Praise Notes: An Effective Part of School-wide Positive Behavior Support?

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Correlation Between Office Discipline Referrals (ODR) and Teacher Written Praise to Students With One ODR

Praise Notes

- We are attempting to meet a middle school to implement and encourage school-wide praise within a positive school climate.
- At the end of the 05-06 school year, we observed the school had a dramatic increase in written praise notes during the last two months of school. This data has drafted the praise notes written during the last eight months.
- ODR
  - School ODR were also on to see if there is a corresponding decrease in ODR whose notes increased.
  - Monthly ODR peaks for the first six months were also on to see if ODR was lower than the peaks.
  - During the last two months, April and May, ODR decreased as the number of praise notes increased.

There were no statistically significant correlations between ODR and total praise notes written.

Praise and Students with ODR

- There were no statistically significant correlations between ODR and total praise notes written.
- Further examination of the praise note data revealed that students with ODR received lower praise notes than the rest of the student body.

Correlation Between Praise Notes and ODR

- For this analysis, we used ODR from 04-05 as baseline data, then we calculated the differences between ODR each month to account for naturally occurring variation due to school events and time lapse.
- A correlation of .22 was found between teacher written praise given to students with at least one ODR and the difference between the two years of ODR (per day per 100 students, p < .05, r = .15).
- While these findings are retrospective, they seem to support the notion that written praise can influence students’ behavior and lower OGR.

REFERENCES


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