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**"The Education Problem-
Solvers"**

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Let's put some SENSE in the schools!

Last month, we raised the question, "do educators really understand the problem?"

In the news this week, a six year old boy was so excited with his new Cub Scout membership, that he took part of his mess kit to school. The tool he took to school was a combination fork/spoon/knife.

You know the rest of the story. The school over-reacted, suspended the child for 45 days, and now want to send him to a reform school.

Come on! This is a six year old who apparently made a mistake. I can almost see a happy little boy bounding up the steps to school anxious to show his pals his neat, new gadget.

What a let down that must be for the child-criminal. He committed this horrible sin and may go off to reform

school hell. Come on Mr. Schoolmaster! Do you really think you solved a problem? Do you realize what you've done to this child?

We have all read or heard about other school horror stories. Like the little girl NABBED with 2 aspirin in her pocket. And then treated like a drug user.

How about the girl that was suspended from school for singing a Christmas carol that included the word "God" in the lyrics?

I just don't get it. Doesn't "educator" imply that these people have some education and maybe a small nibble of common sense to go with it?

So, what's my point? In spite of the bad publicity, silly actions, disagreements between parents and school staff, and other challenges, we

believe parents and schools are pulling the cart in the same direction. You're right, it doesn't always come off that way. Let's assume the schools want every child to succeed academically and in their personal lives and careers.

We suggest everyone should take a deep breath ... and RELAX. Yes, everyone relax, from teachers to superintendents, school boards, and PARENTS.

All of us need to think about the reason we're here. It's all about the children! We must aim for more and better for every child, and stop blaming each other for any short falls.

We think everyone involved in the education process should take a course titled, "Common Sense 101". Will it help? I don't know, but it certainly won't hurt.