# Ohio Local Preschool Acknowledgment System

Acknowledgment System Evidence suggests that students learn to exhibit expected behaviors at higher rates if all of the adults they encounter consistently provide high rates of recognition for expected behavior. (5 = positive to 1 = negative).

The Ohio Local Preschool targets behaviors that promote being respectful, responsible and safe. The expected behaviors are taught explicitly, in addition to other age-appropriate social skills and strategies to manage their emotions. When students exhibit expected behaviors throughout the school setting, staff acknowledge the behavior, therefore reinforcing the child’s positive behavior.

Staff use specific language when acknowledging behavior. For example, “You are being safe by using walking feet in the hallway.” By using the expectation, rule and location, students better understand what they are being acknowledged for and are more likely to repeat the behavior. In addition to the specific language, individual students are given a “Promise Puff” (pom pom) to put into the classroom jar.

When the class collection jar is full, this is when the entire class earns a celebration. Students and the teacher agree upon a celebration to acknowledge the behavior of the entire class.

Some reward ideas for classrooms include:

* Hat day
* Stuffed animal day
* Mismatched socks
* Bubble Party
* Popcorn
* Shaving cream Activity
* Outdoor snack
* Dance party
* Superhero day
* Picnic
* PJ day
* Crazy hair day

When every classroom has been recorded to have earned a celebration, the entire school will receive a special recognition as a community. Families will be invited to join the school wide celebration of positive behaviors.

The acknowledgment system is shared with families yearly in the handbook.