Cover photo BIST Conference provided Guest Interviewee Marty Huitt seasoned educator visionary leader dedicated revolutionizing schools support children struggling behavioral academic challenges two decades Marty served Director Behavior Intervention Support Team BIST program Kansas City Missouri shaping landscape educational intervention support 330 schools nine states across country steadfast commitment fostering environments empathy understanding Marty trained 4,000 educators annually coached leaders teacher teams nationwide equipping tools strategies needed empower students teachers parents alike champion BIST Model transformative trauma-informed approach centers nurturing shared belief system among educators one prioritizes compassion consistency care students February Marty published first book `` Cultivating Behavioral Change K-12 Students Team-Based Intervention Support Strategies ” comprehensive text covers timely topics including fostering family partnerships increasing teaching time collaborating students adults create lasting change respected authority field Marty taken stage keynote speaker several national conferences drawing charisma fervent passion BIST Model instill hope resilience educators Reflecting Marty ’ impact one educator shares “ Listening learning Marty changed sense obligation students struggle truly changed life point began see purpose teaching students content working life impact students deserved least needed most. ” “ accidentally ” started teacher emotionally disturbed students residential facility 1990 original goal PE teacher coach however time education PE positions available numerous available positions work students struggled behavior picked additional certification teaching several years residential went Liberty Public Schools suburb Kansas City Missouri work 9th-grade students struggle behavior position provided opportunity collaborate frequently parents something see key children ’ success classroom teaching Liberty introduced BIST Behavior Intervention Support Team building teaching implemented model opportunity become lead teacher