

Strategies Used in Schools to Respond to Challenging Behavior Without Excluding Students From Class

Strategy Used By Participants	How Participants Described Using This Strategy
Teacher-Initiated Strategies	
Behavior Log	Teachers keep logs across classes that show how many times a student has been warned about minor infractions. Once a student gets a certain number of warnings, the teacher calls home, or applies the next most serious consequence.
Call or Conference With Parents	Teachers call parents to discuss challenging behaviors, gather information, and create a plan with parents to address behaviors.
Request for Assistance (RFA)	An RFA takes the place of an office referral. The RFA goes to the administrator who then can assess an appropriate response, including whether or not the situation merits an office referral. RFAs reduce the number of referrals and also allow administrators to only write office referrals for particular behaviors. RFAs do not become part of the student's or school's record.
Teacher Counseling to Discuss Reasons for Behavior	Teachers meet with students individually and ask about behavior in order to understand its causes. These meetings are done calmly, privately, and nonjudgmentally with a focus on understanding rather than on punishment. Teachers try to figure out a new way to interact with students that will result in more successful outcomes.
Teachers Ask Admins to "Talk" Rather Than Giving Formal Discipline	Administrators may talk with the student about behavior or educators may talk with the student together and form a "team" to make a plan.
Time-Out Room	These rooms serve as short-term respites where students can regain their composure in order to return to class. A visit to this room might be recorded so that students do not accumulate an excessive number of them, but the visit itself has no additional consequences. This room is distinct from In-School Suspension because teachers can assign it for lengths of time shorter than one class period. While this strategy does require students' removal from class, they are gone for less than one class period. Time-outs function best when students have a list of reflective questions that they need to answer before returning to class.

Administrator-Initiated Strategies

Alternative Behavior Educator (ABE) Software	Students complete units addressing specific behavioral or social skills. Information about ABE can be found at http://www.abesystems.com .
Positive Tardy Sweeps	Administrators stand in the hallway during passing period and escort tardy students to a location where their tardies are documented by a friendly adult who then walks them back to class and expresses the hope that they have a good class.
Restorative Justice	Everyone affected in a discipline incident sits in a circle and listens to each other's beliefs and feelings about what happened. Participants are not allowed to interrupt each other. The goal is to repair whatever harm was done during the incident. That means that consequences should be agreed upon during the circle and should serve to repair damage and restore relationships.
"Three Before Me"	Administrators require teachers to make at least three attempts to solve the problem before asking the administrator to take over.
Verbal Reprimand	An administrator may talk to a student individually to try to understand the causes of the behavior and to give a verbal warning.

Other Consequences

Coaches as Disciplinarian	The school coaches are seen as part of the discipline team and asked to incorporate a student's discipline plan or particular consequences into the student's athletic program.
Detention Before or After School (or on Fridays)	Students stay either before or after school for at least 30 minutes and either complete schoolwork or do another assigned task. In one school, detention operates from 4-7pm each day and is housed as part of that district's alternative school.
Lunch Detention	Students do not get to sit by their friends or with their class during lunch. Sometimes students are required to keep silent during lunch or to eat in a secluded location.
MD Anderson Tobacco Course	If students are caught with tobacco, they can be mandated to complete this free online course in lieu of suspension or other consequences: https://www2.mdanderson.org/sapp/aspirepilot/

P.E. Detention/Limited Recess	Activities during P.E. or recess can be limited to walking or particular physical activities that are not of the student's choosing and/or that are away from the rest of the group.
Revoke Parking Privileges	This punishment applies to high school students and is especially effective on open campuses where students are allowed to leave for lunch.
“Social Probation”	Students lose privileges to attend sports practices, sporting or other school related events, clubs, etc.
Work Detail	Students are required to perform a duty that helps to clean up the campus. They may complete this duty during an elective period, lunch, or before or after school.
Writing Assignment	Students write a letter to the teacher explaining what happened or apologizing. Students may also be required to write a reflection or a behavior plan, or to identify parts of the code of conduct that were broken.