

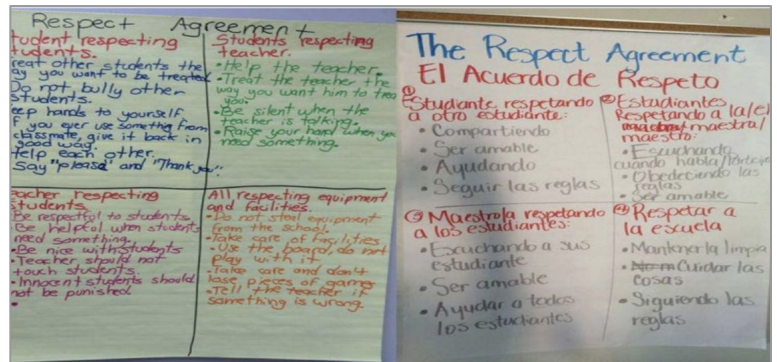
Respect Agreements

CASEL Alignment: Social Awareness, Self-Awareness, Relationship Skills
MTSS Alignment: Tier 1
Shared By: Aldine Independent School District (TX)

Practice Overview:

Respect Agreements is an activity that engages all learners in the topic of “respect.” When implemented with fidelity, this restorative practice can help each student feel comfortable as a member of the classroom community.

Use these Respect Agreements to empower students to bring their full selves to the learning environment, while increasing their sense of belonging and sense of safety in your classroom.



Source: Aldine Independent School District

Implementation Instructions:

Distribute a piece of paper to each student. Ask them to fold their piece of paper in half twice so that it has four sections.

Instruct students to label each section as follows:

Student Respecting Student	Student Respecting Teacher
Teacher Respecting Student	Everyone Respects Facility & Equipment

Explain to students that they will be reflecting on what “respect” means and looks like to them. Ask students to work individually, taking a few minutes to reflect and write down how each of these four sections might look in terms of behavior or actions. What would each look like or sound like? Intentionally refrain from sharing specific examples with students; give them space to ponder their own ideas.

While students are doing this, complete your own sheet with examples.

After students have completed the exercise, divide them into groups of four or five. Invite students to share what they listed on their papers with their peers.

Finally, come together as a group to review commonalities and create a combined class list!

Virtual Adaptation Guidelines:

- To adapt **Respect Agreements** for use in hybrid or distance learning environments, consider the following options:
- (1) Use a live (online) class session to develop community agreements around virtual class specifically. Set up breakout rooms to allow students to brainstorm and suggest guidelines in small groups.
 - (2) Revisit these agreements during each online class session. Begin or end the class with the agreements, and ask students to reflect on how well they lived these agreements as an exit ticket or an opener for the week.
- If you need to provide students with a predefined set of agreements due to time constraints, be sure reflect on them and share the context behind them with students.

Respect Agreement Examples:

The following is a sampling of agreements. Consider altering the language to fit your school's culture.

<i>Share air time equitably</i>	<i>Assume good intentions</i>	<i>Be willing to be disturbed</i>
<i>Accept non-closure</i>	<i>Support each other's learning</i>	<i>Enjoy creative friction</i>
<i>Be honest and open</i>	<i>Speak only for yourself</i>	<i>Be specific</i>
<i>Value differences</i>	<i>Practice being fully present</i>	<i>Share responsibility</i>
<i>Expect discomfort</i>	<i>Question assumptions</i>	<i>Participate</i>
<i>Respect one another</i>	<i>Have fun</i>	<i>Focus on content</i>
<i>Listen for understanding</i>	<i>If you wonder, ask</i>	<i>Offer gentle reminders</i>

About Aldine Independent School District. Aldine Independent School District, located in Harris County (TX), strives to provide students with choices and opportunities to succeed today and in the future.