

**Subject:** 9 Weekly Meeting - Challenge Met  
**Date:** 2/21/2008 2:06:52 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** [rlord@hawthorne.k12.ca.us](mailto:rlord@hawthorne.k12.ca.us)  
**To:** [larryibell@aol.com](mailto:larryibell@aol.com)

*Sent from the Internet ([Details](#))*

Dear Mr. Bell,

Let me start by saying that attending your Closing the Achievement Gaps Seminar in December has had a profound impact on my colleagues, and myself, who attended the seminar. Since then we have also been honored with your visit to our campus to speak with the entire staff at Bud Carson Middle School in Hawthorne, CA. The impact of your words, inspiration and programs will certainly pay dividends with the students we teach and their performance on the upcoming state tests.

Since attending your seminar in December we created the "Larry Bell Team" on our campus. This team consists of the teachers and administrators who attended your seminar. The sole purpose of this team is to get all teachers school wide excited about the UNRAAVEL strategies (both math and reading) and to get the word out about the 12 powerful words.

At the Seminar you challenged us to meet for 9 straight weeks and to implement your strategies. We have met your challenge and have met as a group every week (9 straight weeks) and have implemented many of the strategies you discussed. In just 9 short weeks we have:

1. Set aside 6 minutes at the beginning of every class period school wide for the teaching and practice of the UNRAAVEL strategies.
2. Have UNRAAVEL and 12 powerful word posters hung in every classroom on campus (as well as other high traffic areas.)
3. All teachers are using the 7-3-1 methods and are taking "ownership" of it.
4. Started a "Power Word Card Raffle" school wide.
5. Most of the teachers have cards taped to their desks which display "Power Names" and ways to brag on their students.
6. All the department leaders are incrementally increasing the length of classroom tests.
7. All the department leaders are working with their departments to re-write the chapter tests to include the "Power Words."
8. The Team is in the process of building in a "Test Simulation Day" into the schedule to be implemented next year.

We, on the Larry Bell Leadership Team at Bud Carson Middle School, have taken a leading role in introducing your strategies, excitement and enthusiasm

to our fellow colleagues. We, along with your visit to our campus, have certainly created a positive learning environment for the students we teach. I would venture to say that at Bud Carson Middle School nearly 100% of the teachers, administrators, and staff are practicing your strategies on a daily basis. There is little doubt that our "Wonderful Ones" will continue to grow academically, and as young men and women, as we teachers continue to foster a positive learning environment by having high expectations, giving them the tools to succeed and doing so by providing a loving and caring school climate.

Thank you for your strategies and enthusiastic and energizing way you deliver your message. It is impossible not to be inspired to action. You and your message have, without a doubt made a significant, immediate and long lasting impact on the students and staff at Bud Carson Middle School in Hawthorne, California. As we approach the state testing, the members of the "Larry Bell Team" have little doubt that the students will rise to meet our expectations and achieve the level of success that we know that they are capable of. While the students may not be looking forward to the testing, they are not longer afraid or intimidated and have all the skills necessary to make themselves and us teachers proud.

Sincerely,

Royal Lord  
Resource Specialist  
Secretary of the "Larry Bell Team"  
Bud Carson Middle School  
Hawthorne, California