SUPERVISING UNRULY STUDENTS

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In any classroom setting, there will always be students who are misbehaving, disrespectful, unruly, and don't care at all. As such, some of the teacher's time, around 15 to 20% are spent dealing with their arguments and tantrums.

According to an article by Amy Morin, there are underlying reasons why kids misbehave. They might want attention and not obeying the teacher will definitely get him some even if it is a negative one. They are also testing limits to see the consequences of their behavior. They might also lack the skills in doing what their teacher asked them to do and since some kids also lack social skills, they cannot also express themselves properly and respectfully. There are also some students who copy others either their classmates or family members who are not behaving well. There are some who want their independence; thus, opt to rebel against any authority. Some can't control their emotions especially those who are experiencing problems in their homes and/or feeling pressure from their parents to do well in their school. There are also those who always get what they want by misbehaving.

Whatever a student's reason for misbehaving or being disrespectful, a teacher can do so many things to help him.
1. It is important to listen to the students first. You might be tempted to lecture them immediately but don't since this will only make them down and angry towards the teacher.

2. Don't let them do things they don't want to do from the start. This will only give them the chance to rebel and show that they don't care by disobeying and arguing.

3. Prove to them thru your actions that you are worthy of their respect and that you can be trusted. You can do this by not taking their actions and words personally but by understanding their situations from their point of view. When you are able to understand them, you will know how to show them that you care for them. This will facilitate a good relationship between you and your students. They will also learn to respect and trust others. This is also the start where they will believe in themselves and thus they will be the one to help themselves to change for the better.

A Stanford research, in fact, supports this approach. It find out that an emphatic mindset leads to a more positive teacher-student interaction and less disciplinary problems. This is because an emphatic teacher views his or her students humanely rather than another of group kids who have to pass whatever tests they have to take.

All students will go to their classes by bringing their own sets of personalities, needs and wants. It is up to their teachers to foster positive relationships with all of them. Despite all the pressures they are handling, using an emphatic mindset will be an extra task for a teacher but it will bring more fulfillment to both students and teacher.
References:

Improving Teacher Empathy To Improve Student Behavior

http://www.drrobertbrooks.com/improving-teacher-empathy-improve-student-behavior/

10 Surprising Reasons Why Kids Misbehave by Amy Morin, LCSW