

## VALUES EXCHANGE BULLETIN

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### *The 2008-2009 School Year Welcomes You Back...* to classrooms full

of reenergized students and smiling faces! ValuesFirst celebrates another year of working with committed educators who are shaping the minds of today in becoming the leaders of the future. The ValuesFirst Initiative has been a continued success in its national expansion due to our partnership with principals who personify the Values Code through their unwavering leadership in creating a school wide culture where values are the standard, the tool, and the outcome in developing the hearts and minds of children.

The 2007-2008 school year will be earmarked as one of change, transformation, and opportunities, which will be reflective of your leadership. Your personal commitment and creativity in the implementation of the Values Code will determine your effectiveness in creating a school culture where the students will have the will to act on these values as a way of life. Through your own "Consistency and Repetition" you will be able to inundate a child's academic and social experiences with values. Only the "Principal Holds The Key" to unlocking the future of a child through their own leadership.

This is the most critical time of the year as students prepare to embark upon new academic and social challenges. The Values Code will be a reinforcing tool in preparing and equipping students to have a successful and productive year in the classroom as well as in the community. Your consistency in modeling the behaviors, reinforcing the specific terminology and continuous **Praise & Recognition**, will be the model that will empower students to act on the Values Code.

- Peter N.G. Schwartz



***Reflections..***  
***Intelligence And Character  
Is The Goal Of True Education.***

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**Values-Centered** schools create holistic environments where students, staff and parents see the infusion of values as a way of life. Your effectiveness in being a role model and an effective leader requires that you continue to reinforce the importance of values through by **Praising and Recognizing** your student's Efforts, progress, and accomplishments.



**"Create a Culture of Values"**  
**Comprehensive...**  
**Creative... & Consistent...**

Effective leaders in the infusion of the Values Code:

- Have their **Values Code poster** and **signed teacher's pledge** in a visible place in the classroom.
- **Consistently encourages** students to use the Values Code to outline their academic and personal goals for the year.
- Infuse the Values Code terminology into the **visual climate** in the hallway and classroom bulletin boards.
- Uses the Values Code terminology as a **proactive tool** in discussing, addressing, and solving potential student conflicts.
- Contact parents to **Praise & Recognize** a values-centered behavior that their child demonstrates. (Letter / phone call)
- Continues to build a child's foundation in being able to make good decisions by **continuously encouraging and creating opportunities** for students to demonstrate and act upon the values throughout the year. (i.e. community clean up projects)
- Encourages students to **discuss the Values Code with family members and friends.**