CREATING YOUR SCHOOL'S CORE BELIEFS

When working with students in a disciplinary situation:

Choose 5-7 of these to create a set of core beliefs for your school. This is your code of ethics or promise to students and parents about the treatment of disciplinary situations.

- 1. I believe that every attempt should be made to maintain the dignity of both the adult and the student.
- 2. I believe that students should know that misbehavior makes adults angry.
- 3. I believe that students should know that misbehavior results in loss of privileges.
- 4. I believe that adults should be respected because they are the adults.
- 5. I believe that students should be guided and expected to solve the problems they create without making problems for anyone else.
- 6. I believe that students should expect rewards for good behavior.
- 7. I believe that students should be given the opportunity to make decisions and live with the results, whether the consequences are good or bad.
- 8. I believe that misbehavior should be handled with natural consequences instead of punishments whenever possible.
- 9. I believe that students should know that the adults are the bosses and in control at all times.
- 10. I believe that students should have the opportunity to tell their side of the story (due process hearing) when consequences appear to be unfair.
- 11. I believe that teachers are responsible for raising student self-esteem.
- 12. I believe that school problems should be handled by school personnel and that criminal activity should be referred to the proper authorities.
- 13. I believe that misbehavior should be viewed as an opportunity for individual problem solving and preparation for the real world as opposed to a personal attack on the school or staff.
- 14. I believe that students should pay for repeat misbehaviors.
- 15. I believe that it is best if a student does most of the thinking.
- 16. I believe that there should be a logical connection between misbehavior and resulting consequences.
- 17. I believe that it is the administrator's job to make students behave so that teachers can teach.
- 18. I believe that parents should punish their children when they misbehave at school.
- 19. I believe that prescribed punishments for rules infractions are an important part of maintaining discipline.
- 20. I believe that every student and every rules infraction should be treated the same way.