

VALUES EXCHANGE BULLETIN

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2009 presents new challenges and new opportunities to be noted as a year of transformation and success. A new year is always earmarked as the opportunity to demonstrate **Hard Work** in making each year better than the last because as schools, teachers, and students rally to prepare for standardized testing. It is important to be as equally as diligent in preparing students for the “tests” of life using the 12 basic universal values of the Values Code. Molding a future generation of leaders that embody the virtues of **Honesty, Respect, Concern for Others, Tolerance, Fairness, and Forgiveness** will be contingent upon the achievement of character. Your leadership in the infusion of values will be the defining contribution which will impact a student’s level of academic achievement and their “achievement of character.” **“The Principal Holds the Key”** to creating a school-wide culture of values.

-Peter N.G. Schwartz

“Time To Assess” ... “To Ensure Values Success”

As an Exemplary Values-Centered Principal I...

- ✓ Use the Values Code terminology daily in all of my verbal and written correspondence.
- ✓ **Praise & Recognize** my students and staff when I see them demonstrating values-centered behavior.
- ✓ Proactively trained all of my current and new staff.
- ✓ **Visit classrooms and ask students “What their favorite value is?” to assess their enthusiasm and responses.**
- ✓ **Visit classrooms and ask students “How many of you have your Values Code hand card on your refrigerator at home?” and provide them with additional hand cards.**
- ✓ Encourage students to talk about the values at home over the weekend and share those discussions in the classroom.



“THE BEST NEWS TEAM IN SCHOOL”...

Wendy Bridges, the Reading Resource Instructor at **Langdon Elementary School in Washington DC**, successfully works with the students in making the Values Code a part of their school’s culture through their “W.V.A.L.U.E.S” school-wide broadcasting station. Students use the announcements to highlight the exemplary ways that the Values Code is an active part of their school’s culture. The Values based news is always good news.

Building Block #3 – Values In Action



Everyday provides us with an opportunity to put values into action. Create opportunities and be proactive in relating the values to student’s everyday lives to instill and reinforce their social development.



Reflections..

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which has the limitless potential to enrich, change, or turn a life around.

- Leo Buscaglia

Values Code Word Fill

**Complete each sentence using the Values Code words that are listed below.*

- ❖ I have to have the _____ to make the right decisions when faced with difficult situations.
- ❖ Academic success can only be achieved through _____.
- ❖ “_____ is always the best policy.”
- ❖ I have the _____ of controlling my actions and words in all situations at all times.
- ❖ I must show _____ to those that do me wrong.
- ❖ _____ is the key to working well with others as a team.
- ❖ I show _____ by treating others as I would like to be treated.

Forgiveness, Courage, Self-Respect, Hard Work, Cooperation, Honesty, Responsibility

******Bonus Question(s)******

I frequently remind my students to make sure that they have placed a Values Code card on their _____ at home.

I encourage my students to talk about the values with a family member in their household every _____.