

Advice to New Teachers

Welcome to teaching! Get ready to change the world as you impact students on a daily basis by preparing them for their future. As you do that, we want to share some advice, tips, and suggestions with you to help you have not only a successful first year but many more successful years after that.

1. **Maintain a work-home balance:** You'll be a better teacher if you always find time to relax and unplug on weekends and holidays.
2. **Never stop learning:** Always continue to learn about ways to engage your students using different instructional strategies, technology in your classroom, and so on.
3. **Ask for help:** Others may not know you are struggling. It's OK to be honest and ask for help because chances are everyone has struggled in the past.
4. **Be flexible:** You must have a plan, but realize that plan may not work out in the end. Be willing to change course as needed.
5. **Build relationships:** You should build relationships with students, parents, colleagues, and other school staff and administrators.
6. **Be positive:** Always be positive and refrain from engaging in negative conversations.
7. **Be organized:** Teaching is difficult if you are unorganized. Come up with a system to record parent calls, log student issues, keep track of data, and so on.
8. **Be ready for showtime:** When students begin entering the school, it's showtime! Leave your personal baggage and issues at home and put on your showtime face.
9. **Be confident:** There will be students and parents who may not like you or may complain about you. Treat everyone with respect, and have confidence knowing you are doing what is best for students.
10. **Have fun:** Enjoy your first year. Keep a journal; no matter how challenging, you will look back on your first year and treasure the memories.