



Character Education Resource Center

News You Can Use

December 2020

It's All About Relationships

[4 Must Haves for Positive Teacher- Teen Relationships](#) (edited)

Mary Ann Ware is in her 16th year of teaching high school English and Jodi Rath is in her 20th year as an educator. By establishing the four pillars of consistency, respect, high expectations, and kindness in the classroom, a teacher can build a rapport with teen students that promotes engagement and success.

Consistency - Freedom without consistent rules and routines is a recipe for disaster.

Respect - A respected teacher will find it easier to engage, influence, and inspire students.

High Expectations – Online sites, such as Edutopia, provides some stats and simple, daily things to do in the classroom to promote high expectations.

Kindness - My students knew I had high expectations for their behavior and the quality of their work. I did not let casual carelessness creep into our classroom community.

[Why Teacher-Student Relationships Matter](#)

New findings shed light on best approaches by Sarah D. Sparks, *Education Week*, March 12, 2019
Five questions are discussed in the article.

Why are teacher-student relationships important?

How does a teacher's approach affect that relationship?

How can teachers improve their relationships with students?

How can teachers maintain healthy boundaries with students?

How can relationships with students support teacher quality?

[What Relationships Mean in Educating Boys](#)

By Michael Reichert and Richard Hawley, *Education Week*, May 6, 2014

One intriguing finding from the study was that the boys asked to comment on pedagogy (specific lessons) that worked well for them were unable to do so without describing, and appreciating, the teacher conveying it. The teacher-boy connection does not merely contribute to or enhance teaching and learning; relationship is the very medium through which successful teaching and learning is carried out.

[What is Almost As Important as Student-Teacher Relationships?](#)

By Serena Pariser, Corwin Connect, October 3, 2019

A recent study of findings from over 1,500 meta-analysis of 90,000 studies involving 300 million students as to what works best in education, strong classroom cohesion was found to be just slightly lower than student-teacher relationships, which is one of the biggest predictors of success. Serena Pariser is the bestselling author of [Real Talk About Classroom Management](#) published by Corwin in 2018.

[The Relationship Balance](#)

What components of teacher/student relationships are conducive to optimal student learning and minimal teacher stress?

[It Starts on Day One](#) -- share stories about myself and get to know the kids in a way that suggests, "We're a family in this room."

[Clear Expectations](#) -- when students enter a classroom in which the teacher has prominently displayed the learning goals and agenda and begins class by discussing his or her expectations for the day, students are more likely to focus on learning.

[A Respectful Classroom](#) -- Students can only thrive in an atmosphere of respect; there, they will learn the curriculum as well as skills for interacting with others respectfully and with kindness.

[A Passion for Teaching](#) -- Students know the difference between a teacher who is there merely to pick up a paycheck and one who loves getting up and going to work every day.

Cindi Rigsbee is the literacy coach at Gravelly Hill Middle School in Efland, North Carolina, and was North Carolina's "Teacher of the Year for 2008–09."

[10 Ways to Build Relationships with Remote Learning Students](#)

Rebecca Fennel, TeacherVision, October 13, 2020,

One of the core challenges of remote learning is the struggle to build community and relationships with students. Drawn from her own experience, veteran teacher, Rebecca, shares some tips for making those connections happen more easily.

Student-Teacher Relationships—Notable Quotes

We all know that teacher-student relationships are one of the biggest predictors of student success. Actually, it's been reported that teachers that have strong relationships with their students have 31 percent fewer behavioral issues. That's right, 31 percent. (Marzano, 2003).

In fact, in a recent study of findings from over 1,500 meta-analysis of 90,000 studies involving 300 million students as to what works best in education, strong classroom cohesion was found to be just slightly lower than student-teacher relationships, which is one of the biggest predictors of success. Strong classroom cohesion is a factor that can often be overlooked and we work on relationships with individual students. However, it's almost just as important. (Visible Learning, 2017).

Research suggests that healthy interpersonal relationships share three essential elements: The first is understanding—seeing the other person for who they are, including their desires, fears, strengths, and weaknesses. The second is validation—valuing the other person's perspective, even if it differs from your own. And the third is caring—expressing authentic affection, warmth, and concern.

--Angela Duckworth

CHARACTER EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER



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In these times, it is crucial to remind readers to cultivate and demonstrate the character traits and services that this Center has been promoting since 1995. The Center's staff and advisory committee seeks to help school leaders and others deepen their understanding of character education and to integrate character education into every aspect of the student's school experience.

Our Motto: If we don't have it, we can get it, or create it.

Our Vision: We believe that education for human service must be grounded in the public's desire for ethical, civic-minded, character-based leaders and citizens.

Our Mission: It is the Center's responsibility to provide services and resources to schools, families, communities, K-12 educators, students, teacher educators, community agency leaders and others interested in educating the "hearts and minds" of children and youth.

What do you think of this month's NUCU? We'd love to hear your **thoughts**, **questions** and **feedback**: character@sandiego.edu

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