

Standard 6: Demonstrates competence in classroom management.

Criterion c: Develops and implements classroom procedures and routines that support high expectations for learning.

One of the keys to a teacher's success is their management plan. A good management plan can relieve a lot of stress that is on a teacher to make decisions within the classroom. This plan gives the teacher a foundation to build on within the classroom. A good management plan deals with everything from placement of the students' desks to maintaining student cooperation.

First, let's start with the physical setting of the classroom. I would have twelve tables with two chairs at each table. There would be three rows of four tables in each row with space to walk in between each table. The tables and chairs would all face the white board at the front of the room. This type of seating would allow for easy partner sharing activities. I would have my desk in the front right corner of the room or on the opposite side and end of the room from the door. This way I could monitor distractions that come from the hallway if I am sitting at my desk. Placement of the equipment is also crucial. I would place the computers and the TV in the back of the room. I would have a projector that connects to the computer hanging from the ceiling with a projection screen that hangs from the ceiling in front of the whiteboard. With students already sitting at tables with another student, partner work will be very simple. When students have to work in larger groups, I will ask them to combine tables. The tables will be combined in each corner of the room and in the middle of the room. Students will have enough room to walk in between each row or column of tables. There will also be enough room at the front of the room for students to present group presentations and even skits if those are needed. They will have enough room to maneuver to the homework trays and computers at the back of

the room, also. The tables won't be smashed against the wall so there will be aisles on each of the sides of the classroom. I will have cabinets for storage of files in each corner of the front of the room. I will also have shelves behind my desk for storing my collection of history books. I will have a bulletin board in the back of the classroom for displaying students' group projects and it will also have maps, graphs, and charts depending upon what chapter we are covering. This will be the basic layout of the classroom.

Classroom rules and procedures are also key components in a management plan. Some of the basics rules for use of things in the room will be that students will be able to things such as the pencil sharpener, the waste basket, and the Kleenex box without asking for permission. The only exception for this rule will be if they abuse these privileges or if students are giving presentations. Students will be able to use their table for all of their classroom activities. They will not be able to use other students' desks unless they are working in groups. Students will also respect their classmate's personal belongings and will have to ask for permission before borrowing something from one of their peers. There are other things such as using the restroom, library, and the computers that students will have to ask for permission from the teacher before they can use one of these.

Rules for instructional time will be as follows. Students will have to raise their hand before contributing to the class's discussion. This will create a more organized discussion and less chaotic classroom. Classroom activities will be a safe zone for students to express their ideas and no bullying or teasing will take place for wrong answers. Small group work and discussion will be preformed and discussed with a "six inch voice." This means that students will not use their outdoor voice and they shouldn't be able to hear what other groups are saying. Distributing materials will be done by me unless I instruct students to do so. If students are

working in groups, I will instruct only one person from each group to come up and collect the materials needed from the front of the classroom. Students who need help with an assignment will be able to come up to my desk and ask me any questions at any time. Students will also be able to ask their peers for help during work time only. However, if they abuse this privilege and become too noisy or cheating occurs, they will have to work independently. When students' complete their work, they will have the choice to work on homework for another class, read a book, or read the next section in their history book.

Transition times are also a time when management issues occur. Before school/class starts students will have the freedom to be out of their seats and talking with peers unless they abuse this privilege, at which time they will have to come into the classroom and immediately report to their seats. However, once the bell rings, students will be expected to be in their seats and ready to start the activities. When the bell rings, students will be expected to walk to their designated area in a single file line with no talking. Students will be expected to follow the same rules for a tornado drill.

Students will be expected to complete all of their work on time and behave in class. They will also be expected to study and prepare for their tests. So with that being said, rewards for succeeding in the classroom will not be very frequent. However, on special occasions when I feel the class might need extra motivation, I will extend a reward for exceptional work or behavior. Consequences will be handed out based on the seriousness or frequency of the offense. For minor infractions or first time offenders, an after class conference will be held, so as to correct the student's behavior. For intermediate infractions or second time offenders, a 30 minute detention will be given to the student. A third offense or a serious infraction will lead to the student being sent to the principal's office.

Accountability procedures will be as follows. I will take attendance at the beginning of each class by calling out student's names and checking them present or absent. I will monitor student's progress by keeping their grades up to date and keeping track of in class participation. I will give students feedback on their work and behavior by writing comments on their homework and tests, by complementing their behavior in class when it is good, and correcting it when it is below average. I will also check student's homework as quickly as possible. I will do this by correcting during free periods and at home. Students will not correct each other's work under any circumstances. I will post daily assignments on the whiteboard under the objectives for each class. This way there will be no confusion over what the assignment is, and if students are gone they will be able to come in at the beginning of the next day and get their assignment. Students who miss class will be expected to get the notes from someone else, and if it was an excuse absence and I was informed ahead of time, they will be able to make up any in class assignments that we did in class the previous day. When it is necessary to contact the parents of a child, whether it is good news or bad news, I will e-mail the parent if their e-mail address is available, call them at home, or I will send a note home with the student requiring a parents signature.

Students' will able to sit wherever they want on the first day of class, however, after that they will have an assigned seating chart that I will reserve the right to change if I feel that distractions are occurring. On the first day of class I will introduce myself to the students and give them some background information about myself. I will then have the students introduce themselves. We will then play the two truths and one lie game. This activity will help me put a memory to each face. I will then go over the classroom rules and expectations, which will be listed on the wall. I will explain the rewards and consequences procedures after students

understand the rules. To ensure that students are paying attention, I will give them a small quiz after I am done explaining all of the procedures. It will not be graded; however, it will be worth five extra credit points. After the quiz, I will pass out the textbooks. Students will be given a book with a number and it is their responsibility to turn in that same book at the end of the year. At the end of each class period, students will be given five minutes to work on homework for the next section. Students will have to remain in their seats until the bell rings. However, if students abuse this time, I will take it away and plan for 45 minutes of instruction instead of only 40 minutes.

Throughout the year in order to maintain student cooperation, I will plan periodic reward days. These reward days will feature games and activities that allow us to still cover the material but in a more relaxed manner. The room will also be decorated with posters that are designed to get students thinking about succeeding in school and outside of school. They will be colorful and meaningful. I will also have an open door policy, too. This will mean that students can come in and talk to me if they are having problems in the classroom or outside of the classroom.

Explanation: This artifact shows that I have put serious thought into the management of my classroom. I have implemented many of these strategies throughout my student teaching experience with a lot of success.