

## BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

*by:*

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The relationship between teachers and students is crucial in ensuring that students meet their educational goals. Research has shown that a strong relationship between teachers and students leads to improved academic outcomes, decreased behavioral problems, increased student motivation, and better social adjustment (Brekelmans, Den Brok, & Luttenberg, 2017). This article will explore ways teachers can build strong relationships with their students.

### Create a Safe and Supportive Learning Environment

One of the primary ways teachers can create strong relationships with their students is by creating a safe and supportive learning environment. According to Pekrun, Elliot, & Maier (2019), when students feel safe and supported in their learning environment, they are more likely to be engaged in learning and willing to take academic risks. Teachers can foster a safe and supportive learning environment by setting clear expectations and boundaries, treating all students with respect, and promoting positive communication.

### Get to Know Your Students as Individuals

Another way to build a strong relationship with students is by getting to know them as individuals. As stated by Skokut (2020), research has shown that students are more likely to feel connected to their teachers when they feel seen and understood as individuals. Teachers can foster this connection by taking an interest in their students' lives, asking questions about their hobbies, and learning about their goals.

## Provide Opportunities for Student Voice and Choice

Studies have shown that when students have a say in their learning and are provided with choice, they are more likely to be engaged and motivated in learning (Reeve & Tseng, 2017). Teachers can build a strong relationship with their students by providing opportunities for student voice and choice in the classroom. This may include allowing students to choose topics for research projects or allowing students to decide how they would like to demonstrate their understanding of a concept.

## Communicate Regularly and Effectively

Building a strong relationship between teachers and students requires effective and regular communication. Research has shown that parent-teacher communication is related to better academic outcomes for students (Fan & Chen, 2019). Teachers need to communicate regularly with their students and their parents, provide feedback and keep them informed about progress and challenges.

Building strong relationships between teachers and students is important for student success. Teachers can create a safe and supportive learning environment, get to know their students as individuals, provide opportunities for student voice and choice, and communicate effectively with their students and their parents. By implementing these strategies, teachers can create a positive and supportive learning environment, helping their students to achieve academic success.

## References:

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