

Positive And Supportive Teacher Student Relationship



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ABSTRACT

Every teacher must realize that he/she needs to be highly motivated, committed, passionate, and optimistic towards his/her students as well as his/her teaching in order to create a positive and productive impact on the students and their learning outcomes. It is a proven fact that teachers who are sincere, caring, approachable, supportive and inspiring can easily enable their students to become enthusiastic, successful and creative learners. John Hattie, a proponent of Evidence Based Quantitative Research Methodologies on the Influences on Student achievement, who is also a Professor of Education and Director of the Melbourne Education Research Institute at the University of Melbourne, Australia, has noted in his study that a harmonious classroom can assist with the development of creativity as well as reduce anxiety levels amongst students. In my opinion, the primary objective of all effective and conscious teachers should be to promote a safe and healthy learning environment wherein students will feel confident, comfortable, happy and accepted. Time and again, I am convinced of the fact that only effective and conscious teachers understand, acknowledge and therefore, appreciate the significance of creating a rapport and bonding with their students for providing an education that is positive, productive and progressive. When teachers display a positive and congenial attitude towards their students, they not only make them 'learn better, faster and deeper' but make them self-confident and self-reliant too. Building positive, supportive, cooperative and mutually strong teacher-student relationships is the key to create a welcoming, healthy and conducive learning space in which students are enabled to thrive, prosper and go on to become what they are meant to be in life. And it is only by forging and nurturing a strong and positive relationship with their students, can teachers create a healthy and conducive learning atmosphere wherein students feel welcome, accepted, respected, loved and cared for, wherein learning becomes fun and joy. Conscious and committed teachers promote the art of positive parenting in every classroom and in every school to enable the students to become confident learners by willingly and happily shouldering the responsibility of being their 'second parents'. When teachers teach with passion, display positive attitude towards their students and their success, and show genuine care for them, the students reciprocate with respect for their teachers, interest and love for their learning.

Keyword: Student, Teacher, Relationship, Education Support.

INTRODUCTION

Successful teachers are those that have the ability to maximise the learning potential of all students in their class. Developing positive relationships between a teacher and student is a fundamental aspect of quality teaching and student learning. Positive teacher-student relationships promote a sense of school belonging and encourage students to participate cooperatively. Students develop confidence to experiment and succeed in an environment where they are not restricted by the fear of failure. Teachers are able to assist students with motivation and goal setting, and students can turn to them for advice and guidance. As a parent, it's important to understand how to develop positive teacher-student relationships so you know what to look for at your child's school. The effects of teacher-student relationships have been researched extensively, and points to how positive relationships can have good social and academic outcomes. As a parent, this research highlights the need to ensure your son is being taught by highly trained, highly motivated teachers who are aware of the impact they have – not just on your son's test scores, but also on his overall development inside and outside the classroom.

IMPACT OF POSITIVE TEACHER-STUDENT RELATIONSHIP

Indeed, in every student's life, teachers are the powerful and effective means of encouragement and support outside the home environment. The quality and nature of the relationship of a teacher with his/her students have a larger effect on the student's personal, social, behavioral, and professional development. Some of the key aspects that good teacher-student bonding impacts are:

Improving Academic Success: Positive relationships between students and teachers is sure to favor the social and academic outcomes. The inherent qualities such as caring, trust, and mutual respect in a teacher-student relationship increase a teacher's rapport with students and improve their attitude in the classroom, thus creating an environment that affirms and supports them the students achieve the best.

Preventing Behavioral/Mental Problems: The impact of teacher-student bonding upon student's behavioral and mental health cannot be ignored. With a supportive framework to guide and advice, young students struggling with behavioral and mental problems can be easily dealt with. Teacher-student bonding can influence the development of 'prosocial' behaviors like altruism and cooperation, significantly reducing aggressive and oppositional behaviors in the classroom. A harmonious classroom environment assists in better development of students' creativity and talents, and reduce their anxiety levels.

Aiding Growth in and Outside the Classroom: Having positive relationships with teachers in the class allows students to confidently take on academic challenges, which also paves way for their social-emotional development. When the teacher-student relationship is well-established, classrooms become supportive places for students, allowing them to engage and grow in both academically and socially productive ways.

