

Conscious Classroom Management: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Teachers

This evaluation is from a full day workshop that took place on August 26, 2003 for K-5 Beginning Teachers in Torrance, California.

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	1	47	3.98
The handouts were valuable	--	--	5	43	3.90
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	--	48	4.00
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--		48	4.00

Comments (all of them):

- One and a half years of teacher education was not as valuable as this five hours!
- Your workshop was fabulous! I have never been to such a rewarding and fun yet informative workshop. You're an excellent speaker! Keep up the good work and lastly thank you so much for your time!!! ☺
- I found the workshop to be very helpful. You did a great job of modeling everything you taught. I received many great suggestions and I felt you put them in an easy to implement way. I feel much more confident as I plan my first year.
- Absolutely fantastic – so much useful, hands on information. One more word to add to the drop of encapsulated classroom management – nirvana! Thanks for all your help. ☺
- I really enjoyed your presentation and how you modeled and kept the interest of your audience. I also felt your enthusiasm as well as dedication you have for your work. I hope to model that in my classroom this coming school year.
- An amazing workshop that was helpful with everything I was concerned with as a new teacher. So many great ideas, but thanks for pointing out that we just need to start with one thing to work on and go from there. You held my attention the whole workshop!!
- This was such a wonderful learning experience. I thoroughly appreciated how you modeled strategies during the seminar versus just telling us – that is so valuable. Great job!
- Definitely a must-attend for both new and experienced teachers. Lots of hands-on activities to be applied in real life classrooms.
- Very practical and useful. Lots of great ideas that I can implement in the classroom.
- Great workshop!

- This was a day well-spent! All the ideas/strategies are so useable I can't wait to get started! Thank you for getting me off to a great (and strong) start. ☺
- The picture strategy would work well with English language learners.
- Thank you for sharing your vast knowledge of classroom management.
- Many – if not all – of the strategies can be modified for early ed special education students. Thank you - excellent.
- This was a great seminar – thanks!
- Fun, great way to get us motivated and ready. Thanks!
- I really like the ideas of choices and consequences instead of punishment. Thank you!
- Great ideas we can use right away! Thanks! And great modeling!
- Thanks for sharing your experiences and ideas!
- I look forward to trying out some of the ideas and emailing for more.
- Very motivating! So helpful!
- You modeled most, if not all, of your strategies. I enjoyed the review of hand signals and the reminder of consistency. The frisbees were a great idea for a rainy day.
- Excellent presentation – very stimulating.
- Rick – Great job on presenting strategies and procedures! I love the frisbees, too! Lots of “enthusiasm” tips are important for all teachers because students are reflections of who we are! Do you also give workshops in LAUSD?! Let me know please!!
- I loved the frisbees and music selections. The strategies are varied enough that there should be something applicable for everyone! I'm a little less intimidated about managing my class. Thank you!
- Thank you for being so motivational. Today was exceptional. ☺
- I really enjoyed the session. I worked for a national school reform model and we utilized many of the strategies that were presented today when I was working for them. Great work!
- I really was struck by the idea of minimizing the amount and length of private conversations and maximizing the opportunities for them.
- This was hands-on and applicable. I enjoyed this and am now enthusiastic about beginning my career.
- Excellent stage presence. Kept my interest.
- Thanx! You were fun to listen to ☺
- I loved the frisbees.
- I really enjoyed all the information that was given.
- It was good. Thanx.
- Great presenter. I learned a lot.
- Great
- Great! Glad I went to it!
- Thank you for the great strategies!
- Thank you .. so many great ideas!
- I had a great time and learned many new ideas for classroom management.
- I am energized and inspired. I can't wait to start the school year!

Conscious Classroom Management: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Teachers

This evaluation is from a full day workshop that took place in February, 2003 for K-12 Beginning Teachers and their mentors in Tacoma, Washington.

