

# Acknowledgment Systems

The purpose of implementing a school-wide acknowledgement system is to:

- 🌟 Reinforce teaching
- 🌟 Encourage positive behaviors
- 🌟 Harness the influence of the students demonstrating the expected behaviors
- 🌟 Prompt adults to recognize expected behavior
- 🌟 Encourage the likelihood the positive behavior will become the norm

Acknowledgment systems also:

- 🌟 Promote a safe and welcoming climate
- 🌟 Reinforce school-wide expectations and rules
- 🌟 Increase positive staff/student interactions
- 🌟 Prompt adults to acknowledge appropriate behaviors
- 🌟 Foster intrinsic motivation by autonomy, mastery and purpose
- 🌟 Have vicarious effects with benefits that may be long lasting
- 🌟 Increase on task behavior



## SWPBIS Tiered Fidelity Inventory

Algozzine, B., Barrett, S., Eber, L., George, H., Horner, R., Lewis, T., Putnam, B., Swain-Bradway, J., McIntosh, K., & Sugai, G (2014). *School-wide PBIS Tiered Fidelity Inventory*. OSEP Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. [www.pbis.org](http://www.pbis.org).

### 1.9 Feedback and Acknowledgement:

A formal system (i.e., written set of procedures for specific behavior feedback that is [a] linked to school-wide expectations and [b] used across settings and within classrooms) is in place and used by at least 90% of a sample of staff and received by at least 50% of a sample of students.

- Δ Are students and staff interviewed at least once per year to see if they are receiving and distributing acknowledgements?
- Δ Are those acknowledgements linked to school-wide expectations?
- Δ Are they distributed across school settings?
- Δ Do at least 80% of students interviewed report receiving them?

*Students will sustain positive behavior only if there are regular strategies for continuous re-teaching and rewarding appropriate behavior. Formal systems are easier for teachers/staff to implement.*