

# Defending Your Values For School Teachers

This could be tricky for your classroom and school. It is very difficult to take a stand for any kind of **morality** in public schools these days because then you are imposing them on somebody's freedom to think differently. For the record I think **Western culture** has made a **disaster** of this.

What you can do though is honor your school's code of conduct. Here are some examples of what you are entitled to defend:

1. No yelling or swearing in the classroom
2. No insulting or disrespectful language to the teacher. Adults are in charge.
3. No excessively revealing clothing.
4. No making out or sexual behaviour in the hallways or classrooms.
5. No threats to other students.
6. No sleeping in classroom.
7. Should be able to make attendance mandatory, and being on time.
8. Handing homework in a pathetic state of affairs and completion. ( I understand the no zero policy affects this, please don't get me started on that)

That sounds like a "boundaries question" and I guess it is. However it becomes a values question when you do this one simple thing:

## **Tell the students how this trespasses on and disrespects you.**

- How it threatens the purpose of school,
- Insults your dedication to your job.
- Makes your day at work less enjoyable.
- Drags down the other students learning process.
- Invades other people's privacy.
- Demeans the students self image and portrays them as objects not worthy of respect.
- Violates decency.

**Let the student know!  
Don't let them get away with it!**

Ask that student two things you can do to respect their space and priorities as a student and stay on top of it for the entire school year, and never miss a beat.

You will change that student's life forever. That was your goal in becoming a teacher in the first place.

### **Call to Action-**

1. Identify your values, share them with your students as yours and that of the schools..
  1. Cite the examples I mentioned above and the rest your school will allow you.
2. Set boundaries that defend those values as far as your classroom goes and what you see in the hallways yourself.
3. DEFEND YOUR VALUES at all costs. Defend them against your student's behaviours and drag the parents and administration into it as soon as you need to. Make the parents call you or phone them and warn them they may need to come clean their kids locker out.
4. Allow your students to share with you a couple of their values, why they are important, and find a way to honor them.
5. Do not focus on telling them they are wrong, focus on their behaviour not being acceptable.
6. Separate your student from their behaviour. Your student is someone you want, their behaviour is something you don't.
7. Share this email with another teacher or your administrator, ask them if they want this in their classroom, don't do this alone.

When young people experience a classroom that teaches them whose boss, and have a teacher that can command respect and performance from them. Then those young people now have someone they can come to when they need help. Someone they can take seriously or someone to inspire them to be so useful they don't make super stupid decisions anyways. Strong and motivated teens typically don't fall apart and waste their lives to drugs.

To learn about Tom's program and strategy for school staff and their students

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**U.S.A clients welcome.**

Or you can make this happen in your school by calling Tom at 403-391-4184

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