



# *Classroom Management Plan*

**By: Kadia Beckford**

**Prof: Dr. Lisa Bloom**

Good morning colleagues, I take great pleasure in welcoming you to our first presentation on classroom management. First I will be sharing my key values and beliefs, class covenant and goals. Subsequently, we will look at developing a community in the classroom, intrinsically motivating our students, developing expectation, supporting these expectations and engaging in problem solving.

It is mentioned (Bloom, 2009) that good classroom management involves putting structures into place that capitalize on the social context of the classroom by creating a sense of community and assisting every student in gaining a sense of belonging, mastery, autonomy and generosity.

I'm positive that this session will be very fruitful.

# **KEY VALUES AND/OR BELIEFS**

It is my belief that students should be seen and treated as children/students first before they are stigmatized as having a learning, mental or physical disability. Many times it is the actions of adults that cause children to react to situations the way they do. As educators, it is of great importance that we listen to and act on students' perspectives.

## **KEY VALUES AND/OR BELIEFS CONT'D**

I believe that students, like adults, need to feel and not just hear, that they are cared for, loved, respected, valued, and needed. As such, it is my responsibility to ensure that students leave my classroom as changed agents, therefore I must add value to every learner's life.



# MISSION AND/OR COVENANT

We the Catalysts of Change are dedicated to breaking the cycle of inequitable treatment of the vulnerable.



# GOALS

- ❖ I want my students to be responsible. They should be able to give an account for their actions.
- ❖ I would like my students to develop a sense of independence which will lead to them being creative, objective and reflective.

# GOALS CONT'D

- ❖ I want my students, at the end of each day, to have a feeling of satisfaction resulting from them exercising generosity throughout the day.
- ❖ I want my students to develop mastery at the level at which they are at and as such, feeling that they belong in my classroom.



# PRACTICES TO DEVELOP GOALS

In order to develop the goal listed first, I will be focusing on providing students with ample opportunities to develop and sustain responsibility. One of the opportunities is that each student will get the chance to be in charge of something of great value to the learning community. At the end of the week they will give a report on the duties carried out.

# **PRACTICES TO DEVELOP GOALS CONT'D**

Independence refers to one's sense of control over his/her own actions. Students, like adults, like to have a sense of governance over their own destiny (Bloom, 2009). To develop a high level of independence in my classroom I will spend more time listening to my students and soliciting their input in planning lessons and activities. This means that they will have a choice as it relates to seating arrangements and the types of assignments and projects given.

# PRACTICES TO DEVELOP GOALS CONT'D

Classroom meetings will be done to allow students to have a voice in the classroom. To carefully develop autonomy, my students will be engaged in self-evaluation and reflection. These reflections will be done in a reflective journals.



# **PRACTICES TO DEVELOP GOALS**

## **CONT'D**

After learning about the circle of courage, I have been informing my students of the importance of generosity and they are enthused. However, for them to learn to help and care about others apart from their friends, I must provide opportunities to develop these values through shared rituals, routines and discussions. These opportunities include: putting them in pairs and/or groups so that they tutor each other and learn cooperatively.

# **PRACTICES TO DEVELOP GOALS**

## **CONT'D**

Research has proven that when working in cooperative groups, students are more attuned to each other's needs and are more willing to help each other.

All my students will be actively engaged in different service clubs in the school and projects that involve service to the community, for example, structured clean up days or helping to solve problems that may arise in the community.

# **PRACTICES TO DEVELOP GOALS**

## **CONT'D**

Other research indicates that youths who volunteer are less likely to engage in risky behaviour (Mueller, 2005).



# **PRACTICES TO DEVELOP GOALS**

## **CONT'D**

Self-efficacy refers to “beliefs in one’s capabilities to organize and execute the courses of action required to produce given attainment” (Bandura, 1995). To develop mastery at all levels (social and academic) in my classroom, students will be given tasks and responsibilities that are not too easy and not too challenging. This will be given at each child’s competence level.

