

# *The Superior Educator*

**A Calm and Assertive Approach  
to Classroom Management  
and Large Group Motivation  
by Stephen T. McClard**

**An effective classroom management plan should be clear, concise, and easily understood by your students. A good classroom management plan will allow you to take control of problems firmly and quickly, while protecting the dignity of the student. Plenty of room should be allowed for you to give students due process and opportunities for improvement.**

**The plan I use in my classroom is detailed below and can be easily adapted to your unique classroom management needs. Feel free to adapt my plan for use in your classroom.**

**To be successful, follow these simple three rules. I would also suggest that you read the book, Verbal Judo by George Thompson.**

- 1. Avoid bias. Eliminate all emotion, anger and condescension from your tone.**
- 2. Create context for the students. What's in it for me? Why should I behave?**
- 3. Build relationships.**

**Stephen T. McClard**

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**One Rule – Show mutual respect. Everything else is a responsibility.**

**Responsibilities lead to success and rules lead to consequences. Ultimately, the choice is yours.**

## **Band Expectations and Discipline Procedures**

### **Step 1**

**Step 1** is your goal—mutual respect between yourself and everyone in the room. If you show mutual respect, then you will receive no discipline referrals or punishment. You will simply be asked to correct problems when necessary. All students who show mutual respect will receive this benefit, but only for normal classroom behavior issues such as those listed on page 2. **Problems such as attendance issues, bullying, fighting or other harsh infractions will be considered willful misbehavior and will be referred directly to the parents and principals according to school policy.**

### **Step 2**

When it becomes obvious that you are willing to show a pattern of misbehavior or disrespect, the responsibilities in this class will become rules for you. Your parents will be called or e-mailed. When it becomes obvious that you choose to behave well and return to a pattern of mutual respect, then you may return to **Step 1** and receive the benefits of mutual respect. The directors will inform and complement you when this happens. Keep in mind that the directors will always show you respect.

### **Step 3**

If you show a continual pattern of disrespect, you will visit with the principal and participate in a parent/teacher conference. You will return to **Step 2** when these requirements are met. Until these requirements are met, you will not have rehearsal or performance privileges and will complete written assignments for your grade. Punishments will be given at this stage.

### **Step 4**

This step will be reached if you make it to step 3 more than once in a school year. You will lose rehearsal and performance privileges until the end of quarter. Written assignments will be assigned for your grade until your class can be changed.

Students should always keep in mind that the directors appreciate all students and only want what is best for the development of their positive character. Choosing a pattern of mutual respect will ultimately be the best choice for everyone involved. Please make wise choices.

### **General Classroom Responsibilities**

1. Respect others and you will receive respect.
2. Never jeopardize the safety of others.
3. Students will enter the room quietly, ready to give 100% effort.
4. When the tardy bell rings, students should be in their seat ready to play 1 minute after the bell.
5. Students will avoid being a distraction to others. Students should work hard to eliminate all unnecessary noises from the room before, during and after rehearsal.
6. Students will use a low volume, indoor speaking voice at all times. Yelling will not be tolerated in the band room.
7. When playing, proper horn carriage and upper body carriage will be observed. Students will sit on the edge of their chairs when playing.
8. Students will avoid touching percussion equipment unless invited to do so.
9. No gum, food, drinks will be allowed in the band room. Bottled water with a lid is acceptable.

10. Everything has a place and needs to be returned to that place when rehearsal is over.

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