



Why Can't Children Just Get Along?

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR HANDLING STUDENT CONFLICTS

1. Prioritize attitude training that will outlast the school year.
2. Prioritize behavioral training over teacher convenience.
3. Teach students proper social behaviors and norms.
4. Establish an atmosphere of safety and respect.
5. Provide leadership when dealing with parents.
6. Determine the severity of a situation before you act.
7. Don't ignore past conflicts simply because you just found out about it.
8. Consider the fact that the victim may not always be completely innocent.
9. Don't publicly team up with a group against a bully.
10. If you need to contact parents about a student conflict, include your action plan, not just the problem.
11. Remember that mandatory separation is one of the best preventative measures between two conflicting parties.
12. Model a leader with authority who doesn't abuse it.
13. Model relationship qualities with students that they should have with each other.
14. Refrain from feeding drama – use self-control, and act with discernment.
15. Be aware of common bullying behavior.
16. Be aware of common characteristics of victims.