

#### **BOOST Conference 2010**

"...the most protective factors against violent behavior, severe emotional distress, suicide, and substance abuse among twelve thousand adolescents were feelings of connectedness with family members, school mates, and teachers." (Youth Leaders are teachers)

Journal of the American Medical Association, 1997

# "THE PRINCIPAL THING ABOUT AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS..."

# LESSONS I LEARNED IN PRINCIPAL SCHOOL

Martha Deichler Principal, San Diego Co.

### WHY ME TODAY?

- 35 years in education
- 10 years as a principal with After School programs (first year was a disaster)
- Daughter is a Youth Leader in ASES
- I teach an ASES class



### BEFORE WE BEGIN...

Remind me to recruit

Helper at each table now

Info on you

# SO, LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT -

YOU'RE EXPECTED TO ...





# YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO:

- ENRICH THEIR LIVES
- HELP CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP



#### I FEEL YOUR PAIN...



Lots in common...

My respect and gratitude....





### YOUR JOB IS HUGE

YOUR JOB IS SO VERY VERY VITAL TO THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS.

### Helpers, get ready...



# WHAT I LEARNED IN PRINCIPAL SCHOOL

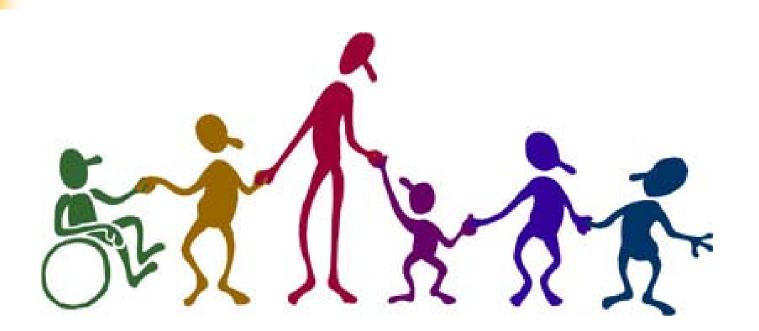


#### **ALWAYS ASK YOURSELF:**

# "WHAT WOULD THE LAWYER SAY?"



#### "IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS"





# ...ALLOWS YOU TO GET THE JOB DONE

# WHO'S NOT IN YOUR PROGRAM?







# YOUR STUDENTS NEED YOU THE MOST:

ELL's

Behavior challenged

ALL's

Low academics

Special Ed

Little schema (enrichment)

"At risk"



 At-risk students MUST have a meaningful relationship with a caring, responsible adult in order to "make it" in the world.

They need someone to listen to them and to serve as a role model.



(garden story)

# HOW TO BEGIN BUILDING A CONNECTION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE?







### IT'S SO EASY TO DO:

Learn names

Greet daily

- Focus on positive
- Take a personal interest

- One on one time in conversation
- Listen
- Give responsibilities to the least "deserving"
- Model good behavior

#### **MAIN POINT**

Students who think you care will respond better to your requests.



#### AND...

Students who respond to your requests might improve in math, reading, English, health and self-esteem.

# STUDY OF MOST SUCCESSFUL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOUND...



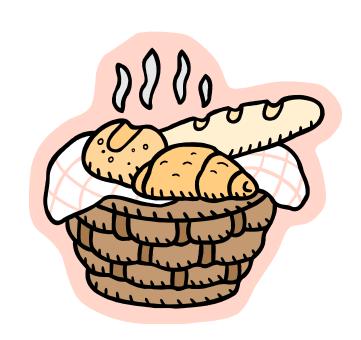


## ATE DINNER TOGETHER

WHAT I SAY IS IMPORTANT

I LISTEN AND LEARN

 I AM PART OF A CARING GROUP



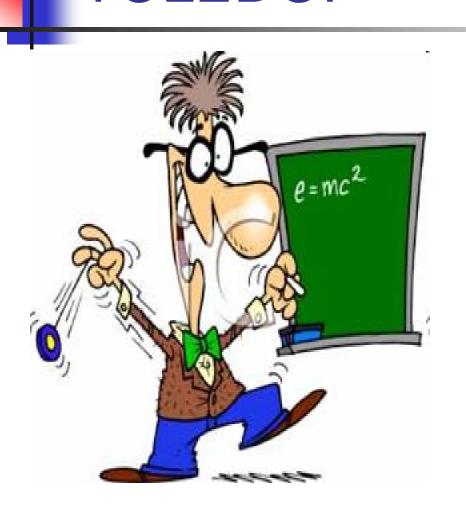
## HELPERS...



# YOU ARE IMPORTANT!

But, do the teachers on your campus make you feel that way?

# TEACHERS - HOLY TOLEDO!



- All different
- Busy
- After school-<u>their</u> time
- Possessive; Privacy
- Old-school

# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS BEGINS WITH PERCEPTION:

- Gum?
- Clothing?
- Cell phone?
- Conversations with other Youth Leaders?

- Vocabulary?
- Student safety?
- Conversations with students?
- Crowd control?
- Role model?



