

# VALUES EXCHANGE BULLETIN

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**VALUESFIRST** continues to successfully partner with schools, principals, and educators who work tirelessly in nurturing our nation's most valuable resource, children. ValuesFirst commends your leadership and **Courage** in accepting the **Responsibility** of being consistent in exemplifying values through your actions, frequency and consistent use of the Values Code terminology, and by creating a visual school-wide culture of values infusion. Remember that your **Hard Work** and **Tolerance** in facing life's daily challenges, as a leader and educator, will systemically serve as the template for the values that are cultivated in schools, communities, and instilled in children.

– Peter N.G. Schwartz

## STANDARDIZED TESTING OF “VALUES INFUSION”

*Directions: You have one minute to complete this self-assessment. Answer each question by filling in the circle that matches your response. Yes, equals (+1) point and No, equals (+0) points.*

- 1) Do you use the Values Code terminology *daily*? Yes-  No-
  - 2) Do you identify and *relate the Values Code* to literature and current events? Yes-  No-
  - 3) Do you *create opportunities* for students to act on the Values Code? Yes-  No-
  - 4) Do you have a signed Pledge and Values Code poster in a *visible location*? Yes-  No-
  - 5) Do you use the Values Code terminology when *redirecting negative student behaviors*? (“Which value could you have used to handle the situation better?”) Yes-  No-
  - 6) Have you provided all of your students with a Values Code card to be kept at school and an additional one *for the refrigerator at home*? Yes-  No-
  - 7) Do you *frequently remind* your students to place a Values Code card on their refrigerator at home? Yes-  No-
  - 8) Do you **Praise & Recognize** your students when they demonstrate values-centered behavior?  
(Verbally, Certificates, Public acknowledgement) Yes-  No-
  - 9) Do you encourage your students to *discuss the Values Code with family members* at home over the weekend? Yes-  No-
  - 10) Do you *infuse* the Values Code terminology into lesson plans, work boards, and assessments? Yes-  No-
- \*\*\***Bonus** - I have used creative strategies to implement the Values Code into the classroom? Yes-  No-

Totals- Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

(0-4 points) = Progressing

(5-6) points = Basic

(7-8) points = Proficient

(9-10 points) = Advanced



## Reflections..

Today's youth will be tomorrow's replenishing resource that will fill our communities, fuel our economy, lead and redefine the nation, and shape our social conscience.

-Unknown



## REACHING NEW LEVELS WITH “CREATIVITY”... ENSURES A “VALUES-CENTERED” SCHOOL...

- ❖ Creating hallway bulletin boards using the Values Code terminology.
- ❖ Decorating sentence strips and placing them in between the steps to be visible every time students walk up the stairs.
- ❖ Decorating classroom doors with a “values-centered” message.
- ❖ Making “Values” banners or flags and hanging them from the ceilings in the hallways.
- ❖ Have a large thematic board that highlights a different Values Code that **Praises & Recognizes** a teacher and a student every month.
- ❖ Encourage students to demonstrate the importance of values through performances, skits, and role playing.
- ❖ Use your playground to create murals or artwork that displays the Values Code terminology to students and the community as they approach the school.
- ❖ Hosting staff meetings in different classrooms to encourage teachers to share the creative ways that they have infused the Values Code into their classroom.

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