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Institute Gets to Core of Student Behavior, School Expectations

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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Selected News Releases

Institute Gets to Core of Student Behavior, School Expectations

ORONO, Maine -- Discipline plans, community consensus and strategies for preventing and dealing with student behaviors that strain the capabilities and resources of school and teachers will be examined during a July 12-16 institute at the University of Maine. Sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development in response to increasing concern over school safety and its impact on teaching and learning, the Challenging Behaviors Institute will highlight the importance of common, consistent behavioral expectations in the community, school and classroom.

The institute is designed to enable teams of teachers, administrators and other public school personnel and community members to scrutinize their current practices and plan collaborative change. Individual participants may also enroll.

Headed by faculty members Walter Harris and James Artesani, specialists in student behavior and management, and SAD 63 guidance counselor Elena Kimball, the institute focus will be on: safe school -- preventative strategies and responding to violence; schoolwide discipline plans -- development, implementation and evaluation; classroom management -- behavior identification and intervention techniques; and teaching social skills and self-control.

The conference will also feature a session on preventing and dealing with bullying and harassment, presented by behavior management consultant, guidance counselor and health educator Stan Davis of Wayne.

"Community values shape expectations for school behavior and must be clear before effective policy and procedures can be developed," says Artesani. "The key is consistency between schoolwide, classroom and individual expectations and rules that all students and educators understand and that the community supports."

More information about the institute and registration are available from the College of Education and Human Development, (207) 581-2433.

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