Let's Improve School Behavior

Why is student misbehavior such a problem? We must understand the root causes before trying to solve it.

Needs drive feelings, which drive behavior. Always.

Authoritarianism does not meet needs, so it promotes misbehavior. What is their school behavior telling us they need?

Defiance (need for power)

"Laziness" (need for encouragement)

Disrespect (need for respect)

Violence (need for acceptance)

Here's how to start making changes TOGETHER:

Shift Your Mindset
- With each other- get on the same team
- With children- get curious about their unmet needs.

Shift Your Words
- Reframe bad behavior as unmet needs: "Lucas's laziness tells me he is feeling discouraged and disconnected."

Take Action (homework below)!

HOMEWORK!

TEACHERS: You are probably burnt out and ignored by school officials. The only thing you may be able to do is start shifting your mindset for now. Thinking about your parents- who could you team up with? Think about your students- what is their misbehavior telling you they need?

PARENTS: Admin listens to you! How can you promote change? Through PTA, a coalition of parents, meetings with admin, speaking up or contacting school board members? How can you get on the same team as the teachers to help promote better behavior at school?