



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Department of Educational Psychology

(602) 621-7825

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Michael D. King, Principal
Hubbard Elementary School
1104 Maguire Rd.
Box 677
Noble, OK 73068

Dear Michael:

Please forgive this late reply to your letter. As you know, I am on sabbatical this year and have no access to secretarial help or support. Basically, I am hiding to continue my own research.

I am, however, moved to write and commend you and your staff for what appears to be an absolutely first rate job of reform in education. The goals of the CAMS Program are very, very sensible. The management system you have instituted appears to be first rate. I hope you can convince your legislature and State Department of Education for support of this project. It is my belief that if it were carefully evaluated it would show it's advantages both for the teaching staff and with regard to student achievement and attitude. In that way, there would be hard evidence for it's effectiveness and that would provide the basis for dissemination.

I do not think the federal government is very interested in demonstration projects. I do not know what sources of funding could be obtained through them. However, I would urge that you correspond with the Bureau of the Handicapped, because it is possible that your system would do a better job than most in helping mainstreamed and learning disabled students achieve in schools. Because of that you may be able to find some support there. The National Institute of Education, I am afraid, does not have much to offer you. You might also consider, after some evaluative work, having your program be placed in the National Diffusion Network, NDN, a government sponsored dissemination effort to make available to other districts and schools a catalog of programs that seem to work.

I think your greatest source of support will be your own state. Each state usually has some set aside funds for innovative projects. It comes in the form of block grants to the State Department of Education. I would think your project would be eminently qualified for support under that program.

