

# DODGE CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Student Centered Classrooms

### Reinforcing Effort and Providing Recognition

Target Instructional Goal 80%

#### Reinforcing Effort and Providing Recognition

Enhance students' understanding of the relationship between effort and achievement by addressing students' attitudes and beliefs about learning. Provide students with rewards or praise for their accomplishments related to the attainment of a goal.

#### Generalizations From Research

1. Not all students realize the importance of believing in effort.
2. Students can learn to operate from a belief that effort pays off even if they do not initially have this belief.
3. Rewards do not necessarily have a negative effect on intrinsic motivation.
4. Reward is most effective when it is contingent on the attainment of some standard of performance.
5. Abstract symbolic recognition (praise) is more effective than tangible rewards (candy, money).

#### Example Activities

- Class Website with student work
- Electronic Portfolios

#### Recommendations & Ideas

1. Personalize recognition
2. Use the "Praise, Prompt, and Praise" strategy
3. Use concrete symbols of recognition
4. Explicitly teach students about the importance of effort
5. Ask students to keep track of their effort in relationship to achievement

