

To My Educator Colleagues

Schools exist so that young people have resources and support to learn. Educators do more than they are asked; whatever they believe is needed to help young people learn, but *many young people aren't experiencing adequate success in school.*

65% of 4th graders scored below proficient on the 2019 NAEP
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/pdf/coe_cnb.pdf

25% to 30% of students are bullied in school, some with effects lasting into adulthood, some with effects that cause youth suicide.¹

Identifiable groups of young people are succeeding less than others:

Only 48% White, 22% Hispanic, 14% Native American, & 11% Black test takers are successful on the ACT. <https://educationdata.org/k12-enrollment-statistics/>

Young people of color in schools that serve low-income communities are punished more,² and achieve less,³ than peers in schools serving more affluent communities.

Students are blamed for not trying hard enough, parents, teachers, and principals for not being good enough.

This blaming is wrong. It doesn't solve the problem, but so many children not learning to read well, and being bullied and punished in school suggests a need for modification of schooling methods, until every student succeeds.

Two options provided here, enable us to focus upon and benefit from vast capabilities that children and teachers bring to school.

- a. The *Independent Reading Level Improvement Process* enables below grade level readers to complete Third Grade, ready to read 4th Grade textbooks, narrowing the Achievement Gap.
- b. The *Consensus Students' Personal Goals Process* enables students to take responsibility for, and control of their academic and personal progress, diminishing underachievement, bullying, and the School To Prison Pipeline.

The results you'll achieve utilizing these options can't be accurately predicted, but my experience compels sharing them with you:

- (a.) Average 3rd Grader growth in independent reading level -- 2 years in six months.
- (b.) K-5 student body improves achievement generally, while nearly ending bullying, punishment, and office referrals for counseling.

¹ "Facts About Bullying," <https://www.stopbullying.gov/resources/facts>

² "How Black Girls Get Pushed Out of School," <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/04/us/politics/black-girls-school-racism.html>

³ "Have We Made Progress on Achievement Gaps?" <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brown-center-chalkboard/2018/04/17/have-we-made-progress-on-achievement-gaps-looking-at-evidence-from-the-new-naep-results/>