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New book shows how to combine joy, standards in classrooms

BLOOMINGTON, IN — Can children achieve high standards in classrooms where every minute of instructional time is not prescribed and textbook-driven? The resounding answer in this book by Sarah M. Butzin, Ph.D., is yes.

Joyful Classrooms in an Age of Accountability: The Project CHILD Recipe for Success challenges those involved in the system to chart a new course in elementary education. Butzin provides readers with an inside look at Project CHILD (Changing How Instruction for Learning is Delivered), the innovative approach that is delivering results in classrooms across the nation. Project CHILD students' test scores are significantly higher than their peers, and CHILD students have far fewer discipline problems and lower absenteeism.

Butzin builds a strong case for an elementary school structure in the 21st century that is different from the traditional model. She lays down the foundation of her new approach, which she calls “triangulated learning.” She also offers insights into the seven core principles of the CHILD approach, which she encourages the reader to adopt or adapt as appropriate.

This book, published by Phi Delta Kappa International, includes case studies from participating schools and standardized testing data. It takes the reader inside real

classrooms to hear the voices of the children, teachers, and parents experiencing a new way of teaching and learning.

Butzin has been an educator for more than 35 years. She has been a classroom teacher, a university scholar, and a program developer. She currently serves as president and executive director of the Institute for School Innovation, a private non-profit organization in Tallahassee, Florida. She holds a doctorate in elementary education and a master's degree in reading, both from the Florida State University, and a bachelor's degree in economics from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. Butzin has published numerous articles on educational innovations and is a frequent presenter at educational conferences.

Phi Delta Kappa, a leading professional association of educators headquartered in Bloomington, Ind., is dedicated to promoting high-quality schooling through its mission of leadership, research, and service in education.

Joyful Classrooms in an Age of Accountability is \$23.95 (\$21.95 for PDK members). It can be purchased through the PDK online bookstore at www.pdkintl.org or by calling 800-766-1156.

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Editors: You can reach author Sarah Butzin at 850-671-3706. If a review copy of *Joyful Classrooms in an Age of Accountability* was not included with this press release, you can request one by calling Phi Delta Kappa at 800-766-1156 ext. 2500.