HOW IS STRONG TEACHER-STUDENT BONDING DEVELOPED?

It may superficially appear to be one difficult task to forge a positive, strong relationship between a student and a teacher, but it can be accomplished by creating an effective learning environment. A teacher who shares a good measure of communication and mutual respect with his/her students, shows equality, encouragement, and positive attitude towards students, and strives to create a safe learning environment in the classroom, is certainly able to develop a strong teacher-student bonding. We believe that children do differ in their ways of learning, and hence, it is the responsibility of every teacher to cater to the individual needs of the students. While some students grasp the concepts quickly and take part actively in the learning process, some others may find it to be diffident, dull, or even downright disruptive. It is the teacher who has to create an atmosphere that is conducive to an engaging learning process. Only then, a student can be molded into a masterpiece.

First of all, consistent communication is vital to creating a connection between the student and the teacher. A teacher has to incorporate appropriate communication strategies in his/her teaching style to successfully interact with the students. Having a good understanding of the children's problems in the classroom by grasping their emotional struggle in learning and keeping an insight into their behaviors, can help a lot in shaping the communication between the two. The more a teacher communicates, the better are the chances of effective learning at the student's end.

Secondly, creating an emotionally-safe learning space is important. In order to build a good student-teacher relationship, a teacher has to understand the differing opinions between students and equally respect their views. Students should find their classroom safe and free from ridicule when engaging in questions or opinions so that there is no taunt or criticism from both peers and teachers. Teachers have to make the classroom environment an emotionally-safer place where questions and comments are answered with patience and respect. Also, showering deserving students with timely praise, with smiles and words of approval or even a celebratory applause can certainly make students motivated to accomplish more. Above all, a teacher should maintain true equity in the classroom without any disparity in learning. No students should be marginalized or left out, and teachers have to focus equally on each and every student in the class, which will, in turn, lead to a strong teacher-student relationship, and subsequently, improve their academic performance. As you can see, teachers play an extremely important role in the life of students and hence it is necessary that utmost care is taken while choosing the faculty in a school. Knowing the crucial importance of teacher-student bond in effective learning, we, at the JP International School, have made it a point to ensure that our

teachers and students connect well with each other. We understand the positive and lasting effect that teacher-student bond has on the children, and do all the needful to forge productive teacher-student relationships in the classroom. Our faculty are well-trained and are capable of understanding what such relationships entail and how they can build a strong teacher-student relationship by adopting a high-performance relational style. Indeed, JPIS establishes a supportive classroom environment, coupled with productive student-teacher relationships, to provide a robust platform for students so that they stay encouraged and motivated to grow not only academically but also personally. Developing a strong and positive teacher-student relationship takes significant effort and time; however, the outcome is worth the effort. When it comes to raising children to learn and lead, a positive teacher-student relationship is as important as academic performance for students to achieve more and empower themselves for the life ahead of them.

POSITIVE AND CARING RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS ARE CRITICAL TO STUDENT SUCCESS

When teachers make an intentional effort to get to know each of their students, it can foster in students a sense of belonging and connection to school—which can then build a foundation for academic success. Positive teacher-student relationships lead to increased cooperation and engagement in the classroom. They also contribute to a welcoming, inclusive school climate that promotes equity, social and emotional learning and improved student outcomes. But how can teachers reach all their students—including students from cultural backgrounds different from their own? Here are a few strategies based on research and my experiences working with educators in Oregon and across the country:

Know your own perspectives. Think deeply about your own attitudes and beliefs and how they may impact your opinions and actions. Our cultural background influences how we interpret situations and communicate, as well as the choices we make. An important element of culturally responsive communication is understanding how your views affect the way you interpret what students say and do.

Build relationships with each student. Positive learning environments and engaging instruction help all students achieve success. Caring and emotionally supportive classrooms are particularly important for students who have had challenging life and/or school experiences.

4 BENEFITS OF POSITIVE STUDENT-TEACHER RELATIONSHIPS

Positive and healthy relationships between teachers and students can be extremely beneficial at all levels of an educational establishment, within the classroom and across the school environment as a whole. From improved self-esteem to increased engagement, there are a number of benefits of

establishing positive student-teacher relationships between educators and pupils of all ages. Educators and students can experience these benefits with the use of methods that include communicating positive expectations, demonstrating caring, and developing classroom pride. As positive student-teacher relationships continue to develop, the long-lasting effects benefit not only students and teachers but parents and administrators as well.

