

MANAGING STUDENT BEHAVIOR IN THE HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM

by:

Lucena D. Santos

Teacher III, Justice Emilio Angeles Gancayco Memorial High School

Navigating behavior in the high school classroom can be a difficult task for teachers. High school students are in a distinct stage of development and can exhibit a variety of behaviors, from apathy to insubordination. With appropriate methods and approaches, educators can establish a favorable learning atmosphere and handle student behavior effectively.

One effective technique for managing student behavior is setting clear expectations and rules. At the beginning of the school year, or even at the start of the semester, it is important to establish clear expectations for behavior and consequences for not following them. This will help students understand what is expected of them and what the consequences will be if they fail to meet those expectations. It's also important to review the expectations and rules with students periodically throughout the year to ensure they are still clear and understood.

Another important strategy for managing student behavior is consistent and fair consequences. When students break rules or fail to meet expectations, it is important to enforce consequences consistently and fairly. This means that the same consequence should be applied to all students who engage in the same behavior, regardless of their individual circumstances. This helps to create a sense of fairness and respect in the classroom, and helps students understand that their actions have consequences.

Effective communication is also critical for managing student behavior. High school teachers should be able to effectively communicate with their students, both verbally and

nonverbally. This means being able to clearly convey information, listen actively, and give and receive feedback. Additionally, teachers should be able to establish a positive rapport with their students, which will make it easier to manage behavior.

Another key strategy is to provide positive reinforcement and rewards. Many students respond well to positive reinforcement and rewards, and it can be an effective way to manage behavior. This could include praising students for good behavior, providing tokens or small rewards for positive behavior, or recognizing students for their achievements.

Preventing disruptions in the classroom is also crucial. This could include finding ways to keep students engaged and interested in the lesson, as well as providing opportunities for students to move around and have some freedom. For example, giving students opportunities to work in small groups, or giving them time to work independently. This can help reduce the likelihood of disruptions and improve student engagement.

Finally, it is essential for teachers to model the behavior they expect from their students. This means that teachers should demonstrate the same level of respect and responsibility that they expect from their students. Additionally, teachers should lead by example when it comes to behavior management. This means that they should demonstrate appropriate behavior and help students learn how to manage their own behavior.

References:

Davenport, M. (2022 April 01). Strategies for managing challenging student behaviors. Edutopia. <https://www.edutopia.org/article/strategies-managing-challenging-student-behaviors>