

Classroom Management Plan

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## Classroom Management Plan

This classroom management plan includes my classroom management philosophy, a plan for my first five days of school, as well as a connection to students and their families, what-if scenarios, and finally an appendix of other resources I will use for classroom management.

### **Classroom Management Philosophy**

My classroom management philosophy is to create a welcoming classroom where all students believe they can succeed. According to Wong (2018), organization, consistency, and planning are essential. This creates predictable expectations, so students are never caught off guard. I plan to avoid power struggles by utilizing Love and Logic's (2010) waiting strategies and encouraging students to work through their own problems. I want to involve students in the running of the classroom, so they feel invested in the process, which is especially important in social studies.

### **Plan for the First Five Days**

#### **Day One**

On the first day of school, I will greet students at the door of my classroom to welcome them, and make sure they are in the correct room by checking their name off on my class list. Posted at the door as well as on the board at the front of the classroom will be the schedule of the school day and what classes I teach each period of the day. Also important on day one, especially in the morning classes at a school with block scheduling, is that lunch times are included in this schedule. Students tend to get anxious about when they are supposed to go eat lunch. When students enter the room, they will know they are in the right place, and they will be pointed towards the opening assignment posted on the board. As they come in, they will pick up the syllabus, opening activity, and their name tent off the front table and find their spot at a

numbered desk based on the number on their name tent. These numbers will be assigned alphabetically. Once students are seated, they will begin working on the opening get-to-know-you activity which will be due the next day.

Once all students have entered the classroom and have had some time to work on their opening assignment, I will officially begin class by introducing myself with a short presentation and ask students to go around and share one thing about themselves as well. Then, we will cover basic class procedures, policies, and expectations as outlined on the syllabus. This will include procedures for bell work, necessary materials for class, and an overview of how school policies (i.e. tardy, behavioral issues) affect the classroom. I will also cover my homework policies and expectations on day one, including the pink slip. If we have extra time, students can continue to work on their opening activity which will be due the next day. I will discuss the procedure for the end of class at the end of class so students will be able to practice.

### **Day Two**

On day two I will continue to greet my students at the door of my classroom. A new opening activity will be posted on the front board, along with other essential information (schedules, etc.). Students will come into class, pick up any handouts from the front table, find their spot based on their name tent, and get started on their opening activity. Once all students have entered the room or the bell rings, we will start class by reviewing everyone's names. Then, we will review procedures and policies from the day before, especially the homework policy, as students will be expected to turn in their get-to-know-you activity from the day before. We will continue to go over the syllabus, and students will sign an agreement at the end of class outlining that they know and understand the class policies and expectations.

**Day Three**

I will greet my students at the door. They will practice the procedure for coming into class, picking up their name tent and any handouts, and getting started on bell work. These procedures will be reviewed if necessary. On day three we will cover more general class policies and school information, emergency procedures, and review all previously covered procedures, policies, and expectations. We will go over a brief introduction of course material to get students interested in the topic of the class. We will also cover the major assignments of the class, and how students will be graded.

**Day Four**

I will greet my students at the door. Students will continue to practice the procedure for entering the classroom. We will review some essential procedures such as turning in homework, going to the bathroom, and quieting the class. I will introduce the concept of 'class government' and students will decide if they want to run for a position or nominate a classmate. The class government will act as a way for students to let me know they want to make a change our social studies classroom. After this has been introduced, students will have the opportunity to ask questions, and may craft a campaign as homework if they would like.

**Day Five**

On day five, I will greet my students at the door, and they will practice the entrance procedure. We will review the essential procedures. Students will present their campaign platforms and we will hold class government elections. We will then go through the procedures for how students are to fulfill their roles, and a scenario or two. We will create a class constitution outlining student's expectations for the class and for one another, which all students must sign by the end of class.

### **Connection to Students and Families**

It will be essential for me to make a positive connection with students and their families at the beginning of the year. I plan to do this with a letter and/or email. I will send out an email to families before the first day of school and send home a hard copy with students in the first couple days. This way, hopefully the family will receive information in at least one medium. I will include my name and contact information, as well as information about myself, the class, and my expectations for the year. I will provide families and students with an opportunity to respond to my letter to tell me any information they think I should know. For an example letter, see Appendix A. To connect with students, I will also have them fill out a get-to-know-you activity on the first day. See Appendix B for an example of this assignment. This will give them an opportunity to share with me what they are involved in outside of school, anything that might be going on at home or work, etc. that might affect their school performance, or anything else they feel I should know. These documents are imperative for forming a positive relationship with both families and students and for educating the whole person.

### **What If?**

There are alternate strategies I would consider using in my classroom if I encountered behavioral problems, or if my philosophy did not align well with the school where I was hired. Marzano's (2003) strategies for engagement would be a great way to avoid negative behavior, because if students are engaged, they are not misbehaving. I fear being unable to control my classroom but stopping problem behaviors before they arise by keeping students busy will be a very useful strategy.

References

Fay, J. and Funk, D. (2010). Teaching with Love and Logic: Taking control of the classroom.

Love and Logic Press: Golden, CO.

Marzano, R. (2003). Classroom Management that Works: Research-based strategies for every teacher. ASCD: Alexandria, VA.

Wong, H., Wong R. (2018). The First Days of School, 5th ed. Harry Wong Publications, Inc.: Mountainview, CA.

## Appendix A

Miss Hauf  
Social Studies  
School, Room Number  
701-555-5555  
[misshauf@exampleschool.com](mailto:misshauf@exampleschool.com)

Dear Families,

My name is Miss Hauf and I am your student's social studies teacher this year. I am a graduate of the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. I love social studies because it helps us see the world from many different perspectives and helps us find our place in the context of a bigger picture. I am excited to have your student in class! The best way to reach me during the day is my classroom phone: 701-555-5555, and the best way to reach me in the evening is through my school email: [misshauf@exampleschool.com](mailto:misshauf@exampleschool.com) . Do not hesitate to contact me for any reason!

In my classroom, students are held to high standards both academically and behaviorally. **Every student can succeed in my classroom.** In the case that behavior issues arise, students will be required to write their own letter to you explaining the incident, and you and your student will be invited to attend a conference to address the behavior.

This year in social studies we will be exploring [insert topics and driving questions]. On the first day of school, students should bring: a pencil, notebook, and folder (or a binder with loose leaf paper) and should continue to bring these materials every day.

We are going to have a great year!

Sincerely,

Miss Hauf

Appendix B

Name:

Subject:

Period: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Date:

I am a: freshman / sophomore / junior / senior

What is one of your favorite things? (song, food, etc)

Do you like social studies? Why or why not?

What can I do to make social studies more enjoyable for you?

Why are you taking this class? What do you hope to get out of this class?

How many advanced placement/honors courses are you currently enrolled in?



Do you usually complete all of your homework on time? If not, why?

Do you have a job during the school year? Where? How many hours do you work per week?

Are you in any extracurriculars or sports? What time do you usually get home from your activities?

What do you participate in outside of school that takes up your time? (Church activities, volunteering, music lessons, etc)

Is there anything else I should know about you, or anything you want to share?