# COMMUNITY

With a sense of being valued and respected members of the classroom, children will be “ready to learn” and will be more likely to enjoy school. A strong community creates a sense of unity and shared purpose, and children learn to care for each other (Bloom, 2009). In developing a strong classroom community I will seek to employ some strategies that have been tested and proven.

# COMMUNITY

- The first strategy is to direct my attention to the social climate of the classroom. This is important as it greatly influences the students' readiness and enthusiasm for learning. I will focus on ceremonies such as morning meetings, as these bring people together for a shared purpose such as celebrations. They generate a sense of affiliation with a particular group.

# COMMUNITY

Rituals and rites will be use to provide additional opportunities to for students to connect to the larger community. This is where I will stand at the door on the first day of the week and welcome each child to the class, they will then welcome each other to the class.

Time for play and festivity will be scheduled for the end of each term. We will sit together and share our thoughts, stories and experiences in order to get to know each other as unique individuals.

# COMMUNITY

- A strong ethos of caring is another strategy that I will use to develop, facilitate, nurture and sustain an effective community in my classroom. In doing so, we will read aloud stories that highlight the importance of caring, the class will discuss specific examples of caring – these will be those seen in the classroom and otherwise – and we will set common goals and discuss common values.

# COMMUNITY

- Another strategy I will be focusing on is maintenance of classroom discipline.

Children view acceptable behaviour as vital to maintaining the community because they have a vested interest in the health of the group as a whole. I will place emphasis on teaching students to be responsible for their behaviour, self discipline and mutual respect.



# COMMUNITY

As a community, we will sit and develop codes of conduct, provide explanation for firm but flexible limits and guide each other in learning acceptable behaviours.

The classroom's mission statement and covenant will be developed and repeated before each class.



# **BUILD AND MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS**

Schools should become places in which teachers and students live together, talk to each other, reason together, take delight in each other's company (Noddings, 1991). Developing and maintaining a positive relationship between the teacher and the learner can help students realize their full potential academically and socially (Bloom, 2009).

In order to develop and maintain a positive relationship with my students I will employ the following:

# **BUILD AND MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS**

- ✓ I will listen to my students attentively and provide feedback in relation to what would have been said. By doing this I will learn more about my students and show them that I care about them.
- ✓ I will make personal connections with each student. In order to do this, I will ensure that each day every child gets private time to share something (experience or concern) with me. I will sit and have lunch with them and go outside and play with them.

# **BUILD AND MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS**

- ✓ I will convey high expectations and challenge my students. Each day I will ensure that I remind them of what the expectations are. These include them being generous and caring. They will not only be given easy tasks at their levels, however they will be challenged and will have opportunities to help each other to solve these challenging tasks. Working together in this way will promote positive relationships in the classroom.

# **BUILD AND MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS**

- ✓ I will endeavour to ensure that my students are treated with respect and justice. I will treat each child as an individual and will not use an experience with a child or group of individuals to cast a judgment on the entire learning community.

# MOTIVATION

Intrinsic motivation refers to the drive to accomplish a task or master a skill for reasons internal to the learner – the sense of accomplishment, the love of learning and curiosity (Bloom, 2009).

In order to intrinsically motivate my students I will ensure that my classroom is structured for learner success. I will use practices that allow for socialization and positive student-teacher relationship and provide a structure for autonomy by providing meaningful choices.



# MOTIVATION

Students will be made aware that intelligence is malleable and everyone can learn even though we learn at different pace.

I will emphasize and ensure that my students' efforts are always recognized and praised.

Drawing a parallel between effort and achievement will be underscored.

My students will be encouraged to be positive at all times!

# EXPECTATIONS

In order to teach and support students in meeting expectations we will sit as a community and develop these expectations. Information will be presented on the consequences of going contrary to what was agreed to in a contingency contract. When these are broken the experiences will be used as learning opportunities and as such students will have no fear of making mistakes.

Therefore, colleagues, as we strive for excellence in this noble institution, let us continue to work hard to make our students valuable elements of society by guaranteeing that they don't leave our classrooms the same way they came.

Thank you all for participating.