

A Positive Attitude Goes a Long Way: Attitude Does Make a Difference

- ✓ Attitude drives (fuels) your actions:
- ✓ If you think you can, you probably will.
- ✓ If you don't think you can, you most likely won't.
- ✓ Don't criticize, condemn, or complain: It's a waste of time.
- ✓ Be grateful and offer honest, sincere appreciation.
- ✓ Become genuinely interested in other people – don't just “flit” and do what's politically/socially to your advantage.
- ✓ Be a good listener and don't interrupt. Encourage others to talk about themselves.
- ✓ Listen first, in terms of the other person's interests.
- ✓ Make others feel important and do it sincerely – not for ulterior motives.
- ✓ Don't argue – the only way to get the best of an argument is to avoid it. Instead – look for solutions.
- ✓ Focus on behavior and facts; not personalities, personal preferences, and being right.
- ✓ Don't assume! – Check the facts – do your homework, invest the time.
- ✓ Be careful what you say and how you say it. Once it's said – you can't take it back and people won't forget.
- ✓ Show respect for others opinions – and if you are willing, admit it quickly and emphatically.
- ✓ Start out friendly – adult to adult. Don't be a parent or a child.
- ✓ Help people to feel they can contribute to the ideas by letting them do so.
- ✓ Appeal to nobler motives – it's not about **you** – it's about the students!
- ✓ Throw down a challenge and be willing to help be part of the solution as appropriate.
- ✓ Realize – that you too – make mistakes.
- ✓ Praise the slightest improvement – For others, it may be a big LEAP.
- ✓ Use encouragement and make the fault seem easy to correct.
- ✓ Don't worry – Instead, get all the facts and then decide if you need to do something or if it's someone else's responsibility.
- ✓ Be hopeful and courageous about the future.
- ✓ Never try to get even with your enemies – in fact – ask yourself why you perceive someone as an enemy.
- ✓ Count your blessings – not your troubles.
- ✓ Expect ingratitude – People don't tend to make time for others – some even need to go to charm school (personal opinion, of course!)
- ✓ View change and challenges as opportunities to open doors – to grow, to do better.