



experience due to my age has led principals to include Diana in cases involving my students, without consulting me. I have felt frustrated that not only am I not consulted but that I'm sometimes not trusted to handle the situation effectively due to my age.

DD: I am aware of sometimes being in a rut with my approaches to students and their situations. I greatly appreciate Laura's fresh ideas and different perspectives in dealing with what may seem like mundane cases. Conversely, I can offer Laura a sounding board based on my years of experience and am comfortable in that role. Again, unfortunately, this level of experience sometimes causes the administration and teachers to automatically summon me in difficult cases rather than consulting the other school counselors. Without communication and collaboration between the two of us, this could potentially undermine our working relationship. But we don't allow it.

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LN: Parent contact is another facet of school counseling that requires varied skills. When I first started inter8 (d i)18.8 ( 80 Tc 0 Tw 17.57 0 Td (-)Tj 0.003



## BY AMY DAUBLE

Navigating the generation gap can present challenges. Learning how to respect each other's knowledge base, comfort zones and experience takes work from both sides. Effective collaboration begins with the attempt and willingness to understand each other. One of the most common collaboration challenges we millennials have is that we grew up in world where technology was

I have also learned that finding a balance in each other's energy is important in collaboration. When we're able to respect each other's enthusiasm for different things, we're able to appreciate what we can learn from each other. There have been times when I think I have a new idea about decreasing the amount of student tardies, and then I find out they tried that strategy a few years ago. There's a special energy in the collaboration process of discovering what worked, what didn't and what's worth trying again.

Whether it's navigating the history of an idea or concept or utilizing technology in collecting data, we're all learning from each other. Some veteran school counselors are learning why I cringe at the g-word, and I'm

learning why they cringe at electronic documentation. It creates opportunity for discussion.