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HOW TO HAVE EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

by: Mr. Crisanto M. Baluyot

Master Teacher II, Bonifacio Camacho National High School | Abucay, Bataan

Teachers who struggle with classroom management tend to take a wait-and-see attitude at the beginning of the year. Of course, they have ideas about how they want to lead their classes. They may have strategies they've relied on in the past, lessons learned from the previous year, and a new resolve to be more consistent. But above all, they trust their instincts. They have confidence in their ability to change, adapt, and adjust. They trust that they can learn quickly and navigate the minefield of a new group with skill. They trust that this time, they'll fit together the right combination of strategies, words for bad classroom management strategies, and puzzle pieces. And when things go wrong, when they raise their voices to drown out the noise in the classroom and argue with their most difficult students, they inevitably seek advice wherever they can get it. They ask colleagues or spouses, ask questions in chat rooms, or type their most pressing problems into their favorite search engine. They pick something, trust their intuition, and give it a try. However, effective classroom management is not an experiment. It is not an assortment of strategies that have no place in the same classroom. It's not a series of tweaks or adjustments based on intuition, guesswork, or divination. Effective classroom management is planned and predictable; its success is predetermined. It's proactive, preplanned, and consistent.

A personality, presence, and leadership style deliver the influence and impact that changes behavior. It's fair and low-stress. It calms, relaxes, and focuses. It breathes and inspires. You should start each school year knowing how to create a classroom where students have fun, work habits, courtesy, and independence naturally develop and where students want to be well-behaved. Starting a school year with a clear vision and



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understanding of where you want to go and how to get there is a tall order. It's classroom leadership based on hope and happiness. It means accepting less than you can and less than you can do. It's not uncommon for teachers to spend days, even weeks, preparing lessons while neglecting what gives them the freedom to teach with passion and to give their students the freedom to learn without interruptions, disruptions, or drama. As summer approaches, we at Smart Classroom Management encourage you to browse our archives and read our books to grasp what works and why it works. Effective classroom management is easier and more accessible than most teachers realize. No matter who you are or where you teach, you can start the next school year knowing how to create a peaceful and well-behaved classroom. Truly know the best way to handle virtually any classroom management situation. You can turn a new group of students with completely different personalities and behaviors into your desired class.

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