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Philosophy of Management

The way in which a teacher manages their classroom will determine the success or failure of their students. I believe that effective management not only creates a positive classroom atmosphere, but teaches students lifelong behavioral skills that they can implement in the real world. For this reason, it is important that teachers manage their students in such a way that the students want to respect them. This can be done by not humiliating, giving them responsibilities, and showing them mutual respect. Giving students choices and responsibilities allows students to become independent individuals. Therefore not only is the teacher showing the students how to take control of the choices given to them, but they are giving the students opportunities to respect the teacher by not abusing the choices. However choices are a privilege and not a right. When students abuse choices, jeopardizing the trust and respect the teacher has given to them. Students can always earn back the choices when they prove and repair the trust the teacher offers to them.

In order to avoid humiliating students, teachers should utilize hand signals, quiet conversations, and other hidden corrections. By doing this, the teacher does not have to raise their voice to a student and embarrass them in front of their peers. Students are constantly learning and constantly making mistakes, so it is the teacher's job to correct them and set them up for success.

I believe that effective classroom management allows the teacher to have a positive classroom atmosphere. One way to achieve this is through the demeanor of the teacher. The teacher is constantly modeling throughout the school day, whether it be in academics or a certain behavior they want. If the teacher is positive and physically showing the students how they want the students to behave, there is a higher chance that the students will copy them. Likewise, if the teacher is mad

or angry, this will affect the behavior and attitudes of the students. Also within the classroom, the noise level should not be stagnant. Depending on the activity, students could be productively loud or silently working. For instance, if the teacher or a student giving an answer is talking, the rest of the class should be silent and tracking the speaker. This shows respect for those that are speaking. There also could be instances when the class is playing a game or chanting; in this situation, it would be appropriate for the noise level to be loud. Whatever the situation, the teacher should always have control of the noise level and movement in the classroom in case an emergency should arise.

Healthy competition should also be a part of the classroom atmosphere. Individual competition can promote intrinsic motivation when teaching students how to be self-motivated. There are some students who have a low motivation or low self-concept. When students win games, their motivation and self-concept has a higher likelihood of increasing. Team competition can teach students how to cooperate with their peers in order to be successful and win games. Cooperation is a lifelong skill that students must develop at a young age so that they can implement it into their personal lives. Also, through games with competition, a teacher can reinforce either academic concepts or certain behaviors. Competition teaches the students the concepts of winning and losing. Teachers should teach student how to lose humbly and congratulate those that win. Likewise, those that win should remain poised and praise the others for their efforts.

When disciplining students, the teacher should give them a punishment that fits the crime. The punishment should also not be something that the student enjoys or wants to do. This is because the student may continue to do the negative behavior in order to participate in the consequence. Punishments can also be decided upon with the contributions of the students. This is another way in which students can take responsibility for their actions. However, I think that in

order to prevent serious behaviors from happening, students should be provided with an area they can go to in order to calm themselves down. This way, they are learning how to self-regulate their behaviors and emotions. Law and gospel should be most prevalent within ones discipline. When a teacher uses a form of punishment, they are showing the student that what they did was wrong and not acceptable. However, because we are all sinful people, the teacher should show them grace, mercy, and forgiveness. When a teacher does this, they are showing the students that they have an unconditional love for their students and want to see them be successful.

Mutual respect is the key to an effective positive classroom. Some people believe that a student does not have to like a teacher in order to learn; this is simply not true. If a student does not respect a teacher, they will not reach their fullest potential in the classroom. Students are very aware if they feel that a teacher does not like them or respect them. When a student does feel that they are loved, appreciated, and respected by the teacher, they will be willing to do most anything that the teacher asks of them. Therefore, it should be the teacher's goal, within their management, to achieve mutual respect between them and their students.