

June 7, 2011

Dear Dr. Marshall,

I have been a fan of yours since 2006 when I discovered your Raise Responsibility System while researching behavior plans for my master's thesis. To celebrate the completion of my degree I took a trip to St. Louis to hear you speak at the 2007 Character Conference. I wanted to shake your hand and thank you for your work but, because others surrounded you, I guess I decided to go on to the next seminar thinking I would see you later. I have regretted that decision ever since then. Once again, I have missed an opportunity to meet you. I fell behind on reading your newsletters in April and May and today I discovered you were in the Chicagoland area last month. I feel so disappointed that I missed another opportunity to meet you as well as to listen to you share your unique, cutting-edge system of behavior management. Since I missed you, I deeply desire to get in touch with other educators who are interested in, or who have implemented, the Raise Responsibility System in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago.

During the four years since my graduation, I have been working as a substitute teacher. Throughout my travels to five school districts to teach all ages from preschool through high school, I have become painfully aware that the prevalent system of rewards and consequences is outdated. I have heard many teachers say with sadness or disgust, "Kids are not the same as they were when I started teaching". My questions are. If students are different, how can the same way of dealing with their behavior still be effective? Isn't it evident that the system of rewards and consequences is not working, when the same students continually misbehave throughout their school careers in spite of all the opportunities for rewards they are offered and the numerous consequences they have incurred? I strongly believe that The Raise Responsibility System is the answer to guiding and supporting the new student of today toward the development of sincere responsibility and self-control.

I feel the deepest gratitude to you for developing and tirelessly teaching Raise Responsibility System throughout the world.

Sincerely,

Erin Pankey
Port Barrington, IL