

## Note and Quote

Source(s): Wong, Harry K., and Rosemary T. Wong. *The First Days of School*. California: Harry K. Wong Publications, 1998.

Shared by an unknown, wonderful middle school teacher in the ASD

“The very first day of school is the most important day of the school year.”

What EFFECTIVE TEACHERS do on the very first day will determine the success of the class.”

“The Seven Things Students want to Know on the First Day of School”

1. Am I in the right room?
2. Where am I supposed to sit?
3. What are the rules in this classroom?
4. What will I be doing this year?
5. How will I be graded?
6. Who is the teacher as a person?
7. Will you treat me as a human being?

“The *effective teacher* assigns seats on the first day of school.”

“Reasons for a Seating Chart”

1. Facilitates roll taking
2. Aids name memorization
3. Separates potential problem students

“The research says there must be an assignment posted before the student walks in.”

“The assignment must be posted in the same consistent location every single day.”

“The very first thing that must occur when the students walk in is they must immediately get to work.”

“The number one problem in the classroom is not discipline; it is the lack of procedures and routines.”

“Discipline v. Procedures”

Discipline: Concerns how students BEHAVE

Procedures: Concern how things are DONE

Discipline: HAS penalties and rewards

Procedures: Have NO penalties or rewards

“To Effectively Manage Your Classroom”

1. Clearly define classroom procedures and routines
2. Effective teachers spend a good deal of time the first weeks of the school year introducing, teaching, modeling, and practicing [procedures until they become routines.

“An effective teacher MANAGES a classroom. An ineffective teacher DISCIPLINES a classroom.”

“Procedures must be rehearsed again and again until they become routines.”

“The first few days of school, teach only those procedures necessary for the smooth opening of class.”

“The Ineffective Teacher”

Begins the first day of school attempting to teach a subject and spends the rest of the school year running after the students.

“The Effective Teacher”

Research shows that effective teachers spend most of the first week teaching students to follow classroom procedures.