PBIS Question

**I was reminded on Wednesday, during the Administrative Leadership meeting, that I did not review why Sweetwater School District Number One has implemented PBIS.**

**Why is PBIS implementation important? Why do we “do” PBIS?**

School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS or PBIS) is a systems approach for teachers, bus drivers, para professionals, food service personnel, custodians, substitutes, administrators and parents designed to make the school environment more conducive to learning through preventing, reducing, and replacing problem behaviors. It is a problem-solving model that operates on three levels: a universal level that affects the entire building and is sufficient for most students; a targeted intervention level to support those who need a little more help in learning how to manage their behavior; and an intensive level for students who have serious behavioral problems requiring more intensive, individualized services and supports.

A number of research studies have observed a link between school-wide implementation of PBS, fewer discipline problems and improved academic outcomes for students. These results are not surprising, research has consistently recognized that problem behaviors as well as a disruptive school climate interfere with academic progress. School wide PBIS positively impacts factors that are linked to greater academic achievement, including but not limited to:

* Increased student time in the classroom
  + Fewer office referrals
* Increased student time in school
  + Fewer in-school/out-of-school suspensions
  + Fewer expulsions
* More classroom time for teaching and learning
  + Reduced disruptions
* Greater academic engagement

However, this same research demonstrates that schools that fully implement school-wide PBS have significantly better results, while schools that only partially implement do not have the same level of success.

## The Crucial to Believe, Essential Principles of School-wide PBIS

* Every child can learn proper behavior
* Stepping in early can prevent more serious behavior problems
* Each child is different and schools need to provide many kinds of behavior support
* How schools teach behavior should be based on research and science
* Following a child’s behavioral progress is important
* Schools must gather and use data to make decisions about behavior problems

Sweetwater School District #1 Strategic Plan and SWPBIS

**Sweetwater County School District #1 will nurture a positive learning climate and culture.**

* Promote positive behaviors and relationships among students, staff, families and the community.
* Ensure schools are safe and secure.
* Proactively support physical, mental and emotional health.