

SUBJECT:

Ten Tips for Administrators...

... THAT FOSTER CONNECTEDNESS TO SCHOOL

Ten Tips for Administrators that Foster Connections to School

1. Brainstorm with students, faculty, staff and parents simple changes that could make school more welcoming.
2. Create policies that are based on student, family and neighborhood strengths and assets.
3. Turn mistakes into learning opportunities rather than failures that merit punishment.
4. Acknowledge and honor accomplishments and all types of competencies (such as helpfulness, good citizenship, most improved performance, volunteerism, participation in decision-making and cessation of negative behavior).
5. Set high standards and challenge students to meet them.
6. Reinforce explicit expectations for positive behaviors and academic success.
7. Encourage highly interactive teaching strategies.
8. Create a welcoming environment for all who come to the school.
9. Invite family and community members to take active and regular roles in the daily operation of the school.
10. Create a common vision of success and keep the vision statement visible.