



Performance Learning Day – Lite

Angry Parent Simulation (approx. 12 minutes during 25-minute block)

Principal (Intern) Info: An actor will play the role of an angry parent who comes to the principal to discuss and ultimately appeal her son's 3-day suspension made earlier by the assistant principal. One source of information about this matter is available to you – the Suspension Form, of which you have a copy.

Angry Parent Actor: The new principal (Intern) will be in possession of a copy of the suspension form, noting the details of an incident. The copy of this form was given to you and your son on Tuesday afternoon when the out-of-school suspension was made for the next three (3) school days (Wed., Thurs., and Fri.). The principal (Intern) has been told that this conference is at the request of the mother who wants to discuss the incident and who wants to appeal to the principal to change the out-of-school suspension because her son is a star basketball player who would otherwise be playing in Friday night's game, which is the 2nd round of playoffs for Cherry Lane Middle School's boys' team.

Points to be made/argued by the actor:

- 1. The teacher really provoked my son to say what he said. If she hadn't been so sarcastic and condescending to him, telling him that he was "stupid," and therefore embarrassing him in front of his peers, he would have never used the words "Fuck you, Bitch" to her!*
- 2. Using curse words is sometimes the only way a person can be heard and taken seriously.*
- 3. I don't agree with out-of-school suspension and students receiving zeros for all assignments while out. Besides, they get into more trouble when they can walk the streets and be unsupervised. I have to work! I cannot take days off to be with him at home.*
- 4. What are you going to do about the teacher? Why is she allowed to call him "stupid" just because he couldn't explain how he got his answer on his math homework? Are you going to suspend the teacher? Why hasn't she already been suspended since she caused this problem in the first place?*

5. My son deserves to play basketball on Friday night – that’s an important game!!! I want this suspension lifted since the teacher is not being punished! That’s what’s fair here. I will require my son to apologize to the teacher for his name-calling, but I expect her to apologize to him, too.

6. If you don’t lift the suspension and let him play basketball on Friday night, I am going to the Superintendent, and I will start calling Board of Education members!

The Angry Parent Actor is encouraged to improvise within the spirit of the simulation, escalating responses when poor leadership moves are made and de-escalating when more appropriate leadership moves are employed.