

Preface

I shall speak forth my sentiments freely and without reserve.

—Patrick Henry, 1775

What exactly do you mean, I have to address the PTA tomorrow night?

—Douglas A. Parker, October 1981

C*onfident Communication: Speaking Tips for Educators* is intended to be a comprehensive public-speaking resource for teachers, principals, and school administrators. As a concise learning tool, it can speak to educators at every level, addressing the critical affective aspects of learning how to speak in public.

My goals for this book and its readers include:

- Designing a resource exclusively for professional educators to use both in and out of the classroom
- Taking a skills-based, humanistic, and (whenever possible) humorous approach to the psychology and strategies that must be in place before a person can develop as a speaker
- Improving educators' confidence by slowly accentuating their essential speaking skills
- Emphasizing the educator's being aware of what is happening during a speech and how to develop hands-on

xii Confident Communication

strategies for taking control of the public-speaking process and its outcome

- Employing unique, hands-on, webbing techniques for creating speeches

My training in developmental counseling and education and my 20 years of experience in educational administration, classroom teaching, and lecturing are the foundation underlying the positive speech conditioning (PSC) program described in this volume. Substantiated by the best current research available on learning styles and hands-on learning techniques, this book will, I hope, help educators overcome their natural fears of speaking in front of a group. You will develop the confidence you need for success by reading this book and applying its various techniques in your own educational settings.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author would like to recognize and thank Dr. John Holloran, Mr. Richard Rees, and Mrs. Patricia Webber for their skills and expertise in helping prepare this book.

Corwin Press would like to acknowledge the contributions of the following reviewers:

Cindy Knowles

[confirmation pending: info TK]

David Sidwell, Professor

Department of Theatre Arts

Utah State University

Logan, UT

Donna Rollins

[confirmation pending: info TK]

John Hranitz, Chairperson, Professor

Department of Early Childhood Education and

Elementary Education

Bloomsburg University

Bloomsburg, PA