Some Starters for Giving Positive Feedback and Encouragement

Are you looking for some new phrases to use when giving positive praise? Are sick of using “I like the way …” or “It was great how you …”? Below are 19 suggestions!

- “You do a dynamite job of …”
- “You have really learned to …”
- “You must feel proud of yourself for …”
- “Excellent idea for …”
- “You’ve done a wonderful job at …”
- “See how _____ has improved in …”
- “You have worked so hard …”
- “Look how well s/he did at …”
- “That’s a resourceful way of …”
- “WOW!! What a fabulous job you’ve done of …”
- “That’s a cool way of …”
- “I’m so appreciative that you …”
- “It really pleases me when you …”
- “You’ve really grown up because you …”
- “Brilliant thinking for …”
- “Give me an EXTRA HUGE high five for …”
- “Class, I have an announcement! Let’s all give a hip, hip hooray to _____ for ____”
- “I really appreciate the way all of you have your eye on the (book, overhead, chalkboard, etc) and are listening so carefully. It’s like you have eye-ball glue!!!”

District Ideas

Orange County: Videotaped principals, AP’s, deans and curriculum person talking about PBS. A good PR measure, plus you could add the video to a school’s website. Also, they developed a case study on an elementary, middle and high school.

Osceola County: Is hosting their own mini-implementers’ forum. They district has supported faculty appreciation for the PBS Schools. They are finalizing details on district personnel providing a “ticket” for staff and students when on a campus meeting the expectations. They plan on providing a key ring that lists all schools expectations to help them when on different schools sites.

Ideas from Schools

Bronson Middle High School, Levy County: The last couple of hours in school after the hours of FCAT testing they are going to do some school-wide incentives activities that students can participate in.

Chiefland Elementary, Levy County: According to their data two problem areas on campus are PE and the cafeteria, so, they have developed group contingencies on both campuses. In PE if all students in the class have their sneakers then the whole class gets popsicles. In the Cafeteria when the class maintains an acceptable level they earn spoons and once they have reached a predetermined number of spoons the class earns a treat.

Williston Elementary School, Levy County: Kids can earn “Pigout Passes”. Once they have earned enough Pigout Passes then they can turn them in for free gym time.

Williston High School, Levy County: All teachers of ninth and tenth graders are going to adopt one to two ninth or tenth graders to mentor.