Classroom Management Plan

Matt Cram

Statement of Purpose

My classroom will be a place of respect. It will provide an inclusive and safe environment that will encourage students to learn. Students are to play an active role in their learning and are also expected to respect each other and the teacher.

Arrangement of the Classroom

Depending on the resources that I have in my classroom, the arrangement will follow this guideline. Students will be facing either the white board, chalk board, or a Smart Board. My desk will be located in the back corner of the classroom.

Rules of the Classroom

1. Students are expected to come to class on time and be ready to learn.
2. Students are expected to respect fellow students, teachers, and anyone that visits the classroom.
3. Students must follow the directions given to them during class time.
4. Students are expected to complete and turn in assignments, papers, and projects on the date that it is due.
5. Students are expected to be honest in all the work they do.
6. Students are expected to follow the student handbook rules on the use of cellphones in school.
7. These rules also apply to class time outside of the classroom. Example would be the computer lab or field trip.
8. Students must follow the School's Student Handbook.

Student Engagement

Student engagement will be play a big role in classroom management. First, I will setup a routine to start class. It will start with a random quote from a historical figure. We will discuss the meaning of the quote, and figure out who said it. This routine will give the students a warm-up exercise before the lesson begins. It will also help me to start up class because once they see the quote on the board, they will know to be quiet and start class.

I will design my lesson plans in a way that involves multiple styles of learning. I know that it is very hard to involve all the learning styles into one lesson so I decided to alternate between a few learning styles per lesson. Visuals will be involved in most of my lessons because majority of people are visual learners. Alternating between styles of learning in my lesson plans will keep my class fresh and interesting for all of my students.

Classroom Procedure

Classroom procedure for passing or collecting papers:

I will have a box for the students to put their homework, papers, quizzes, and tests. This will allow for the student to get some movement during class. When homework, papers, quizzes, or tests are graded, I will hand out the graded material to the student personally. This action will allow my student to have privacy when concerning their own grades. Students have the right to tell people their grade.

Classroom procedure for starting class:

Class will start up with me showing the historical quote to the class. Once the students know that this is the time to start class, they we quite down and get ready to learn.

Classroom procedure for passes:

I will allow for students to acquire passes to leave the classroom. Each student will have 10 bathroom passes per semester. At the end of the semester, they can turn in their remaining bathroom passes for 5 point extra credit per pass. This reward will encourage my students to not use bathroom passes to just get a break from quest. They will learn more in my class if they don't leave the classroom. There will be no negative consequence for the students who use more than ten bathroom passes. A student can leave class if she or she has a pass to leave for an appointment or another legitimate reason.

Classroom procedure for tardiness:

If a student comes into class late, I will write his or her name on the board. I will instruct the student to talk to me after class. If the student complains that they will be late for his or her next class, I will give the student a pass to his or her next class. I will ask the student the reason that he or she was late for class. If it is not a legitimate reason, I will tell the student that being tardy will adversely affect his or her grade in class. If the student continues to be tardy consistently, I will start subtracting 10 points per tardy.

Checking for Understanding

During lessons, I will periodically ask questions to the students in order to see if they are learning the lesson. This will be a part of my formative assessment. I will have the students raise their hands. I will not accept an answer that doesn't follow that procedure. I will try to be as random as I can when picking a student to answer these questions. I will wait at least 5 seconds before calling on a student.

I will also give explicit direct instructions in my lessons. This will tell my students exactly what I want them to do. These instructions will be less confusing to the students. While working on assignments in class, I will walk around and check the students' progress.

Safe Classroom Environment

A safe classroom environment will allow for all my students, regardless of background, to feel safe to be themselves and learn. I will first be dressed with nice clothing and a tie. This attire that I will wear will emphasis that I am a professional. Students will respect that I treat their learning seriously.

I will have various types of posters around my classroom that will have a theme of respect for others. I will have a pink triangle in my classroom that will show that I am an ally to the gay community. I will have anti-bullying posters in my room as well.

I will only say positive things about students in my classroom. This can be challenging, but it will show that you respect your students. This also means that I must stop students from spreading gossip and bullying other students.

I will make all students feel like they are an integral part of the classroom. I will not point out students that are different, but they reserve the right to point it out themselves.

I will be consistent with my rules. If I were to tell a student to stop wearing hats in my classroom. That means that every hat is not acceptable.

I will say please and thank you as much as I can. This might seem strange to the students, but it is necessary to model correct behavior to my students.

I will try to get the parents of the students involved in their child's learning. This may include parental supervision in a field trip to the parent coming into class to help teach the students. I will also respond to parents' phone calls and emails as soon as possible. This might involve the school website in which parents and students can access.

I will try to go to every meeting regarding my students, especially IEP meetings. This will show my students that I care about them.

Consequences

There will be consequences for breaking rules in my classroom. I will try to handle most of the discipline problems within my classroom, but if it gets too out of hand, I will report it to the office.

If a student breaks a rule for the first time, I will have the student write a behavior plan. This plan will have three steps. First, the student will write what he or she did wrong. Second, the student will state why the student broke the rule. Finally, the student will write what he or she will do differently so he or she will not break the rule again. This behavior plan will be used to help change the behavior of the student. I will request the signature of the student, parent or guardian, and myself on this behavior plan. If the bad behavior continues to be a problem in the classroom, harsher consequences will be used. Examples include detention, lunch duty, stay after class, and removing the student out of class.

In order to reduce bad behavior, I will reward students for exhibiting good behavior. Rewards will be utilized several times a week. The reward can include a snack, extra bathroom pass, a get out of quiz free card, and extra points. The reward will motivate the students to follow the rules.

I will play an active role stopping cheating in my classroom. I will walk around and make sure students know that I am watching them. During tests, I will not just read or correct papers. I will actively look for cheaters. If I catch a student teaching, they will get a zero for a grade and will also have to deal with the principal and his or her parents. If more than one student was involved, it will be consistent with the consequences and all of the students will receive the same treatment.

If a student is caught abusing the student handbook cellphone policy, I will take the phone away for the rest of class time. The second strike I will take it for the whole day. Third strike the parent will have to come in to get the cellphone. If it happens again after that, we will have a meeting with the student, parents, and principal.

I will not allow students to use media devices like iPods in my classroom. I will ask for students that wear hoodies to have the hoods down in order to see if they have ear buds on. If caught with an iPod, it will follow the same system for cell phones.

I will allow gum in my classroom as long as the school does not have a specific rule against it. However, if the student makes distractions in class with the gum, there will be a consequence. The consequence will be that the student can't chew gum for a week. If the student continues to distract the class with gum, it will become a semester ban for that student.

Nonverbal Communication

Nonverbal communication will play a big role in my classroom management. When teaching a lesson, I will utilize multiple types of tone in my voice. This will show that I am interested in the subject matter. I will stop myself from yelling at my students.

If a student is being too loud, I will walk near the student's desk. I might not even have to ask the student to quiet down; he or she might quiet down knowing that I am near the student.

Classroom Seating Chart

My seating chart will depend on the size of my classroom, and what I have available for students to sit and write on. I will try to arrange the desks in my classroom in groups of four. This will allow for easier group discussions. I will allow the students to choose their seating arrangement in my classroom. This will allow for the students to sit in a place where he or she feels most safe. If certain students take advantage of this situation and goof around with their friends, I will assign a seating chart for the whole class. I will separate the students during this process.