

Goals for School Psychologists

(as articulated by Dr. Ross Greene at NASP's 2014 Annual Conference)

As a school psychologist, I will ensure that...

- If a student's voice is not being heard, it will be.
- If a parent's voice is not being heard, it will be.
- If a teacher's voice is not being heard, it will be.
- Every adult in my school(s) are aware that lagging skills are a primary contributor to challenging behavior in students.
- The politics and hierarchy of my school(s) don't interfere with people doing the right thing for students and staff (without getting fired).
- People are aware that, when it comes to school discipline, "the way we've always done things" isn't working for the students we've always done it to.
- People stay focused on the things we can do something about (lagging skills and unsolved problems) rather than the things about which we can do nothing.
- People stay focused on solving problems so as not to become overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the task at hand (lots of students who have lots of needs).
- At the very least, we abide by the Hippocratic oath ("Do no harm").
- People stop blaming parents for students' challenging behavior.
- People stay focused on what challenging behavior is *communicating* rather than on how it's *working*.
- Intervention is designed to be *proactive* rather than *emergent* (because unsolved problems are highly *predictable*).
- Problems are solved *collaboratively* rather than *unilaterally*.
- People don't view the school psychologist (or assistant principal) as the problem solving go-to guy, but rather as the problem solving facilitator.
- In the stressful, hectic, pressurized atmosphere of many schools, we don't lose track of our humanity.



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