



Dear Friends,

After being sick for a couple of weeks, I wonder how you all are doing. It might be a time to take a little breather if you've been pushing hard on your education. Knowing when to push harder and when to relax is a skill to develop when being a manager of humans. You will want to keep the tension perfect in order to get the most out of your little ones without being overbearing and too pushy, while at the same time not being so lax that your discipline falls apart.

Being a teacher is not an easy task, and being tuned into your students will help you to understand what their difficulties are and to be better able to help them.

Sincerely,  
Bob and Gail

You can find past copies of the newsletter [here](#).

We also have a [page](#) with links to articles that we find interesting.

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### News & Events

Conventions this year include:  
**LEAH:** March 17th,  
Long Island, NY

**Midwest Home-school Convention:**  
Cincinnati, Ohio;  
April 4-6

CHAP: Harrisburg, PA; May 10-11

If you would like to get together with a group of parents to look at and touch Applied Grammar, give me a call and we will set up a time to send you the materials to look at and do a Skype question and answer time.

## Featured Article

### Staying Respectful of Your Student



I know most of you are the parents of your students, but this also applies to you.

As a motivator and coach of little ones for many years, one of the things that I know will backfire every time is being disrespectful. When a child feels disrespected, their motivation to succeed automatically decreases and you will find that obstinance takes its place.

I have been an observer of parents denigrating and speaking poorly of their child in the presence of their child. It almost sounds as though they are bragging about how bad their child is. This is disrespectful, embarrassing, and the child may believe that it will bring both of you attention if they continue being "bad."

Assuming that you KNOW exactly why your child has done something or not done something is lethal territory for motivation. You will not be able to motivate a student by telling him that he is lazy, or dumb, unorganized, not wanting to succeed, etc. Even if you are quite certain you are right, you will get further in motivating your child by saying positive things about what you think of them. For example:

"I know that you really do want to be able to do this, so let's come up with some ideas to help you stay focused."

"I know that you are having trouble keeping your papers straight, and I also know that you are able to do it if you will follow what I have told you to do. Let's come up with some negative and positive consequences to help you to remember to do these things."

"I am sure that if you keep trying, you will be able to understand this eventually. I will not give up trying to explain it to you. Will you try to be patient with yourself and with me while I try to find something that will help you to understand?"

Think about how you would want someone else to speak to your child and compare that with how you speak to your child. Are you living up to your own expectations?

Consider how you are speaking to your child and what messages you are sending to them about how you view them. Whatever you say they are is what they will think of themselves. Such is the power of a parent, and that viewpoint will stay with them for a lifetime; either bringing blessings or challenges.