What Great Teachers Do Differently
Seventeen Things That Matter Most
Second Edition

Todd Whitaker
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Harrison. They are the parents of Katherine, Madeline, and Todd is married to Beth, also a former teacher and principal.

Difficult Parents

Simple Secrets: Motivating & Inspiring Teachers, and Dealing with
Ways to Improve Student Behavior. Teaching Matters: The Ball, 7
When Great Principals Do Differently. Other titles include 50
was with
Teacher Leadership and Principal Effectiveness. Todd has writ-

One of the nation's leading authorities on staff motivation,

and technology for the opening of new middle schools.

middle school coordinator in charge of sharing curriculum,

in middle school, junior high, and high school levels. He was also

Ferry in his career. Todd taught mathematics and coached

Effective teachers and principals.

has pursued his love of education by researching and studying

was named as a leading presenter in the field of education.

Dr. Todd Whicker has been fortunate to be able to blend his

In this world how laugh at more than I ever dreamt possible.

This book is dedicated to my favorite teachers, those who have

Dedication

About the Author
Great teachers create a positive atmosphere in their classrooms and schools. They treat every person with respect, including their peers and staff. They believe that students are capable of learning and are willing to help them succeed. They maintain a positive attitude and encourage students to do the same. They provide a safe and supportive environment for all students.

1. Great teachers do not tolerate bullying or harassment in their classrooms.
2. Great teachers establish clear expectations early in the year and consistently review them throughout the school year.
3. Great teachers lead by example and model the behaviors they expect from their students.
4. Great teachers encourage students to take ownership of their learning and to set personal goals.
5. Great teachers have high expectations for all students, but they also recognize the unique needs and abilities of each student.
6. Great teachers know when they are valuable to the learning process and when they are not.
7. Great teachers focus on students' strengths, first, with a broad view.
8. Great teachers create a positive atmosphere in their classrooms and schools.
9. Great teachers never forget that it is people, not pro-

That Matter Most

The Seventeen Things