
Name

Date

Group

Parent/Guardian's Signature on the line above indicates that you have reviewed and discussed this with your child.

Steps For Student Discipline on Team Vista

We, the teachers and students of Team Vista, believe that discipline is a vital part of the curriculum on our team; it is not a sidebar but part of the learning that students experience as they grow and mature into young men and women. Stuff happens, mistakes are made and it is important that we learn and grow from these mistakes. That is central to how we deal with students on this team. "We always hold students accountable for unacceptable behaviors, but we understand that they are a natural part of growing up." (Wormeli, 2003)

The Latin root of *discipline* and *disciple* means *student*. To be a student is to be disciplined—not necessarily in the militaristic style, but rather by adopting the demeanor and practices of one who studies well. If we accept this definition, then, it means teaching students not only what to learn, but also how to learn it, and how to mature with that learning. It's not an add-on to the curriculum, it *is* the curriculum. Robert Frost said that education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence. According to Helen Keller, the highest result of education is tolerance. Note the discipline angle of both of these—how learning transcends imposition, something we have to step aside and handle before we continue on the road to scholarly endeavor. It is integral to our middle classrooms as listening, thinking, and students writing their names at the top of their papers. It's not herding untamed cats; it's riding currents with amazing fish.

from Rick Wormeli, *Day One & Beyond*

—MORE ON THE BACK—

Each teacher on Vista records all student discipline on the team's discipline log. On the log we note the date of the issue or incident and the response that the teacher takes. Teachers on Vista meet daily and review student discipline logs, look for recurring patterns, and determine what further steps to take. We document all incidents or issues that occur in the following manner:

1. First Incident- Teacher/student conference. The incident is documented on the student's **Discipline Log**. The parent may or may not be informed with a **Letter to Parent For Disrupting Class, e-mail, or telephone call**.
2. Second Incident- Teacher/student conference with consequence. The incident is documented on the student's **Discipline Log**. The parent will be informed with a **Letter to Parent For Disrupting Class**.
3. Teacher/student conference with consequence. The incident is documented on the student's **Discipline Log**. A **Vista Behavior Plan** may be filled out.

All incidents are documented on a student's **Discipline Log**, but a serious first incident warrants moving immediately to the use of a **Vista Behavior Plan**.

Forms used for discipline on Vista:

- **Letter to Parent for Disrupting Class** (green form).
- **Vista Behavior Analysis Plan** (pink form).
- **Kingswood Regional Middle School Code of Conduct Report** (white/yellow, 2-page, carbon copy).