

## An Introduction to Precision Teaching

Ray Beck and Denise Conrad

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This fundamental hands-on introduction to Precision Teaching is vital to anyone wishing to learn the basics of teaching and learning with Precision. It demonstrated the critical steps to successfully implementing a measurably superior performance technology in any classroom or organization. Various forms of the Standard Celeration Chart were discussed. Participants developed necessary skills of Charting, drawing and interpreting learning pictures, selecting pinpoints, setting aims, and making Chart-based decisions. Participants were also shown how to construct practice sheets, SAFMEDS, and other curriculum materials, as well as how to manage their classrooms or organizations with Precision. Participants were given a training manual to blend Precision Teaching into their current instructional schedules.

The workshop presenters were thorough in their approach to reaching the "Rookie" Precision Teacher. In William Wolking's Precision Teaching Handbook, he states, "Education needs something". "Precision Teaching offers a substantial promise of providing the basic science principles which can effectively support an applied science of instruction. Precision Teaching is a systematic body of facts derived from an analysis of teaching and learning." In this workshop, Beck and Conrad presented the origins of Precision Teaching beginning with B. F. Skinner, continuing up to Ogden R. Lindsley. These questions were addressed by the presenters: What are the objectives of Precision Teaching? What is the general nature of Precision Teaching? What problems does Precision Teaching avoid or overcome, when compared with much of current, traditional educational practice? Should all teachers use the principles and procedures of Precision Teaching? Are there different laws which govern the behavior of children? How effective is Precision Teaching in producing valued behavior outcomes?

In conclusion, the presenters left those in attendance with two important Precision Teaching thoughts:

- (1) A Precision Teacher is one who cares enough to give his/her very best.
- (2) "The child knows best" - Ogden R. Lindsley

Precision Teaching training workshops can be arranged by contacting:

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Dr. Ray Beck was Director of Special Education, Great Falls Public Schools, Montana, and Project Director of the Precision Teaching Project. Denise Conrad is a trainer from the Great Falls Precision Project, Great Falls, MT.