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The First Days of School (Chapters 6-10)

As a teacher having high expectations and taking pride in how you look is important. As an educator you want to give off confidence in every aspect possible. These 5 chapter gave insight on how to exhibit positive expectations, how to dress, how to welcome, how to be inviting and increase positive behavior.

Chapter 6 begin with discussing that there is no correlation between success and family background, race, national origin, financial status, or even educational accomplishments. I agree although some of these distinctions give a person an advantage in the word they do not determine your success and or failures. Students want to feel that a teacher has confidents and high expectations for themselves. I love the definition the book gave for Positive Expectations, “If you expect to be successful, you are constantly alert and aware of opportunities to help you be successful”. That’s true in order to be success in anything that you strive to do one has to set goals so high that they are unrealistic. Chapter 6 gave great examples of what high expectations are and what they mean. In my cooperative teacher’s classroom, she has quotes and sayings around her room, and the students say these quotes every day, they know her expectations and the try the best to meet them. Sometimes the get down on themselves because they have failed to meet them. Like the book says it’s important for students to know that you believe that they can achieve the goals you set for them. Although it can get frustrating when students don’t see their on potential, it’s a start to show them you believe in them as a student. In my own classroom I hope to be able to communicate with students with positivity and great feedback. Chapter 7 gives great ideas for welcoming students on their first day. I really liked the idea of thinking of the first day of school as a celebration.

How you are dressed gives people an impression before they even talk to you. A lot of the dress outs and ins are pretty self-explanatory. Now I do think there should be exceptions for game days or even holidays. The book stated, “We are walking, talking, advertisements”, I never thought about it this way but I totally agree. One of the easiest things I think for me would be inviting the students to learn. I feel as if I am an inviting person, I want to build relationships with parents and students. Being a teacher is more than just teaching, but being a mentor also. Being Intentionally inviting is all about wanting the students to succeed, beyond the classroom. The five significant concepts that enhance positive expectations, Name, Please, Thank You, smile, Love. These five significant concepts are all things that a I agree a teacher would do. When I first went into the classroom this semester it was important to me that I knew the students name, because to me that was the beginning of establishing a relationship. Also being courtesy should be apparent just because their students doesn’t mean they are worthy of your respect. I love that the book mentioned smiling, that alone brings positivity without knowledge.

This book is giving me great foundation quality as a new and upcoming teacher. I look forward to continuing to read the first days of school, and finding out more about how I can help students grow and learn. I learned a lot of things so far that would make me an even better effective teacher.