The Educator's Guide to Preventing and Solving Discipline Problems


In the view of the authors, the most effective discipline systems use strategies designed to prevent problems rather than correct them. They argue that students are more likely to behave appropriately when staff members communicate expectations for appropriate behaviors, when effective discipline systems are in place, and when students are held accountable for their actions.

The authors do admit, however, that prevention does not always work, and so they also include strategies for addressing problem behaviors. In addition, they include strategies for dealing with especially challenging behaviors, such as anger management problems, oppositional defiant disorder, or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Finally, they provide some thoughts about selecting approaches to encourage acceptable behavior and to deal with unacceptable behavior:

- Look at the behavior of students when determining strategies, not their assigned labels.
- Try different strategies to see what works.
- Even if a strategy is specific to an identified disorder, it may work with other students.

While the book is written primarily for teachers, it provides effective schoolwide approaches to discipline and is an excellent resource.