The pumpkin coach is very nice, fairy Godmother, but we were really hoping for computers.

Monkey See, Monkey Do
After making some poor behavioral choices in the cafeteria, a first grader blamed his actions on a classmate’s influence. His teacher then asked him, “If your friend had asked you to steal bubblegum from a store, would you do it?” After much contemplation, the boy replied, “Can you ask me the question about jumping off of a bridge instead?”

Jon Cohen, Principal
Springville Elementary School
Mount Laurel, New Jersey

Don’t Give In to Temptation
When learning of his disciplinary consequence, the first grader replied: “Mr. Cohen, I have an idea. Instead of the recess detention, how about I give you 10 dollars?” I replied, “While I could really use the money …”

Jon Cohen, Principal
Springville Elementary School
Mount Laurel, New Jersey

A Big Promotion
I walked into a kindergarten classroom one day for a brief visit and to say hello. The group was gathered on the rug listening to a read-aloud by their teacher. An excited student interrupted the reading by pointing his finger in my direction and saying, “Mrs. Gudroe, Mrs. Gudroe,” with a very excited look on his face. Mrs. Gudroe knew of my entrance, quietly put a finger up to her lips, and said, “Shhh, I know. I see Mr. McCluskey. We’ll talk to him after we finish reading our book.”

The student, who was beside himself with astonishment that his teacher didn’t stop immediately to acknowledge my entrance, jumped up (to further make his point) and yelled, “but it’s the president!”

Timothy M. McCluskey, Principal
Dexter Primary & Garland Elementary Schools
Dexter, Maine

Mr. Money Bags
I have been an emergency medical technician (EMT) for several years, and I am often asked to speak with classes about the medical profession, safety, and other related topics. After speaking with a group of students one Friday, I walked beside a youngster and his mother as they left the building at dismissal. As we walked, the child said, “Mom, did you know Mr. Dodge works at a bank on weekends?” Confused, we both asked him to explain. Mixing up the acronyms he said, “Yes, my principal is an ATM.”

Chris Dodge, Principal
Fayston Elementary School
Fayston, Vermont

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We need more stories! We’re looking for humorous anecdotes about school life like the ones you’ve read here. Include your full name, title, and address and send your favorite stories to publications@naesp.org. If any of yours are published, we’ll send you a copy of the magazine and a pencil that says “I’m a funny principal!”

Chris Dodge, Principal
Fayston Elementary School
Fayston, Vermont