

USING EFFECTIVE DISCIPLINE IN THE SCHOOLS

The Staff Development Department periodically offers a one SDU credit course in school-related law for certified employees and a legal issues workshop that is a part of the Supervisory Development Program for classified staff. Both of these courses cover law for people who work in education including an overview of the basis of the legal system, relevant issues concerning employment, student violence, privacy expectations, due process rights, students with disabilities, parental expectations, etc. And, the classes focus on issues of concern for the participants.

The Staff Development Department offers four courses related to supporting teachers in the classroom. All discipline classes cover prevention techniques, the difference between goals and feelings, and “Directionality”, as tool to develop effective communication pathways. The following is a summary of these courses.

DISCIPLINE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STUDENT BEHAVIOR – 1 SDU

This course can be offered at individual schools at the principal’s request and is not offered to the general school population through the BULLETIN. It comprises the following subject matter:

- ❖ Emphasis on techniques teachers use to get students to feel connected, capable, and contributing to the classroom,
- ❖ Overview of Dr. Terry Alderman’s “De-escalation Model”, emphasizing prevention of disruptive behavior,
- ❖ Preventive techniques which relate to teacher behavior, and
- ❖ Introduction of successful strategies to reinforce techniques that are working in the classrooms.

THE ESSENTIALS – 2 SDUs

This course covers the following:

- ❖ An overview of “Discipline: A Total Approach”,
- ❖ Setting classroom rules and student responsibilities, and
- ❖ Using the prevention component of Alderman’s “De-escalation Model”.

SUCCESS STRATEGIES – 3 SDUs

You will become involved in studying the following:

- ❖ Learning information on being a manager and facilitator,
- ❖ Learning to use “Directionality” (communication pathways) in the classrooms, and
- ❖ Working with different strategies (make-and-take) that can be used in the classroom.

DATA: DISCIPLINE A TOTAL APPROACH – 5 SDUs

This most comprehensive course covers the following:

- ❖ Understanding Alderman’s “De-escalation Model”)prevention, assertion, positive intervention, referral),
- ❖ In-depth concepts of communication styles, especially in lesson plan design, and
- ❖ Emphasis on strategies that allow teachers to self-reflect and redirect instruction when needed.

Other excellent classes to consider are those that relate to Cultural Diversity and Cultural Understanding to Increase Student Achievement. Through these courses, participants will develop a better understanding of individuals and groups from different cultures and backgrounds. Participants also will learn more about the environments that help to create prejudice and strategies and techniques to reduce or eliminate them.

Contact the staff at the Staff Development Department for questions regarding these courses at 404-669-8090 (Norman Berry Dr.) or 770-740-7060 (Kimball Bridge Rd.).