

Staff Report

• The Win-Win Word

Consequences – Our Last Line of Defense (Part One)

Building Win-Win Relationships So Every Student Succeeds

By Kat Love, Instructional Support Teacher • 735-3368 or 735-3069

Every time we make a choice, it has consequences. Since we are continuously making choices and that ultimately determine the quality of our lives, it is important to help students understand the connection between choices and consequences. It also is important for us to understand how to maintain a win-win relationship when establishing the consequences for the choices our students make.

In order to maintain the win-win philosophy, there are some things to remember when developing consequences. Win-win consequences are established for the student (same-side), with the student (collaborative solutions) and are instructive (learned responsibility). Try to keep the consequence just. They should be appropriate to the “size” of the disruption and linked to the type of disruption. They should be clear to the student, make sure that the students know ahead of time that certain behaviors will have consequences. And whatever you do, make sure that when you have established a consequences, that they are ones that you can follow through on. When consequences are pre-established and non-negotiable, students are more likely to take ownership of their choices and the consequences that follow. (If you make exceptions, you take away that aspect of it.)

There are four types of consequences according to Win-Win Discipline (Kagan Publishing, 2004):

- Responsible thinking,
- Apology,
- Restitution, and
- Lost activity, access, or interaction.

In this *Win-Win Word*, we will talk about two, with the other two to be continued in the next issue.

A student may be asked to use one or

more of these four types of consequences after they have engaged in disruptive behavior. When a student has been disruptive, engaging in responsible thinking may be enough, or responsible thinking along with an apology or restitution might be necessary.

Responsible thinking is a process a student goes through to reflect on their choices. Basically a student asks themselves or can be guided through asking the following three questions, the three “Ws”:

1. What if everyone acted that way?
2. Which way would I like to be treated?
3. What would be a win-win solution?

A student may engage in the responsible thinking process in differing ways, i.e. verbally, by drawing a picture, or by writing. If the student’s disruptive behavior has affected someone else, then responsible thinking is not enough and the student should offer an apology or restitution.

Since we all make mistakes sometimes, an **apology** is a basic relationship skill as well as an employability skill. “I’m sorry” really isn’t an effective apology. In order for an apology to be win-win, there are three parts that need to be included:

1. A Statement of Regret
2. A Statement of Appropriate Future Behavior
3. A Request for Acceptance

Of course, just like anything else we teach, examples and modeling of effective apologies need to occur before asking students to practice apologizing effectively. Taking the time to do this will be well worth it in the long run, since that whenever a student causes anyone in the class physical or psychological pain, and it is inevitable that this will happen, a proper, sincere apology can be made and win-win relationships can be maintained.

Classifieds

Announcements

Attention All Elmira Staff: The next district Staff Directory is now being prepared. It will include your home address and phone number. If you do not want your home information published, please email your opt-out preference to Kristin Butler, community information specialist, at krbutler@gstbooces.org.

Volunteers Needed: Staff and their family members ages 16 or older are needed to volunteer for the Big Brother-Big Sister Program. To volunteer, call Brandon Swain at Family Services at 936-3507.

Gym Discounts: The Elmira Fitness Center offers specials for Elmira City School District staff who join in October or November: \$25 for one month, \$50 for three months, or \$90 for six months, w/ the initiation fee waived. Must show badge to receive discounts. Membership includes use of all modern gym equipment and unlimited group fitness classes. See www.elmirafitness.com, stop in at 828 Erie Street, Elmira, or call 733-0145 for more information.

Donations Needed for Alice Kane Memorial: In honor of the late Alice Kane, district teaching assistants are asking for donations for a red maple tree to be planted at EFA. Students in Ed Wall's Tech class built a bench to sit under this tree as a place in her honor. A card with those who donate will be sent to the family and a dedication ceremony will take place. To donate to this cause, please send money or a check to Marcia Dunlap at EFA.

Items For Sale

For Sale: Moving! Bookcase headboard, solid wood, mirror in headboard with light, 2 cupboard doors w/ shelves on each side, fits double or queen bed, excellent condition, \$175. Entertainment center, large (6½' x 6' x 1½'), 2-piece, natural oak with glass doors above w/ lighted shelving, cupboard storage below, holds up to a 32" TV in center, excellent condition, \$300. Call Pam at 742-1350 or 215-0405.

Home for Rent

For Rent: 213 Foster Avenue, Elmira, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath single family home. High efficiency furnace & water heater, full basement, walk-up third floor. Available Nov. 1, \$650+ utilities and 1-year lease. Call 734-5698 or 737-1990.

Condo for Rent

For Rent: 2 bedroom condo suite in Aruba. 2/23/08-3/1/08. \$1,000. Sleeps 6, w/ fully-equipped kitchen, maid service, washer/dryer & whirlpool. Across the street from Eagle Beach. Resort has swimming pool, outdoor whirlpool, mini market, exercise room, water sports nearby, lobby cocktail lounge, pool bar, on-site restaurant. Call Phyllis at 732-6513.

Homes for Sale

For Sale: 14 x 56, 1998 single Colony trailer. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, central air, front porch (must be disassembled), new back steps included. Excellent condition. Must be moved by buyer. \$16,000, OBO. Call 962-2604.

For Sale: 707 Sayre St., Horseheads, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, completely renovated! New furnace and central air, big backyard, new deck. Asking \$98,000. Call (607) 259-6139.

For Sale: Mobile home on Seneca Lake located in a quiet seasonal park near the Showboat and Rainbow Cove, great location, lake living without the huge expense. Call Ginny at 732-9934.

Businesses

Business: Piano tuning, repairing, rebuilding. We also have rentals, as well as new and used pianos for sale. PianoCraft, Al Saginario, 739-6405.

Business: Live music by West O'Clare. Music, songs, stories, dances, and 4 tours of Ireland in 2008. We play concerts, festivals, parties, schools, colleges, clubs, wakes, weddings, radio, television, ceili & square dances. Music ranges from Irish to swing, old to new, on guitars, keyboard, fiddles, flutes, whistles, banjo, accordions, concertinas, bodhrans

& bones. Call 888-333-4PAT, visit our website at www.westoclare.com or email pat@westoclare.com.

Business: Lawn service and tree service. Trees cut down, trimmed, capped or pruned. Best price in town, guaranteed. Fully insured. Email Stelio at thegreengardener@stny.rr.com or call 271-9307.

Business: Call Hawk's Hauling for all your hauling needs. Reliable, flexible and good prices. I can haul old junk, top-soil, mulch or gravel. Call Bill Hawk at 731-8254.

Business: LaVere Media offers portrait photography services in addition to its other services: video and photography for special events, photo restoration and 8mm film/VHS transferred to DVD. Call Rich & Connie at 737-5096 or 733-0500, or go to www.laveremedia.com.

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