**How To Get Your Students to Do the Right Thing? – Wilmonda McDevitt**

**Presentation Notes**

Choices

Examples

Awards

Discuss

Incentives

Consistency

Listener

Be positive

Be involved

Show by doing

Develop relationship

Compare right vs. wrong

1. Positive
   1. Regular positive attention (to reduce or bring balance all the negatives staff have to deal with students)
   2. Give students opportunities to make choices
   3. Reinforce
   4. Model
2. Reinforce
3. Lose privilege or assign consequences to reduce or eliminate undesired behaviors

Reward Systems

* set clear standard expectations
* praise for their ability t admit their mistakes
* review their actions/behaviors each day
* reward positive behavior

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Benefits:

* K-12: prepare all students with same system (instead of having elementary, middle school and high school having separated reward system)
* Dorm staff who transfer from one to another department

What’s the Difference?

Privileges – things student can do

Rewards – things student earn for positive behaviors

General Responsibilities

1. Health & Wellness
2. Independent Living Skills
3. Time Management
4. Social Skills

Levels of Privileges

* nice way of not having to reflect on yesterday or previous behaviors but an opportunity for students to start a new each day
* student designed (based on what are important to them)
* designed for elementary, middle/high school (age appropriate/activities appropriate)
* Use of point deduction chart is a good way of documenting and monitoring students’ behaviors
* Use of daily level chart using 4 general responsibilities
* Good documentation purposes to address in meetings with the student

Levels of Rewards

* Successful incentive
* Year by year (colors of tickets do change)
* Write student’s name on ticket and keep track in “tickets log”
* Includes SPICE curriculum
* Be sure to change year to year according to favors/trends

RLP = Residential Life Profile

* shows each student’s progress
* shows each student’s level of privileges earned
* shows each student’s level of rewards earned

Key to a Successful System

* be consistent
* develop healthy relationships with students
* praise students for their positive behaviors
* do NOT threat with points deductions

Schools should be a “home feel” – but are there rules everywhere, posted on walls in the dorm?

We do not create rules nor say we have rules. We say we have “expectations”.

Students will have a hard time telling you the rules if you ask! It is the expectations that you, as a staff, expect from the students.

What about overnight staff that writes up an incident with a student. Some thinks we should follow up that morning not having to wait until after school?

Mornings are not good time – rush/peak time for kids to get ready for schools. Day staff does give support to night staff and vice versa. So students do not perceive night staff as less important than day staff.