



DEVELOPING & IMPROVING ATTITUDES AND CHARACTER

A Vital Key to Student

Success

DEVELOPING & IMPROVING ATTITUDES AND CHARACTER

You can improve the performance of your students by having a **PLAN** to motivate them and improve their **ATTITUDE.**

Please underline two words: PLAN & ATTITUDE.

✘ Attitude is not set in stone

+ Different each year – blank book

+ Different each period

+ Different each day

+ You have control over the
attitude of your Students!!!!

- ✘ Master Teachers

- ✘ They have figured out how to develop good attitudes in their students!!!!

Workshop Goal

Not fact base presentation just my beliefs based upon 46 years in education. Challenge you to reflect on your beliefs.

- To have you think of yourself as a “Character Educator”, not just an educator.
- To reconnect with that part of yourself that brought you into education in the first place
 - Please write down – Why did you become an educator
 - ? Laminate it and put it on your desk?

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON TEACHING AND AMERICA'S FUTURE 2008

- ✘ 1/3 of all new teachers leave after three years.
- ✘ 46% of new teachers are gone after 5 years.
- ✘ My theory – disconnect with why they got in the field.
- ✘ Can the master teachers help them?

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- ✘ Character Education is not on the plate.
 - ✘ It is the plate.

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- ✘ What will be your legacy?

 - ✘ There are young people struggling everywhere
 - + Character day
 - ✘ Denicos Allen.
 - ✘ “Coach”
 - + – Ponitz football player

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Everyone spends a great amount of time talking about character, but how much time do we really spend on it?

Think of the best year you have had as an educator (first year teachers just follow us on this one). Now think of your worst year.

What made the year good or bad?

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My theory is that it is the attitude of the kids,
not their ability, that makes a good class.

Notes: Every year we get the same class. 10/80/10 Explanation: Good years the top 10% dominate/ bad years the bottom 10% dominate.

✘ Example: same group of kids are great for one teacher and rotten for another teacher

✘ This rule crosses all lines.

✘ Again, if it is the key to having a good year or bad year, why aren't we spending more time on it?

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What keeps us from spending more time on attitude?

1. We spend our time on content preparation.
2. How are we evaluated? How are our supervisors evaluated?
3. We spend time on clerical duties.

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What keeps us from spending more time on attitude?

4. We get frustrated by past attempts.

5. This is an area that is talked about but is often left out when reality sets in

6. This is not your area of expertise.

**We are in a time when our society is demanding both!!!!!!
Teachers feel trapped and threatened by the demand to do both.
I believe by having a plan you can do both!**

It is not the job of the schools.

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- ✘ Dr. King – “Schools should judge their students on the conduct of their character.” **“Character is more important than intelligence”**
- ✘ In today’s world, character development is more important than ever!
- ✘ *Notes: Two Main Reasons People Lose their Jobs*
 - ✘ *They don’t show up or are late for work.*
 - ✘ *They can’t get along with other people.*

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

- ✘ “To educate a man in mind and not morals is to educate a menace to society”

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If a family is dysfunctional with little support, the next place the student will turn to for help is school. If the school does not fill the void, they turn to their peers. It then becomes a roll of the dice.

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- ✘ If a student is having trouble in Math, we teach him Math. If a student is having trouble in English, we teach him English. If a student is having trouble with discipline, we punish him.
 - ✘ We need to teach students how to behave.

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What keeps us from spending more time on attitude?

7. Hard to think outside the box.

Notes: Some people do not think of themselves as touchy-feely. Dance story.

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Character development and attitude adjustment work best with the students who give you the most problems.

Baby

There is a reason they are giving you problems.

They are looking for something to believe in and commit to.

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Treat a student as who he is and
he will remain the same person.

Treat a student as the person he can
and should be and he
will be that person.

✘ The tougher the students, the more they buy into attitude adjustment.

+ Character Day

+ Questions :

✘ Do you like being in trouble?

✘ Do you like being unpopular / all this drama

✘ “What’s up?”

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× When something is important enough, people will achieve at their highest.

- *Giant in the parking lot*

Character Cards

On your own, Make a list of 10 keys to a good attitude in your class or situation.

Write them down

Character Cards

Blue Dome – Jake and Dwayne

**On your own, make a list of 10 reasons
why a student would want to
be in your program.
Write them down.**

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Disclaimer

- ✘ I totally believe in this plan but that does not mean I believe it is the only plan!
- ✘ *I hope you have a passion for your plan!*
- ✘ I try to talk about character and attitude every night year round.
- ✘ Share with parents - - - Give them cards too!
- ✘ Everything is the “WE” philosophy!

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Everyone in your program understands the plan and gets on board. Rowing!

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Closing

- ✘ Make a commitment to attitude adjustment and character development!
- ✘ Make a commitment and have the confidence to build a plan for character development.
- ✘ Be a *Character Educator!*



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Closing

Thank you !

[Email:jimplaceservices@gmail.com](mailto:jimplaceservices@gmail.com)

Website: Jimplaceservices.com