



An Open Response to the World and Domestic Leaders Letter

Premise – Change the climate to create safety and support and you will change the culture.
The following are actionable steps with a short synopsis.

1. **Circle of Influence** – Dealing with the whole child in four (4) segments and planning a strategy of support by involving friends, family, teachers and educators will insure each group plays a part in the young person's growth.
2. **Voice of Reason** – Insuring each young person has a voice in their community, family and school.
3. **Youth Focus Group** – Each person or organization who works directly with youth needs to hear from the source, which is other youth. It keeps parents and educators current and relevant with at-risk issues so we can become pro-active.
4. **26 Days of Acts of Kindness** – A commitment to do simple acts of kindness in school, for family and community. These acts are then posted on facebook/twitter, etc. but not for recognition but to inspire others to continue to pay it forward.
5. **Peer-to-Peer** – The most effective presenters are fellow students who have experienced tragedy and can address the problems from a position of experience.
6. **Lunchroom Activities** – The loneliest time of the day for students with low self-esteem is the lunchroom. They stick out and are often thought to be losers. Having interactive activities, such as videos, discussion groups, board games, etc., will help them get through a difficult time of the day.
7. **Signage** – Everyone needs a point of pride. I have asked schools and communities to have a prominent sign reflecting their mission that every young person should feel safe, valued and loved.
8. **Refrigerator Magnet** – The greatest complaint of parents and educators is “I don't know where to go for help.” A magnet giving names, phone numbers and specialty areas will always provide help in a crisis.
9. I offer to young people “Inspirational” posters and a printed bracelet “Happy people live outside themselves” as a daily reminder that their voice counts.