

## CREATING A POSITIVE TEACHER-STUDENT RELATIONSHIP

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Teachers and students may have more hours spent together during school hours, especially in the elementary level. A positive and good relationship is best to help both perform well and achieve learning goals in the most effective manner. A classroom with a sound teacher-student relationship leads to better work performance of the teacher and helps students achieve better academically.

While there are some instances when teacher-student relationship may not be ideal for a few circumstances, generally and for the purpose of creating a healthy school surrounding, a positive teacher-student relationship is mostly favored and aimed for. How do we create this relationship that is beneficial for both teacher and students? The relationship must be, first and foremost, value laden. Respect is of utmost importance to remain intact. Because there can be occasions when students become too familiar or comfortable with the teacher, they sometimes tend to forget the line and lose respect on the way they talk or act in front of the teacher. This must be carefully addressed without losing the camaraderie.

As such, it is crucial to begin creating the relationship in a positive and constructive means. It will help to draw clear lines from the start. Open communication plays a key role. When students can open to the teacher without feeling of being intimidated or without the fear of being misunderstood or being nagged, the communication becomes healthier. On the part of the teacher, open communication also helps to clarify matters as when to be treated as a teacher and as a friend.

Another is building trust. This can be achieved when both parties are true to what they agree upon at the very start of the class and in every activity they perform. Sometimes, students become aloof of the teacher when instructions are not clearly given or when the teacher withdraw previously agreed upon goals and rubrics. The relationship starts at what happens during the class. Thus, it is vital to gain the trust during the class itself.

Finally, because students are young people, being understanding of their developing personalities and growing up needs is vital. Forget the lines “when we were your age” because such will not contribute to the positive relationship, instead it will only cause the young ones feeling rejected or judged based on their generation. Whatever circumstance, the goal is to help the student become a better person by inspiring them as their adult model in the school.

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