

SUPPORTING TEACHERS ON BEHAVIORAL ISSUES IN RURAL DISTRICTS

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WAYS THAT ADMINISTRATORS CAN SUPPORT THEIR TEACHERS

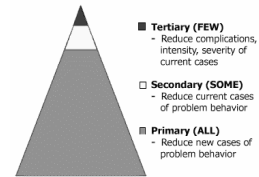
- School Environment
- Behavior Committee
- Consortium
- Technology

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

- AKA - Positive Behavior Supports (PBS)
- What is it?
- Why should we do it?
- Where do I start?

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS

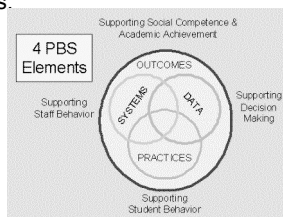
- What is it?
 - Positive Behavioral Support (PBS) is an empirically validated, function-based approach to eliminate challenging behaviors and replace them with pro-social skills. (Cohn, 2001)



POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS

■ PBS addresses:

- Outcomes
- Practices
- Data
- Systems



■ Illustrations from U.S. Office of Special Education Programs

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS

- Why Should We Do It?
 - Moves away from punishment and more toward teaching appropriate pro-social behaviors
 - Reinforces positive behaviors in students which increases the likelihood of positive behaviors reoccurring
 - Schools that have implemented school-wide PBS programs have seen:
 - 1/3 reduction of office referrals
 - 2/3 reduction of suspensions and expulsions
 - An increase in attendance
 - An increase in staff and student morale (Washburn, Burrello, & Buckman, 2001)
 - Reduces office referrals between 40 – 60 % (Sugai, 2001)
 - Increases time in classroom which leads to higher academic achievement
- OSEP Center on PBIS
 - Website: <http://www.pbis.org>

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS

- Where Do I Start?
 - Establish a school-wide leadership or behavior support team to guide and direct the process. This team should be made up of an administrator, grade level representatives, support staff, and parents.
 - Secure administrator agreement of active support and participation.
 - Secure a commitment and agreement from at least 80% of the staff for active support and participation.
 - Conduct a self assessment of the current school-wide discipline system.
 - Create an implementation action plan that is based data based decision making.
 - Establish a way to collect office referral and other data on a regular basis to evaluate the effectiveness of school-wide PBS efforts.
 - State Contact Person (<http://www.pbis.org/map.htm>)

(U.S. Office of Special Education Programs, 2008)

CREATE A BEHAVIOR COMMITTEE

- This behavior team could be used for two purposes
 - As the leadership team for implementation of PBS
 - As a consultative group to determine how students with behavior problems receive help
- Can be used for coaching and training other teachers
- Can be used for evaluation of students (Functional Behavioral Assessment, Observations)
- Help with coordination with outside agencies
- Review discipline data to chart course of action
- Help to develop school-wide behavioral strategy

CREATE A BEHAVIOR COMMITTEE

- Who should be on the team?
 - *Administrator
 - *Guidance Counselor
 - *Special Education Teacher
 - *Lead Teachers/Department Chairs
 - *Community Members
 - New Teachers
 - School Psychologist
 - Social Workers
 - Parents
 - Students
 - Trainers
 - Consultants
 - Staff Developers
 - Coaches

CONSORTIUM

- Pull together school districts to pay for a behavior consultant or behavior team
- Put together regional team
- Utilize services through area educational agencies (ESU, AEA, ESC) to develop regional behavioral programming
- Pull together money for large scale purchase of Positive Behavioral Support materials

WHAT KIND OF TECHNOLOGY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

- Internet protocol (IP), synchronous, distance learning technology – allows us to observe in real time
- Mobile distance learning carts
- Allows for total remote access from the host to remote site

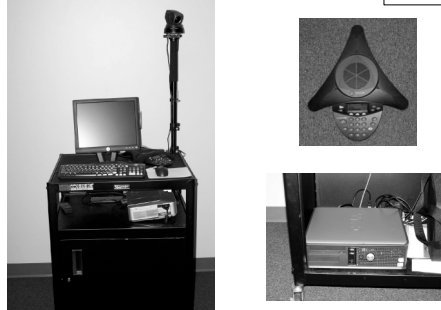
WHY WE SHOULD START USING TECHNOLOGY TO HELP STUDENTS WITH BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS

- Reduce the “Observer Effect”
 - Teacher & Student
- Allows related services providers the ability to gather accurate data and take on a more appropriate consultative role
- Can create minimally invasive strategies to reduce behavior through early interventions
- New teacher training programs
- It's the future!

THE EQUIPMENT

- Computer
- Software
- System Camera
- Audio System/Microphone
- Cart
- Internet access
- Cost

THE EQUIPMENT



HOW FAR REACHING CAN THIS TECHNOLOGY BE?

- In reality, as far as you want to go
- In the Southeast Nebraska Distance Learning Consortium (SNDLC):
 - We cover about 9000 square miles
 - We work with 57 school districts
 - Ability to be used with 87,300 students

ISSUES WITH USING THIS TECHNOLOGY FOR BEHAVIOR

- Recording
- Confidentiality
- Staff acceptance or resistance
- Fear of technology
- Lack of technology

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SYSTEM SETUP

Southeast Nebraska Distance Learning Consortium
<http://www.sndlc.org/>

For specific questions:
e-mail - sndlc@esu5.org
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CONTACT INFORMATION

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