

Topic in Action

Pause & Reflect #1

List ways that your school reinforces students for academic performance. Now list ways your school reinforces students for social behavioral performance. How can you tie these together?

Pause & Reflect #2

Reflect on what you have learned about adult attention, both non-contingent and contingent. Tell someone, or quickly jot down, the definitions of each and their power in working with students to create a positive school environment. List as many examples as you can of both non-contingent and contingent attention that are presently in place in your school.

Pause & Reflect #3

Contingent attention increases academic performance, on-task behavior, and the likelihood students will continue to use the desired behavior in the future.

- Why do you think this powerful practice is so underused in our schools?
- Begin to consider ways to increase the use of encouragement in your school.

Pause & Reflect #4

Review the list of preferred adult behaviors for building positive teacher-student relationships.

Preferred Adult Behaviors:

- Proximity
 - Listening
 - Eye Contact
 - Pleasant Voice
 - Smiles
 - Professional Touch
 - Use of Student Names
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- Do the staff in your school use these preferred adult behaviors when interacting with students?
 - How can you share what you have learned about teacher attention and preferred adult behaviors with your staff?