

The Rule:

Respect yourself, everybody, and everything in this room.

** No put-downs of other people based on their race, religion, ethnic background, skin colour, native language, gender, sexual preference, intelligence, body shape, body size, or ability.

SO...what does this mean for our classroom?

YOU EXPECT ME to be ready to teach (i.e., materials prepared, lesson planned, on time) at the beginning of each class, therefore **I EXPECT YOU** to be seated and ready to work AT the bell...not 5 minutes after the bell. *Wasting my time, and the time of your classmates, is disrespectful!*

- “OOPS, I’M LATE!” Is it appropriate to run into class, making lots of noise and distracting others? NO. Enter the room quietly, take your seat, and get to work.
- “BUT I FORGOT MY...” Most of the class work throughout the year will be done in groups, or will involve the group as a whole. If you show up to class missing materials and supplies you put the entire group at a disadvantage. There are additional pens and pencils on my desk...please ask, and return them at the end of the class.

YOU EXPECT ME to post homework and assignments with the due dates clearly noted, therefore **I EXPECT YOU** to write all your homework assignments in your agenda. I also expect you to complete and hand in *every* assignment on time. Our assignments will not be posted on the school website (I may post due dates of projects or specific work). On that note, I am open to emailing assignments to students and / or parents if I am asked to do so. I am available via email and by phone.

- “I DID’T KNOW!” There is a section on the board marked *homework* and all homework will be posted there with a due date. In addition to this quick check spot, there is also a calendar on the front bulletin board that will notify you of any upcoming dates (i.e., projects, tests, holidays, etc.). As well, you should be keeping accurate notes in your binders and noting important dates in your student agendas. Respect yourself and take responsibility for your learning and for your grades.
- “WHAT DID I MISS?” On my desk there is a folder called “Missed Work”. It is my responsibility to ensure that work / assignments missed are placed in the folder for your class. It is YOUR responsibility to check the file after any absence, retrieve the assignment, and complete it. Excused absences will have a grace period on the due date, but I reserve the right to decide how long.
 - ◇ If you are away for an extended (and excused) period of time, I will make every effort to see that you have the materials and assignments necessary to keep up with the class.

Student signature: _____

Parent / Guardian: _____

- “WHERE DO I PUT THIS?” On the front table there is a basket labeled “IN”. ALL assignments or work coming to me go into this basket. **IT IS A FEDERAL OFFENCE** to remove work once it is in the basket (okay, it’s not actually a federal offence, but consider it one!). If you need something back, I WILL GET IT FOR YOU. This respects everyone’s right to privacy, and helps ensure assignments do not go missing or get lost.

YOU EXPECT ME to have assigned you a seat somewhere in the room. Why didn’t I assign seating? In our room, everyone is presumed innocent until proven guilty. Therefore, **I EXPECT YOU** to manage your behaviour appropriately (i.e., no hitting, kicking, punching, swearing, offensive actions, unnecessary or off topic chatting, attention seeking behaviour, and anything in between). HOWEVER, should it become obvious that the group you have chosen for yourself does not present the best climate for your individual achievement, I WILL CHOOSE where you sit. In fact, I reserve the right to change seating arrangements at any time depending on the needs of the class / lesson.

YOU EXPECT ME to conduct myself in a professional manner, therefore I **EXPECT YOU** to use your manners. Handy phrases include, but are not limited to: “please”, “thank you”, “may I”, “excuse me”, “you’re welcome”.

- “YIPPEE, THE BELL!” Um...NO. I dismiss the class not the bell. I consider it incredibly rude to jump to your feet and race for the door, pushing classmates out of the way in an attempt to be the first person loitering in the hallway. If this happens, you can expect to be late for your next class.

YOU EXPECT ME to challenge you by creating interesting and thought provoking lessons and activities. **I EXPECT YOU** to ask questions if you don’t understand something.

- “I HAVE A STUPID QUESTION...” There are no stupid questions. There are off topic questions, inappropriate questions, redundant questions and timely questions, but all questions are valuable in some way. Rest assured someone else has the same question. Be brave and ask. If you don’t feel especially brave, drop a note on my desk, come see me after class, or send me an email. In order for me to help you, I have to know you need help.

YOU EXPECT ME to be entertaining and enthusiastic about the subject matter we are discussing. **I EXPECT YOU** to bring your sense of humor to class! If we work together as a team, we will have the maximum amount of fun allowable by law.

YOU EXPECT ME to be absent on occasion. **I EXPECT YOU** to treat all substitutes the way you treat any person in our building – with respect. I know most of them personally, and I leave specific instructions for them to call me at home for a full report on the conduct of my classes. Make me proud.

YOU EXPECT ME to be fair. **I EXPECT YOU** to understand the difference between fair and equal.

Student signature: _____

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