Kicking off an inspirational school year!
Part II: Creating Student Connections for a Successful School Year
OUR MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES

Co-hosted by Sanford Inspire and Sanford Harmony

Thought leaders in education sharing topics to inspire the best teaching and support social emotional learning

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Kicking off an Inspirational School Year!

Part II: Creating Student Connections for a Successful School Year

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CHELONNDA SEROYER
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International Teacher Award Winner
Who are Harry and Rosemary Wong?

How To Be an Effective Teacher: The First Days of School
Welcome!

Part II: Creating Student Connections for a Successful School Year

Chelonnda Seroyer
Step One: Start Strong!

2:2 There Is Only One First Day of School

The First Day of School

The effective teacher starts with a plan, a better and more reflective plan than the previous year. The ineffective teacher does the same thing year after year, which is why Einstein said, “Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, yet expecting different results.”

Douglas Brooks

Seven Things Students Want to Know

Douglas Brooks says that students want to know seven things on the first day of school, thus, effective teachers plan their first day of school accordingly. The following are the seven things students want to know on the first day of school:

1. Am I in the right room? For many students, who come from dysfunctional families or challenging neighborhoods, school can be a safe and consistent haven. Help the students look forward to coming to school by providing hall guides, signs, and welcome messages on the most important day of the school year. *The First Days of School* states that we celebrate the wrong day at school, which is graduation day. Many students never see their graduation day and this may be because we never start them off correctly.

Teachers should be standing at the door, helping anyone who needs help. A sign should be on the door as well as the chalkboard of the classroom with the teacher’s name and other welcoming and supporting information.
Take Note...

7 Questions
1. Am I in the right room?
Greeting increases classroom engagement by 27 percent.

Allan Allday
University of Kentucky

Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 2007 and 2011
2. Where am I supposed to sit?
3. Who is this teacher as a person?
Please Don’t Overshare
4. Will this teacher treat me fairly? 

Yes! ALWAYS!
Maslow’s Hierarchy of School Needs

- **Physiological**: Basic needs are met (eats breakfast, has clean clothing, safe place to go home, able to sleep)
- **Safety**: Emotional and physical safety (clear school/class routines, access to counselors/nurse, ok to take risks)
- **Belonging**: Forming relationships (advisory, adult role models, friendship groups, peer relationships)
- **Esteem**: Positive classroom culture present (positive feedback, time for reflection, encouragement to take risks)
- **Self-Actualization**: Student is available to learn
He PROMISES to take care of them...

1. They will get breakfast and lunch everyday

2. He will make sure they get on the right bus at the end of the day.

https://www.teachers.net/wong/MAY08/
5. What will I be doing this year?
6. How will I be graded?
Questionable Grading Practices

Compliance Grade Examples

• Signed Syllabus
  • Question
  • Not comfortable signing due to a lack of understanding

• Restroom Pass Reward

• Extra Supplies
  • Tissues
  • Hand Sanitizer
7. What are the rules in this classroom?

Mrs. Seroyer’s Classroom Rules

1. BE COURTEOUS
2. BE PREPARED
3. BE ON TIME!
4. FOLLOW ALL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Choosing to follow the rules will result in:
- Verbal Acknowledgement
- A stress-free learning environment
- A pleasant and secure atmosphere

Not choosing to follow the rules will result in:
1st – Warning and documentation
2nd – 15 minute after school detention
3rd – Action Form, Parental Contact, and 30 minute after school detention
4th – Disciplinary Referral

*Please choose to make this a great year!
Kicking off an inspirational school year!

DON’T MISS THE NEXT WEBINAR IN OUR SERIES: COMING SOON

Part III:

Building and Maintaining Strong Parent Connections

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Thank you
CREATE HARMONY.