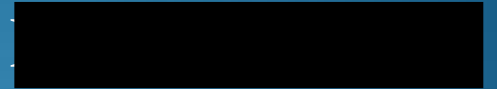


# Assertive Discipline

By:




# Definition of Assertive Discipline

- An approach to classroom management that was developed by Lee and Marlene Canter.
- High level of teacher control
- The teacher controls their classroom in a firm but positive manner
- Teachers must establish rules and directions that clearly define the limits of acceptable and unacceptable student behavior

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assertive\\_discipline](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assertive_discipline)

# Overview of Steps

- **First time- Warning or reminder & supportive feedback**  
ex: “You should be working on the problems on page 62, this is your reminder” (Two students continue talking)
- **Second time-Minimum corrective action**  
ex: “I can see that you have chosen to break the rules, you will need to stay in your seats one minute after class.”
- **Third time- Escalate corrective action**  
ex: “You will need to stay in your seats two minutes after class.”

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- Fourth time- Escalate corrective action further & supportive feedback  
ex: “Take your coats and move to the chair in the back of the room.”
  - Fifth time- Assertive command  
ex: “You have chosen to break the rules, you will need to leave and go to the principal’s office.”

# Philosophy of Assertive Discipline

- You have the right and the responsibility to establish rules and directions that clearly define the limits of acceptable and unacceptable student behavior.
- You have the right and responsibility to be supportive of those students who are not disruptive .

# Philosophy continued

- You have the right and responsibility to teach students to consistently follow these rules and directions throughout the school day and school year.
- You have the right and responsibility to ask for assistance from parents and administrators.

# Establishing a Classroom Discipline Plan

1. Establish rules that students must follow at all times.
2. Develop supportive feedback that students will consistently receive for following the rules.
3. Corrective actions that the teacher will consistently use when a student chooses not to follow the rules

# Example Discipline Plan

## 1. Classroom Rules

- Follow directions
- Be in the classroom and seated when the bell rings
- Do not swear or use put downs

## 2. Positive Recognition

- Supportive feedback
- Positive Notes sent home to parents
- Privilege Pass



# Example Discipline Plan

## 3. Corrective Actions

- 1<sup>st</sup> time- Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> time- Stay in class one minute after bell rings
- 3<sup>rd</sup> time- Stay in class two minutes after bell rings
- 4<sup>th</sup> time- Call Parents
- 5<sup>th</sup> time- Classroom isolation
- 6<sup>th</sup> time- Send to principal

## 4. Severity Clause: Send to principal

# Examples of Supportive Feedback

- Giving Verbal Recognition
- Positive Notes and Phone Calls
- Behavioral Awards
- Special Privileges
- Tangible Rewards

# Teacher Behavior Continuum

- Looking
  - Establish a plan that is published to students, parents, principal
  - Post the rules in the class
  - Teaches the discipline plan to students
- Naming/Questioning
  - “We should all be doing\_\_\_\_\_”
  - “What should we be doing now?”

# Teacher Behavior Continuum

- Commanding
  - “I want you to stop talking now!”
  - “This is your last warning”
- Modeling/Reinforcing
  - Teacher must follow up a warning with a corrective action
  - Actually putting the discipline plan in place
  - Follow through
- Severity Clause
  - If the student were endangering property, himself, or others
  - Go straight to the harshest punishment

# Suggested Classroom Procedures

- Scanning
- Circulating the Classroom
- Redirection

# Reference

- All of this material was taken from:
  - Wolfgang, C.H. (2005). *Solving discipline and classroom management problems: Methods and models for today's teachers* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.