	1	2	3	4	Average
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	1	50	3.98
The handouts were valuable	--	--	8	43	3.84
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	5	46	3.90
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	2	49	3.96

Comments (all of them):

- Best workshop I have attended! I've probably been to 10-12 in the past several years, on a wide range of topics, and this workshop was superior!
- Not only did you speak of effective teacher techniques, but you modeled them without us even knowing. Plenty of great sharing time. I found out how much I can learn from others. "It is good to ask for and seek others' help."
- Very useful information – even for mentor teachers. I feel I can be a better mentor now.
- Excellent job of modeling different teaching techniques.
- Thanks for the many ideas. I can't wait to use them.
- I found your class was very, very useful to me as a new teacher. There was a wealth of "stuff I can use."
- Thank you for the great tips and strategies! I really liked the procedure rubric ideas and the 2 x 10 strategy.
- I am able to use a lot of information. Thanks!
- Rick Smith provided me practical and doable ideas. I would highly recommend him for future classes. He knew his audience.
- Excellent practices taught with humor and consistency.
- Such a fast paced workshop – virtually no wasted time – wonderful, practical ideas – best idea is to prioritize intended changes with the goal of implementing one change per six week period.
- You made a Saturday fly by ☺
- An excellent set of tools for me to use in setting up my new classroom.
- This was an awesome class! The materials were excellent and Rick Smith is an outstanding presenter! Thank you so much for offering this class to us!
- I found your class to be inspiring. I feel guilty how I have been teaching...I am sure glad I have some new strategies to take back so I won't get burnt out by the end of the year. Only class I have enjoyed!
- You modeled all the strategies that you covered during the workshop. You had a good mix of interactive and reflective activities.

- I would take all Rick's classes if offered in Summer Institute. Very, very valuable! We need him for new and mentor teachers every year! Great stuff to use on Monday.
- Wow! This is going to be wonderfully helpful information! I can't wait to start implementing! Although I am feeling a bit overwhelmed, I am also feeling incredibly charged and energized! Thank you!
- Thank you for the implementation steps. I always leave workshops with lots of great ideas but never know where to start. Now I know it's OK to try one thing at a time.
- This should be a required workshop for all teachers, not just those who are new! Rick uses excellent techniques and he kept us motivated. I was reaffirmed in my training with Eric Jensen and the brain work and thus revisiting information was truly valuable. I wish Rick could have come to our district before so many schools chose Make Your Day. His strategies are ready to use and very practical.
- Fantastic! So much stuff I could use I ran out of time to write! Loved the fact that you gave examples for use in all grades. I would attend any workshops you gave here! Thanks so much!
- I hope you can return. You are an incredible motivator for consistency and positive change! Thank you. This workshop must be required for all our teachers in their first two years and substitutes.
- Fun – active learning! Nice variety of activities for all learning styles.
- Good idea to have us take a few to reflect and fill in “Good stuff to use”
- Realistic scenarios, timely injections of humor; sensitivity to various levels/grades. Very valuable/useful presentation!!
- Super loaded with useful strategies. High energy – should be sent to All schools in the district – to ensure his knowledge is passed on.
- Thanks for the concrete ideas I can implement immediately. Appreciated group activities allowing me to share and learn from other teachers. Encouraging, and re-charged my battery. Loved the humor.
- I really liked your use of music!
- I really enjoyed my time today. I would have liked another day! ☺ As a first year teacher of 7th graders, I have learned a lot from my students. I hope to give something back to all of them, and this workshop has given me some more tools/tricks to reach some more kids.
- Thank you for clarifying the big gray cloud of stuff I was learning. It was like I was learning this stuff but couldn't practice it consistently because I wasn't clear on what I was doing right and wrong or what was working ☺
- I expect to use the “breaking the cycle” steps Monday morning!
- Thank you Thank you Thank you
- Awesome – I wish you were teaching my management class during my masters!
- The musical interaction as a tool to get attention was great. I feel there are many ideas that I can implement quickly.
- Wow! I can't wait to try some of these ideas! Thank you!

