Acknowledgement System Types

This document provides an overview of the Acknowledgement System as a part of School-wide PBIS.

Acknowledgement System

Strong acknowledgement systems typically have three types:

1. Immediate, high-frequency acknowledgements,
2. Intermittent, unexpected, unpredictable acknowledgements
3. Long-term celebrations

Once a student has been given an acknowledgment, it cannot be taken away from the student. All students have access to school-wide rewards and recognition, including student who display high amounts of problem behaviors.

Immediate/High Frequency Acknowledgments:

These acknowledgements are delivered at a high rate for a shorter period of time while teaching new behavior. When using immediate, high-frequency acknowledgments, adults should name the behavior and tie it back to the school-wide expectation ensuring that the acknowledgement is specific and contingent. An example is, "Kaylee, you are walking in line quietly and keeping your hands and feet to yourself. Excellent job of being respectful in the hallway. Here is Tiger Ticket for you, thank you!"

Intermittent Acknowledgements

Intermittent acknowledgements bring surprise attention to certain behaviors or are delivered at scheduled intervals. These are used to maintain behaviors previously taught. Examples include: raffles, special privileges, principal random calls home, and postcards from teachers.

Long-Term Celebrations

These acknowledgements are designed to celebrate specific accomplishments. There are two types of long-term celebrations. Schools can have special events or parties for those who demonstrated a school appropriate behavior (e.g., students with less than 2 referrals in a semester). Schools can also have special events or parties for **ALL** students and adults to celebrate the school's success with behavior (e.g. average referrals per day per month is below the national median for the most recent month). Example long-term celebrations include ice cream socials, movie day, or school-wide dances.

Table 1. Example of a school's Acknowledgement System that includes the three types of acknowledgements

Type of Acknowledgement	What & When
Immediate/High Frequency	The following acknowledgements should be used by teachers and other staff as needed: thumbs up, smiles, high fives, and PRIDE tickets. PRIDE Tickets • Each staff member is given PRIDE tickets in their mailbox each Monday morning – office staff will provide these • Staff should give out 20 PRIDE tickets weekly • Ticket giving is paired with behavior specific praise • Students put their name on the PRIDE tickets and place them in the appropriate grade PRIDE jar in the office during non-instructional time • Students are always eligible to receive a PRIDE ticket • Drawing of 5 tickets from each grade level jar weekly on Friday afternoons

Intermittent/ Unexpected	PRIDE Drawing
	
	• At the end of each semester, there will be a PRIDE drawing where students who earned a PRIDE ticket during the semester have a chance to win a selection from the PRIDE Prize Board. There will be one winner per grade level.
	• PRIDE Prize Board options include:
	  o Fast pass to lunch (skip to the front of the line)
	  o Homework pass
	  o Pizza lunch with two friends
	• The PRIDE jars will be emptied at the end of each semester

Long-Term Celebrations	When every grade level's PRIDE jar is filled during a grading term one of the following celebrations are selected (all students contribute to the grade level jars and so all students are part of the celebration). Ideas for school-wide long-term celebrations: • School-wide movie • Popcorn party • Free activity hour • Pancake breakfast • Hall party with food • Extended lunch time • Obstacle Course

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