1. Promote Academic Success with Positive Student-Teacher Relationships

The presence of positive student-teacher relationships alone does not translate to academic success, but students that establish a strong bond with their teacher do perform better than students whose relationships with teachers involve some sort of conflict. Teachers can help improve academic success in students by clearly expressing positive expectations for each student, presenting students with equal opportunities to participate in class discussions, and expressing to students that they are confident in their ability to succeed when it comes to their coursework.

2. Avoid Behavior Problems through Healthy Student-Teacher Relationships

Another one of the benefits of healthy student-teacher relationships is a classroom that is free of behavioral disruptions, which leaves teachers more time to instruct their class. Positive student-teacher relationships help to establish a learning environment in which educators and students display mutual respect for one another, rather than exchanges that involve conflict. Achieving this balance is dependent upon the manner in which a teacher addresses students when they misbehave and in general, as it is a determining factor in how students respond. Teachers should be sure to maintain a calm demeanor when communicating with a student, avoiding frustration. Some examples of correcting student behavior in a non-confrontational manner include:

1. Speaking with students privately about their behavior in order to avoid embarrassment.
2. Acknowledging students' feelings in order to understand the cause of their behavior.
3. Reviewing school policy or classroom guidelines so that students are aware of the rules they have violated.
4. Following up discussion with immediate consequences for students that misbehave.
5. Checking on students after they have been disciplined for their actions.

In order to prevent a behavior problem from occurring again, the problem must be addressed. This highlights the importance of student-teacher relationships in which student behavior is corrected in a manner that encourages them to reflect on how they have misbehaved and what steps they can take in the future to change it.

3. Help Develop Self-Worth and Improved Student Mental Health

Healthy student-teacher relationships are often most beneficial for specific categories of students, including male students, those suffering from learning difficulties, and students with low economic status. In order to help students develop a sense of self-worth, it may sometimes be necessary to seek out opportunities to give them praise with acknowledgments of academic and even athletic accomplishments. Students with low self-esteem, often those considered at-risk, will react positively to positive reinforcement from their teacher, providing students with a sense of pride.

4. Positive Student-Teacher Relationships Assist Educators with Professional Growth

Students aren't the only ones that benefit from healthy student-teacher relationships. One primary benefit for the educator is that, as teachers work strategically to develop these relationships, they improve their interpersonal and professional skills as well. Teaching is a profession that requires the ability to clearly communicate information even during stress-inducing scenarios. It is important for teachers to find ways to successfully manage stress, in order to express concepts and avoid frustration. For some educators, improving their interpersonal communication skills helps to reduce stress and develop positive student-teacher relationships, in addition to positive relationships with parents and co-workers. An added benefit of improved interpersonal skills includes personal and professional growth, which may be positively reflected in an educator's level of communication with students and the amount of student engagement that occurs as a result of it.

CONCLUSION

We all want to feel cared for and valued by the significant people in our world. Students are no different. This knowledge is a powerful tool in the arsenal available to you as you form your classroom discipline plan. As a classroom teacher, you wield a great deal of power over your students simply due to the fact that you control their destiny for up to six and a half hours each day, five days a week. When students feel that you value and care for them as individuals, they are more willing to comply with your wishes. Think about it for just a minute. Aren't you more apt to go out of your way to please a boss who you feel values you as an individual and treats you with dignity and respect, rather than a boss who communicates a lack of respect for you? When your boss asks about your family, gives you —slack when there is a personal emergency, or praises you for work well done, don't you develop feelings of regard for this boss and want to do your best to please him or her? Students have the same feelings. So it makes sense that developing positive teacher-student relations is one of the most effective steps you can take to establish a positive discipline climate in the classroom. It's critical to remember that when you treat students with respect, they tend to appreciate and like you. When they appreciate and like you, they are more willing to want to please you—which causes them to be more likely to behave appropriately. This is why it is so important to

remember that, when it comes to student behavior, it's far more often the relationship students have with you than it is the rules themselves that encourages students to follow those rules.

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