Conscious Classroom Management: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Teachers

This evaluation is from a full day workshop that took place on September 30, 2002 in Santa Clarita, CA for **K-5** teachers with varying levels of teaching experience.

	1	2	3	4	Average
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	3	37	3.93
The handouts were valuable	--	--	6	34	3.85
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	2	38	3.95
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	1	39	3.98

Comments:

- ◆ This has been the most practical workshop and the best seven hours of my career and personal education. THANK YOU
- ◆ You were fantastic. I feel more confident going back to school to start my track back up knowing I can make changes in my classroom management techniques to improve my teaching. Thank you.
- ◆ Thank you for this inspiring day!
- ◆ This workshop opened my eyes to things I didn't even realize I was doing or not doing!
- ◆ Thank you very much for such a wonderful, positive way of teaching.
- ◆ Thanks for your useful techniques! I will definitely be implementing them when I go back on track.
- ◆ Thanks for giving me permission to be human.
- ◆ I loved so many of your ideas!
- ◆ Thank you so much. I can't wait to take these new strategies back to my room.
- ◆ I love the Frisbees.
- ◆ I enjoyed this workshop tremendously. I was presented with valuable techniques and ideas that I will actually be able to use. I appreciate your enthusiasm. It was a great experience!
- ◆ I loved the ideas on changing behavior that include practice and support. Too often, I demand a student organize his/her desk, not blurt out, etc. and don't allow them to practice or offer them support of the appropriate desired behavior.
- ◆ I feel like I not only got new ideas, but saw ways to use them.
- ◆ I am so happy I can implement without stacks of photocopying and prep! The Frisbee time was great!!
- ◆ Wow! I have so many wonderful ideas to take back and reach those few kids who are always on my mind.

Conscious Classroom Management: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Teachers

This evaluation is from a full day workshop that took place on August 13, 2001 in Marin County, CA for **K-12** beginning teachers.

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	3	19	3.86
The handouts were valuable	--	--	2	20	3.90
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	2	20	3.90
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	3	19	3.86

Comments (all of them):

- Your workshop was one of the most practical ones I've ever attended! Thank you!
- I thought this was a terrific workshop. You provided a humane approach to classroom management. I especially remember your comments on not apologizing for my management, internally or externally. That will help a lot.
- Rick is a terrific presenter. He has met his niche by teaching beginning teachers. Wish he had been one of my instructors! Keep the workshops coming!
- I now feel more equipped to have a happier, more productive classroom and year. I'm not a huge group work fan (at least when I'm the student) but found the workshop to be great.
- This workshop has been incredibly helpful. Rick Smith broke up the elements of managing classrooms in digestible pieces. His techniques for reviewing new concepts and making it your own made the difference for me. Finally, his approach to

teaching is inspirational; fun, inviting and safe!

- This workshop broke ideas and procedures down into small pieces. I tend to go too fast in my lessons!
- I really liked the part on procedures. I had been trying to figure out how to teach procedures and you gave some great ideas.
- Very helpful and enjoyable. Thank you!
- Ideas are useful and practical –thank you for adding that we shouldn't try to do them all at once (makes it more manageable and hopefully will lead to success!). Thanks ☺
- I enjoyed collaborating with other teachers throughout the workshop. I also felt that the music livened up the atmosphere and kept me focused.
- Many of the initial questions were answered. I am leaving this workshop with great ideas from the presenter and colleagues.
- You had wonderful strategies and tools to use in the classroom. I really liked the way you modeled the

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different learning strategies and activities we can use in the room.

Loved the cartoons 😊

- This workshop helped me feel good about teaching. It also helped me get a more realistic view about setting a “teaching” environment. A lot of practical ideas.
- Many ideas and strategies were mentioned or introduced, but I felt some needed more elaboration or specific examples to make them concrete. A very resourceful workshop though. Very energetic instructor.
- I liked your look at the psychology of the issues around classroom management – the self doubts, feelings of frustration, etc. The strategies will make my life easier. I loved your sense of humor. I would have liked to have seen more

exploration of the student in society or family maybe as reasons why discipline issues exist.

