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COLORADO

NAU
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
College of Education

Classroom Management for Aspiring Teachers

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November 13, 2020

Why Us?

Why from Colorado?

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WHY

is classroom management important?

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Why do you need Classroom Management?

- Most important factor influencing student success
- Students need to know what is expected of them
- Clears the way for student engagement = student learning

More than anything else…

- We must provide an environment where students feel safe, welcomed, respected and willing to take risks as they learn and grow
- Our students need us to provide this environment!

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What is Classroom Management?

- Organization of the classroom, use of space, instructional materials
- Time management (time on task, transitions, maximizing learning time)
- Established routines, tasks and activities and events
- Rapport with students
- Establishment of a safe, respectful, welcoming learning environment

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What Classroom Management isn't?

- Disciplinary systems/behavior management/compliance driven
- Rules and regulations
- Authoritarian, rule by fear
- Chaos

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Classroom Management is Proactive

Disciplinary Action is Reactive

Building Rapport with Students

- Relationships vs. Connections?
- Maintaining “professional distance”
- To be liked or not be liked?
- Ask students, “what I wish my teacher knew about me”?

“Students don’t care what you know until they know that you care” - unknown

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Considerations…

- Know administration expectations for teachers
- Learn of school established rules/norms/programs/philosophy
- Request school specific training if available
- Be open and receptive to learning new practices/techniques
- Ask questions if you don't know – help is available!
- Must begin on the first day of school

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Components of Classroom Management

- Classroom preparation
- Your introduction
- Classroom furniture arranged and assigned seating
- Starting each class effectively
- Classroom procedures

WHAT

does exemplary classroom management look like?

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Characteristics of Exemplary Classroom Management

- High level of student engagement(not busy work)
- Students know what is expected and respond accordingly
- Time on task, efficient and effective use of time
- Purpose driven but relaxed(not high pressure and not chaotic)

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HOW?

Back to the components

Classroom Preparation

- Floor spaces
- Work areas
- Walls
- Teaching areas
- Teaching materials
- Coordination of daily lessons with physical environment
- Safety

Your Introduction

- First greeting
- First impressions
- Communicating with parents and students before the school year starts
- Back to school night – meet and greet
- Students need to feel welcome!
- Show you care about them!

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Classroom layout and seating

- ✓ Supports Communications
  - Teacher to students
  - Student to student
  - Electronic media
  - Audience
- ✓ No one way or arrangement good for all types of learning
- ✓ Space availability dependent
- ✓ Assigning seats

Starting Class....Effectively

- Be prepared with a plan....every day!
- Engage students immediately
- Warm-up activity/discovery activity/bell work, etc.
- Eliminate “idle” time
- Use as anticipatory set, set the stage for day’s lesson and new learning
- Check in with students

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Procedures and Routines

- Known practices followed consistently
- Sequence of steps for accomplishing tasks
- Eliminates the need for discipline
- Not rules, no penalties or rewards
- Automatic responses students learn
- Students know, apply and understand – students want procedures
- Teach/Practice/Reinforce

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Examples of Procedures

- Entering the classroom
- Starting class/ending class
- Where and when to find materials
- Turning in assignments
- Accessing technology
- Throwing away trash
- Asking questions
- Group work
- Make up assignments
- Movement within classroom
- Quieting the classroom
- Restroom use
- Emergencies
- Exiting the classroom

Two other thoughts...

- Proximity
- Consistency

Create the optimal environment conducive for student learning

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Takeaways?

QUESTIONS???

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BEST OF LUCK TO YOU!!!

and THANK YOU for joining our great profession!

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