Classroom Procedures That Lead To Higher Customer Satisfaction
Dan Davison - Retired JHS Choir Teacher - Puyallup, Washington

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1979 - First Year Teacher
(clueless)

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I. Things to Do Prior to the First Day of School

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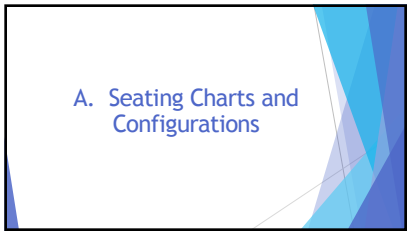
A. Seating Charts and Configurations

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Use software or
Make a template

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Make a seating chart for every class, even for the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

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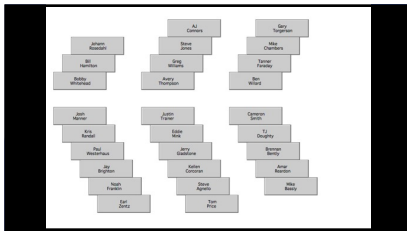

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Having a seating chart:

- Helps you with taking roll
- It avoids weird social issues
- Cuts down on talking (a lot)
- Establishes you as the person in charge.

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Have some of the literature ready to go before the first day of school

- Try for at least four songs
- Try for one copy per person

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II. A Huge Concept:

The First Three Days of School Are a Golden Opportunity

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Whenever you teach something for the first time:

- Teach it thoroughly
- Aim for 100% understanding
- Verify 100% understanding
- Check again the next day.

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Teach your routines:

- in small doses.
- not all in one day
- watch their body language

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III. The Importance of Having Written Lesson Plans

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Choir Lesson Plans Have a Lot of Parts

- Opening Activity
- Vocal Exercises
- Stretches
- Roll
- Music Theory
- Ear Training
- Music Listening
- Solo Tryouts
- Getting To Know You
- Sight-Singing
- Rhythm Work
- Announcements/Fund Raising
- Woodshedding
- Literature - Deep Dive
- Literature - Shallow Dive
- "Dessert" Song
- Time For Affirmation

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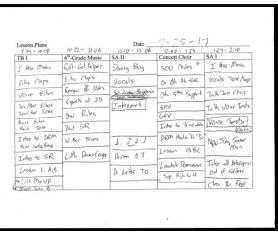

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Having written lesson plans:

- Helps you with your pacing
- The class will run more efficiently
- You can avoid always starting at the beginning of every song.
- Makes you even more the pack leader

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My Challenge:

That all teachers have a written lesson plan for every class, every day.

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IV. Focusing on the First Five Minutes

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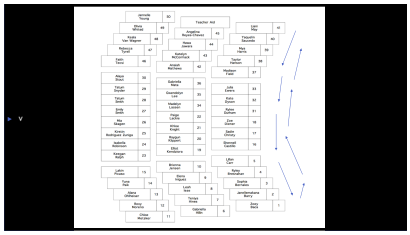

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When The Bell Rings

- Get going within a few seconds.
- Avoid "roll" as an activity
- Start with an activity that doesn't require perfect silence prior
- Use a microphone to help yourself.

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Strategies for Stopping Talking

- Wait for students to be seated.
- Sometimes "asking" will work
- Play a calm chord on the piano
- Echo Claps or "SH" Rhythms

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Strategies for Stopping Talking

- "If you can hear me clap once."
- "Shush your neighbor."
- Raise your hand if you can hear me.
- Give more time after "boisterous"

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Another Strategy Good Transitions

If you have good lesson plans, you can set up the next activity.

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Another Strategy "Over-Practice"

If they are too noisy when sitting
If noisy when student is talking.
If students were too boisterous when entering.

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VI. Using Proximity to Your Advantage

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Concepts:

You can conduct the class from anywhere in the room.

When you get closer to a student, you increase their level of concern.

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VII. Knowing When to Allow Talking

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VIII. Using Grades to Your Advantage

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Concept:

Some people need selfish motivation.

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"Participation" should be a large percentage of the grade in choir.

- ▶Effort in singing
- ▶Stage presence
- ▶Good posture
- ▶Good listening
- ▶Organized and ready
- ▶Good work ethic

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Advanced classes:
Grade less often

Challenging classes:
Grade more often

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Two grades every two weeks:

Rehearsal Skills
Musical skills

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	28 of 28 Students	3 of 3 Assign.	Rehearsal Skills February Classwork 2/28/18	Musical Skills - February Classwork 2/28/18	Test: Dotted Rhythms Classwork 2/28/18
			20	20	10
1	Agnello, Steve		20	20	10
2	Bassly, Mike		19	20	10
3	Bently, Brennan		18	17	7
4	Brighton, Jay		16	18	8
5	Chambers, Mike		20	20	10
6	Connors, AJ		20	20	8
7	Corcoran, Kellen		15	16	10

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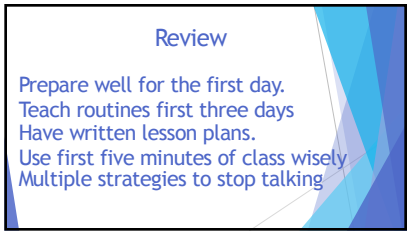
Review
Prepare well for the first day.
Teach routines first three days
Have written lesson plans.
Use first five minutes of class wisely
Multiple strategies to stop talking

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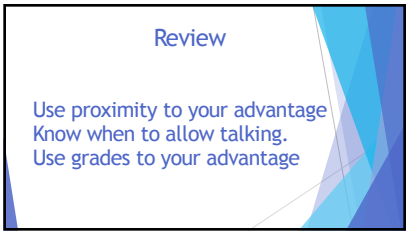
Review
Use proximity to your advantage
Know when to allow talking.
Use grades to your advantage

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Thank you
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Questions
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