

## DEALING WITH STUDENTS' BEHAVIOR

by:

**Marilou A. Bugtong**

*Master Teacher I, J.C. Payumo Jr. Memorial High School*

Dealing with student behavior is a crucial aspect of creating a positive and productive learning environment. As educators, it is essential to have effective strategies to address challenging behavior while nurturing a supportive and respectful classroom atmosphere. There are some strategies on how to deal with student behavior which will promote a harmonious and conducive learning environment.

Firstly, it is imperative to establish clear expectations and rules from the start. By setting clear guidelines for behavior, students are aware of the boundaries and expectations within the classroom. These rules should be communicated consistently and reviewed periodically to ensure understanding. When students know what is expected of them, they are more likely to engage in appropriate behavior and understand the consequences of deviating from those expectations.

It is crucial to address problematic behavior promptly and privately. Rather than reprimanding students in front of their peers, it is more effective to speak with them privately. This approach allows for open communication and prevents the student from feeling embarrassed or humiliated. A private conversation also provides an opportunity to understand the underlying reasons for the behavior and address any concerns or issues the student may be facing.

Moreover, it is essential to practice positive reinforcement. In a classroom setting, praising and recognizing positive behavior can be a powerful tool to encourage students to continue engaging in appropriate conduct. By providing praise and rewards, such as verbal recognition, certificates, or small incentives, students feel valued and

acknowledged for their efforts. This positive reinforcement helps to create a positive classroom climate and motivate students to display desirable behavior.

Additionally, it is crucial to employ effective communication strategies. Taking the time to listen and understand the student's perspective and feelings can go a long way in deescalating conflict and finding solutions. By fostering open lines of communication, students feel heard and understood, which can minimize negative behavior. Active listening, empathy, and non-judgmental responses are necessary components of effective communication that can help build positive relationships with students.

Furthermore, it is important to implement consistent consequences for undesirable behavior. When students engage in disruptive or disrespectful conduct, it is crucial to address it promptly and consistently. By having clear consequences for inappropriate behavior, students understand the repercussions of their actions. These consequences should be fair, reasonable, and aligned with the severity of the behavior. It is equally important to ensure that consequences are communicated and enforced consistently, as inconsistency can undermine their effectiveness.

Moreover, it is beneficial to involve parents and guardians in the process of managing student behavior. Maintaining open lines of communication with parents allows for a collaborative approach to addressing behavioral concerns. By involving parents, educators can gain insight into the student's home life, help create a consistent approach to behavior management, and develop strategies to support the student both at school and at home.

Lastly, it is essential to foster a positive classroom atmosphere that promotes respect and inclusivity. By creating a supportive and welcoming environment, students are more likely to engage and display positive behavior. Encouraging cooperation, teamwork, and mutual respect among students helps to build a sense of belonging and reduces the occurrence of negative behavior. Additionally, providing opportunities for

students to voice their opinions and be involved in decision-making can create a shared sense of ownership over the classroom environment and foster positive behavior.

Hence, effectively dealing with student behavior requires a multifaceted approach that encompasses clear expectations, positive reinforcement, effective communication, consistent consequences, involvement of parents, and a positive classroom atmosphere. By implementing these strategies, educators can create a conducive and respectful learning environment that supports student growth and development. Handling student behavior is not just about reprimanding negative conduct; it is about instilling values, promoting character development, and empowering students to become responsible and respectful individuals.

#### *References:*

Finley, T. (2017). 11 Research-Based Classroom Management Strategies. Retrieved from <https://www.edutopia.org/article/11-research-based-classroom-management-strategies>

Mahvar T, Ashghali Farahani M, Aryankhesal A. Conflict management strategies in coping with students' disruptive behaviors in the classroom: Systematized review. J Adv Med Educ Prof. (2018). 6(3):102-114. PMID: 30013994; PMCID: PMC6039817.