

I strongly believe in a sense of community and equality among all persons in my classroom. My goal is to have my students consider my class a safe place, and know that they are respected so long as they reciprocate respect to all. To attain a friendly and respectful atmosphere, I will provide my students with frequent partner and group work, enabling them to communicate and collaborate with one another respectfully. This will also promote participation and engagement. In addition, I want my students to feel safe and comfortable around me as a teacher, and be willing to create appropriate bonds with me.

1) One way to establish positive relationships among all students is to switch up group assignments. Every so often, I will switch group assignments in order to have students of different backgrounds and interests working with one another. Another method I will use is encouraging student interests to one another. I will frequently give the students the chance to get to know one another's interests and differences and discuss them; this way, they will feel closer to their classmates. Finally, I will assign older or more mature students to work with classmates who are either younger or less mature. This may encourage the younger student to look up to the more mature student and learn in a more comfortable, relatable environment.

2) One way to avoid attention seeking and work-avoidance is physical proximity. I will walk around the classroom while teaching in order to make my presence clear in all areas of the room. If there is a certain student or group misbehaving, I will walk in that direction in the hopes that the students will get back on task. Also, I will make sure to be prepared for every class period. I will have a thorough lesson plan and have every minute of class planned out in order to prevent students not knowing what to do and avoiding work. Finally, I will use positive reinforcement in order to encourage off-task students to get back on track. If I encourage positive behavior then the other students will be likely to follow suit and not avoid work.

3) The strategies I will use to quickly and unobtrusively stop misbehavior include utilizing eye contact. If a student is misbehaving, I can make eye contact with them to let them know that I am aware of their behavior and that it needs to stop. Also, I can utilize physical proximity in order to get the student to get back on track. Finally, I can utilize name dropping in order to get the student's attention. For example, I can work their name into an example of a topic I am talking about to the class; this will catch their attention and hopefully put a stop to the behavior.

4) In order to put a stop to chronic misbehavior, I will first have a conversation with the student directly about their misbehavior so they know that what they are doing is unacceptable. If the behavior persists, I will establish a non-verbal cue with the student that I can use when they misbehave and must be redirected. Also, I will utilize physical proximity with the student/s to let them know that I am aware of their misbehavior and need it to stop. If none of these strategies work effectively, I will either call or e-mail their guardians and potentially schedule a meeting to discuss the misbehavior.

5) One way to teach self-control in the classroom involves my cell phone policy. I plan on having a policy that allows the students to have their phones in their pocket or backpack so long as they leave them alone during class and do not let them be a distraction. Otherwise, they can put their phones in cell phone cubbies I provide. By letting the students choose what to do with

their cell phones, they will understand the importance of self-control with their technologies. Another way I can teach self-control is to allow the students to have the opportunity to work on homework or projects in class. By giving them this chance, students will be able to get homework done in class and not have to do work outside of school. If they choose not to take advantage of this time, then they will have to complete it at home; this will teach the students how to regulate their time and control their actions during class. One final way to teach self-control is to allow students in groups to work out conflicts or snags in the group on their own. I will allow the group to try to solve the problem on their own before I get involved in order for them to learn how to not only control their own behavior, but help their classmates' behavior as well.

6) To establish respect between cultural differences within my class, I will allow my students to talk about anything necessary as a group. If there are pressing topics that warrant discussion, I will allow my students to speak with one another about their thoughts. I will also try to integrate different cultures and beliefs into my teaching as often as I can instead of using one culture's behaviors/ norms. Finally, I will allow my students to frequently work with different classmates so they can get to know each other and possibly discuss their cultures with one another. Healthy communication between students is a key to establishing respect.