 OUT-OF-CONTROL STUDENTS ARE <u>NOT</u> SAFE, WILL <u>NOT</u> LEARN AND WILL <u>TRASH</u> MY CLASSROOM (kc's story)

- Good discipline = Good relationship with teachers
- Good discipline = Good relationships with kids



# NOW THAT THE TEACHER IS SMILING AT YOU:

- Introduce yourself
- Compliment
- Seek advice on homework

Discuss students

- Seek suggestions for working together
- Listen
- Ask to use room
- Follow up on classroom condition

# BOTTOM LINE...

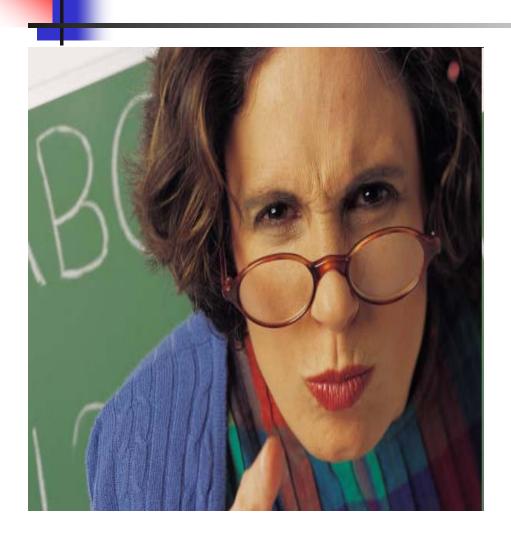
 TEACHERS WISH ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL SUCCESS FOR THEIR STUDENTS JUST AS YOU DO.

THEY NEED TO "SEE" THAT WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS IN LINE WITH THEIR PROGRAM.

## Helpers, get ready...



### PESKY PRINCIPAL



- In a hurry
- Gone to meetings
- Busy
- Distracted
- Supportive?



(Answer is YES)

"As goes the principal, so goes the school."

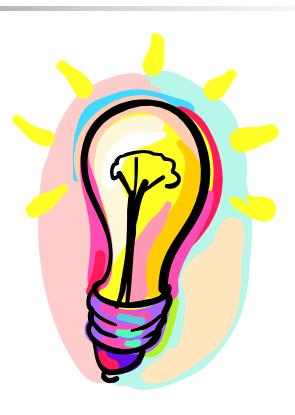
# -

# HOW CAN THIS BE DONE?

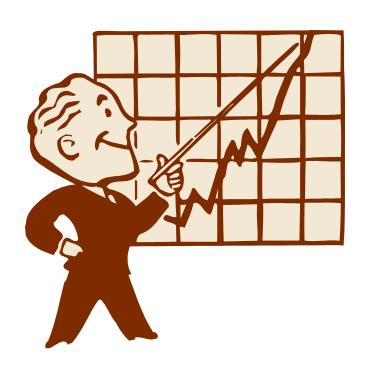
- Principal = magnet for PROBLEMS
- DISCIPLINE and TEST SCORES on mind
- Meetings and unplanned DRAMA
- Most precious resource = TIME
- Always in a HURRY

### SUGGESTIONS:

- Respect their time
- Introduce yourself
- Walk and talk
- Positive comment
- School Site Plan -ask



### More suggestions:



- Know NCLB
- API; PI?; FBB's; BB's; 350's
- Seek suggestions
- Clean school
- Safety; NO surprises

# HONOR THE PRINCIPAL'S TIME

- Meetings: 10 15 minutes
- Agenda
- Problem? Bring possible solutions
- Set up follow-up meeting
- Discipline: send only the most vexing
- Teamwork around program/curriculum



#### HELPERS...





#### PARENT COMPLAINTS

(of Youth Leaders & Teachers)

- Yelling; cursing
- Rough handling
- Bullying; nothing done
- Homework not done
- No bathroom break





# RELATIONSHIPS & PARENTS

- ALWAYS begin with a positive comment!
- Follow up on all concerns
- Work as partners (with teacher, too)
- "What would the lawyer say?" (think about)

## HELPERS...



- String = Parent support
- Make a necklace

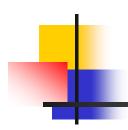
Hang inside shirt



- BAG = School
- SEED = Student
- COTTON = Teachers and Principal
- WATER = Program
- STRING = Parent

YOUR WARMTH =
RELATIONSHIP
BUILDING=SUCCESS





## ODE TO AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH LEADERS

(CHORUS)
HEY LADEE LADEE LADEE
HEY LADEE LADEE LOW
HEY LADEE LADEE LADEE
HEY LADEE LADEE LOW



#### **VERSES**

#### AFTER SCHOOL IS YOUR BAG WE KNOW THAT IT CAN BE A DRAG

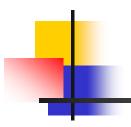
KIDS ARE SQUIRMY AND DON'T LISTEN
YOU WISH YOU WERE A GOOD MAGICIAN



# TEACHERS SAY THEY'RE FOR THE PROGRAM BUT WHEN THEY SEE YOU THEY SAY "SCRAM"

## Another one ...

EARLY RELEASE AND SIGN OUT SHEETS
DRIVE YOU CRAZY, MAKE YOUR MIND GO
WEAK



#### JUST A FEW MORE...

WANT 5 MINUTES WITH THE PRINCIPAL?
COME BACK NEXT WEEK, OFFICE IS FULL

ADMIN SAYS ROLL SHEETS'RE OUT OF LINE

YOU TELL'EM STICK IT WHERE THE SUN DON'T SHINE



#### Last two verses...

# YOU'RE FEELING LONELY AND NEGLECTED ON OTHER JOBS YOU HAVE REFLECTED

HANG IN THERE, DON'T GET DISMAYED YOUNG LIVES EACH DAY YOU DO HELP SAVE!

## YOU ARE ALL WINNERS...

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our children.



