Considerations for Creating a Classroom Partnership Pledge

A Classroom Partnership Pledge helps to establish that teachers appreciate students as partners in their education. A Classroom Partnership Pledge may be an effective tool to support students' transition back to school during a pandemic. A well-written partnership pledge should outline the steps that teachers and students will take to create a supportive classroom climate and keep everyone safe.

Steps to Creating a Classroom Partnership Pledge

☐ Explain to students that a pledge is a promise that everyone in the classroom community will make to keep each other safe.

☐ Ask students their opinions about what teachers and students could do to keep each other safe.

☐ Provide examples if students have difficulty generating ideas.

☐ Summarize the ideas and lead students to consensus about what elements should be included in the pledge.

☐ Create a poster with students to display in the physical classroom and on the virtual classroom homepage.

☐ Share the partnership pledge with students' families.

The following are examples that may be included in a Classroom Partnership Pledge:

As a teacher, I pledge to:

- ✓ Maintain social distancing per school guidelines
- ✓ Wash my hands often, such as when I enter and exit a room
- ✓ Follow rules about wearing a mask
- ✓ Report to school personnel if I don't feel well, and stay home if I'm sick
- ✓ Help students stay calm and focused
- ✓ Promote friendships, mental health, and well-being
- ✓ Help students stay organized
- ✓ Allow students to take breaks
- ✓ Treat all students fairly
- ✓ Listen to students' ideas, feelings, and questions and respond with clear, supportive answers
- ✓ Check in on students during distance learning days
- ✓ Be flexible about assignment dues dates when students need more time to do their best work
- ✓ Share student progress and/or concerns with families in a timely manner

As a student, I pledge to:

- ✓ Ask questions about safety if I don't understand
- ✓ Maintain social distancing per school guidelines
- ✓ Wash my hands often, such as when I enter or exit a room
- ✓ Follow rules about wearing a mask
- ✓ Report to school personnel if I don't feel well, and stay home if I'm sick
- ✓ Manage my own belongings
- ✓ Take pride in my work
- ✓ Ask for help when I need it
- ✓ Treat others how I want to be treated
- ✓ Listen to others' opinions and respond respectfully
- ✓ Work as a team with classmates
- ✓ Keep my hands to myself
- ✓ Participate in class discussions
- ✓ Arrive on time to virtual class sessions
- ✓ Turn assignments in on time