk showed him into the office, and the manager soon found himself sitting across the desk from a dog. "I can't hire you," the manager said. "The sign says you have to be able to type." The dog jumped out of the chair, went to the computer, and started typing. In a few minutes, the dog printed out a well-typed letter and jumped back up on the chair. The manager was stunned, but he said, "The sign also says you must have good computer skills."

The dog went back to the computer. This time, the dog constructed a spreadsheet that could project the store's earnings and expenditures for a year. The manager was dumb-founded! He looked at the dog and said, "You are a very intelligent dog and have some amazing abilities, but we need someone who is bilingual." The dog looked at the manager and calmly said, "Meow."

This manager was overlooking one key factor in his hiring decision. When confronted with a decision, it's easy to be sidetracked. Develop the alertness to see what is happening, the creativity to make adjustments as necessary, and the wisdom to eliminate non-options. These habits will keep you on course to make good decisions.

*"Achieving True Success  
— How to Build  
Character as a Family"*  
is available for  
purchase at cost for \$6  
at Owasso City Hall.