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Acknowledge

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Roger Ramseyer is a bright, thoughtful, and insightful educator. He is an outstanding individual.

I have known Roger Ramseyer for over 40 years. In 1979, when he came to Holmes County as the high school principal, I was working as a school administrator, and we became great friends. His ability to achieve great results and yet seemingly balance his life was a model for me.

Roger and I continued to be close associates as he became superintendent of Green Local Schools. Later, when I became the executive director of the Buckeye

Association of School Administrators, we continued to work together at The College of Wooster, where he was a professor.

He is an extremely capable man of high integrity. His leadership and management skills are exemplary. You will enjoy his book, *The ABCs of Living Happy*, as a guide for all of us to balance our lives with living to work or working to live.

Roger Ramseyer receives my highest regards as an educator and as an individual.

Richard Maxwell

Executive Director of the Buckeye
Association of School Administrators
of Ohio



PRESSING ON — DETERMINATION

PRESS ON

NOTHING IN THE WORLD CAN TAKE THE PLACE OF PERSISTENCE. TALENT WILL NOT; NOTHING IS MORE COMMON THAN UNSUCCESSFUL MEN WITH TALENT. GENIUS WILL NOT; UNREWARDED GENIUS IS ALMOST A PROVERB. EDUCATION ALONE WILL NOT; THE WORLD IS FULL OF EDUCATED DERELICTS. PERSISTENCE AND DETERMINATION ALONE ARE OMNIPOTENT.

AUTHOR: UNKNOWN

My father taught me the value of hard work. Growing up on a farm, we were expected to be up by 4:30 A.M. and in the barn by 5:00. There were cows to be milked, chickens to be fed, hogs to be slopped, plus much more. At 7:30 it was time to get back to the house for breakfast and get ready for school. Working hard on the farm was not always appreciated, but it certainly taught all family members how to work.

There are many talented people in this world. There are not enough who are really willing to work. Far too many are on the relief rolls who could and should be working.

Do your share to make this a better world. The joy of a job well done is hard to beat. Please give it a try!



EFFECTIVE DISCIPLINE

Prohibitions against bad behavior rarely motivate us to do good.

Some even stir up desires to disobey. Tell Johnny to stay away from the cookie jar and soon you'll hear the lid opening. The strongest motivations of good behavior are those in which we have a personal investment.

“A school janitor posted a sign in the front schoolyard that read, ‘Please keep off the grass.’ But the children continued to run and play in the grass and tromp on the turf.

Then a fourth grade teacher had a neat idea. She decided to have each child in her class plant a crocus bulb in the fall along the edge of the sidewalk. As winter drew to a close, the students eagerly watched for the first signs of spring. Soon the bulbs turned into blooming flowers. What a power those bulbs had to keep dozens of little feet on the right path and off the grass (taken from Dennis DeHaan, *Our Daily Bread*, 1956)."

As teachers, parents, and administrators, we all need to be positive motivators for our children. We need to continually look for positive motivators for our students. It's not easy, but certainly it is a joy when we open the door to successful motivation. Good luck!



FAILURE

How do you react when *you* fail? Maybe you made a nasty comment, or you completed a project, and it didn't go as planned, or a relationship (friendship or marriage) fell apart. How do you handle the next opportunity to make improvements on your past negative record? What do you do?

A kindergarten student failed to color his paper completely and neatly, as per usual. He took the paper home and his mom spoke to him about how important it was to do his homework well. Then,

expecting a promise of better things to come, she asked her son, “So what are you going to do about it tomorrow?” He replied, “I’m going to stay home. I’m not going to school!” In other words, rather than facing the problem, he wanted to avoid it!

Now is the time for mom and teacher to step up to the plate. This student needs to be encouraged. It is time to look for the positive in the student’s work. You still need to correct and suggest positive improvements but, more importantly, look for something he has done well to reinforce. Now is the time for the adult to really be a teacher. Sometimes, encouragement can be the most important job of the teacher. “When I have failed, I need you to teach this lesson clear: If I but learn and try again, success is always near” (taken from James Branson).