**David Ness- Principal of Lutheran High School**

**Key Points From Talk:**

* Sage on the stage, or the guide on the side.
  + ​Knowing more than everyone else vs. helping shape your pathway of research by asking questions.
* Deep learning.
  + ​Everyone has different hobbies.
  + Choice in education+deep learning=passion.
    - Example= giving everyone the same topic to research.
    - When you are able to pick your topic and the way you present it, you are most likely to be more passionate about it and learn more from the project.
    - Having passion about a subject allows you to go all in and learn more.
  + You can face challenges/obstacles.
    - Sometimes research takes time.
    - Example: Teacher’s great great grandfather’s brother was buried in a mislabeled grave. He did research to find out where he was buried.
    - ​Example: Mr. Ness’s threshing pole. He bought 200 of them in an auction, but still doesn’t completely know what it was used for. Mr. Ness has gained an interest in this topic and will persue research to know more about it.

**Reflection:**

​Just like last year, Mr. Ness came and talked to Lights Academy about the importance of deep learning. He told us many stories and gave us numerous examples of how deep learning was applied to different situations in his life. Through experience as a teacher, he learned that the outcome of student projects proved to be better when the student was researching something they were interested in rather than a generic topic they were forced to research. He also saw that throughout his life, he would find certain topics that would grab his attention and make him want to learn more about them. This made me realize the purpose and importance of Lights Academy. I joined this class to broaden my interests and to learn more about what I already am interested in. Before this class, I had an idea of what I wanted to do in life, but now I have the opportunity to explore my options.