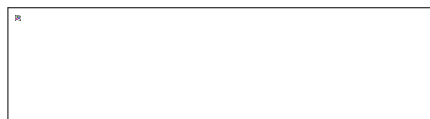


Positive Expectations

"Give an elementary student three days, and the student will mirror you. Give a high school student ten days, and the student will mirror you."
- Charles Galloway

- ***Model:*** We as teachers must model what we want our students to do, and what we expect them to become.
- ***Dress for Success:*** It is imperative that you dress professionally the first days of school. It send out so many positive messages to the students. It affects the work, attitude and discipline of the students. By dressing up you gain respect, credibility, acceptance and authority that you might otherwise have trouble getting.
- ***Positive Verbal Comments:*** "Good Morning." "I appreciate your help." "How can I help you." (Examples of negative comments: "Keep out." "It won't work." "I don't care what you do." "Because I said so, that's why!")
- ***Positive Personal Behaviors:*** Smiling, listening, holding the door, waiting your turn
- ***Positive Learning Environment:*** fresh plants, clean walls, comfortable furniture, attractively set table, fresh air
- ***Address Students by Name:*** Correctly spelling and pronouncing someone's name is important. It is a persons' identity. By using their name often, it shows that you care.
- ***Encourage Positive Habits:*** "Please" and "Thank You" should be a part of the verbiage of an effective classroom. (This goes for high schools as well!)
- ***Decorate the Room:*** Don't over decorate, but brightly colored posters with positive sayings encourage kids and make them feel comfortable. Hang a Welcome sign the first weeks of school.



- *Stand Outside the Classroom Door:* Welcome students as they enter, maybe giving each a handshake. As you get to know them, use their names in your greeting. Remember to smile!
- *Write Letters Home:* You can do this before or after the school year starts. Welcome the parents and their child to the new school year. Introduce yourself and share your excitement for the upcoming year. Give parents the dates of open houses or parent/teacher conferences and give them ways to get a hold of you, phone extensions, email, fax etc... By getting in touch with them early, it will give you some report when you call home at a later time.

Positive Expectations are not equivalent to high standards. Standards are levels of achievement. However, teachers who practice positive expectations will help their students reach high standards.

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