

Evaluating and Strengthening Your Acknowledgement System

- Evaluate your acknowledgement systems using the Acknowledgement System Criteria Form.
- Identify areas with potential for enhancement.
- After your school-wide acknowledgement system has been implemented, you will want to return to this activity and evaluate it to determine whether your reward system has met all of the criteria below.

Acknowledgement System Criteria Form

The School-wide Acknowledgement System is/has:

- Clearly defined criteria for earning acknowledgement
- Portable for use in multiple settings
- Flexible enough to meet the needs of diverse students
- Contingent access to acknowledgement
- Supportive of and aligned with the data collection system
- Hierarchical: Small increments of success are recognized with small acknowledgement
- Opportunities for naturally occurring reinforcement in multiple settings are promoted
- Simple to use

The School-wide Acknowledgement Materials & Procedures are:

- In ample supply
- Counterfeit protected
- Varied to maintain student interest
- Supportive of behavioral and academic success
- Meaningful back-up acknowledgement & reinforcers
- Age-appropriate

What the tickets earn

High Five Activities: These are opportunities for students to spend their High Five tickets. Students carry them like money and can use them for:

Open gym – once a quarter, homerooms are selected at random over a two-week period, and anyone with enough tickets can go to the gym for 25 minutes.

Raffles – items are purchased, numbered, and set aside in the student store area. Favorite items included sports hats, posters, small radios, and food.

Bingo – bingo games are organized during homeroom, and students can participate if they have enough tickets.

Student store items – store is open during lunchtime and includes school supplies, t-shirts, small games, books, sports items, and other assorted prizes.

Popcorn and snow cones – every Friday during lunch, students may purchase these treats with their tickets.

Licorice – every teacher at the school keeps a tub of red licorice in their classroom, from which students may purchase pieces of licorice at times designed by the individual teacher.

High Five Buttons – Students use their High Five tickets to purchase numbered school buttons. Periodically, several numbers are called over the intercom and if a student has a button with that number on it, he/she reports to the office for an ice-cream sandwich.

Additional Acknowledgement Activities

High Five Surprises - To keep things exciting, the school holds High Five Surprises once a quarter to address areas in which the data indicate room for improvement.

Gold Card – Each child receives a Gold Card at the beginning of each quarter. The card entitles you to privileges such as free popcorn, a two-minute early out to lunch, in hall without a pass, early out to bus, entry into Gold Card night, and others. Students lose cards if they receive a detention, referral, bus citation, or if they are seen abusing any privilege associated with the card.

Acknowledgement System Ideas

- Start brainstorming ideas for strengthening your school's formal acknowledgement system below.
- Use the Acknowledgement System Criteria Form for reference.

Remember: Keep it Positive, Planful & Proactive
Keep Economy Moving
Monitor and Modify
Have Fun!