- Rick Smith has the ability to clarify concepts I’ve heard many times before. I.e., teaching behavior is something the students want.
- Moved slowly at first – I would like a faster pace.
- Rick, you just keep getting better. This is the 2nd time I’ve attended your workshop and I’m not the least bored...My learning simply illustrates the need for repetition and breaking the lesson down into small steps. I’m going to try juggling on my own.
- Excellent ideas I can take to the classroom.
- Mr. Smith kept the class engaged the entire time. He was very animated, and I enjoyed it.

Conscious Classroom Management: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Teachers

This evaluation is from a full day workshop that took place on August 8, 2001 in an elementary school (**Pre-K through 5th grade**) in San Antonio, Texas. Most of the staff were veteran teachers. The school is a perennial Texas blue ribbon school, and this year was one of only 200 in the country that won national recognition.

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies			7	50	3.88
The handouts were valuable		1	8	48	3.82
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches			14	43	3.75
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers			7	50	3.88

Comments (all of them):

- Your timing in the activities was excellent.
- Even though I have been teaching for a long time, it was great to see and hear about classroom management ideas that are brain compatible.
- Thanks for the wonderful ideas and dynamic presentation style.
- Thank you! Very Wonderful, Valuable Info and Strategies Was just what we needed! - Added to our knowledge of Brain Compatible and Accelerated Teaching and Learning
- I liked emphasis on tracks before train And great to remind us that Procedures must be taught the same as content lessons! We needed this – too many times we get in a hurry and go straight to the train and it Doesn't Work!!!
- Great ideas. You did a great job in providing variety in movement and interacting with others. Your suggestions are also brain compatible and would fit well here.
- There was a good mix of new ideas and familiar practices. Rick models exactly what he is presenting and he incorporates much of what we are learning in our brain research.
- Great ideas! Thank you
- Excellent practical ideas! Kept us engaged while having fun.
- Affirms the connections which requires the “total self” for classroom management to be successful. Likewise for teachers and students. We must be who we are to establish classroom management. Classroom management is the essence of who we are!!
- Thank you for sharing your ideas with us and allowing us time to share with one another and process this info.
- The brainstorming procedures was very helpful as it went more in depth for me. I will use this to help me prepare/think about this year's procedures. Also, the sign language signals to use to encourage good time

- management I'd like to learn and teach students!
- Great! More breaks please.
 - Very down to earth and applicable presentation!
 - Handouts were great – Kept me from focusing on taking notes so I was able to focus on content and ideas. I loved the idea of saying “No” and not having to explain self (at least not at that moment). It was wonderful getting that “permission.”
 - Humor kept interest up.
 - Interesting, fun, picked up skills.
 - I appreciate what you taught/shared about the quality of who a teacher is that she is in charge and no apologies are needed for that. In other words, the essence of classroom management.
 - Gave me some valuable insights!
 - Yes!! Well organized presentation. Many ideas were shared. Our colleagues have a wealth of information, may need to teach procedure, process to reach goal.
 - Several good ideas to implement positive classroom management!
 - Many brand new teachers need a workshop like this. As a new teacher, starting with 7th graders, I needed to learn how to say NO, that is was OK, and keys to getting their attention.
 - Excellent ideas – great refresher
 - Great mix of humor, strategies and content. Thoughtful use of independent paired and group learning. I thoroughly enjoyed your presentation and plan to utilize at least 3 items immediately. Small steps! (as you suggested).
 - Very brain based. It reinforces what we are doing here.
 - Lots of great and useful ideas for the classroom. The ideas and info helped in seeing kids and their behavior in another perspective.
 - I enjoyed the brain-compatible practical ideas/strategies. I suggest breaking down instructions for activities. Thanks for sharing your expertise!
 - Liked it – Excellent handout.
 - Very broad topic with lots of information to dispense, and you organized it in such an excellent way. I feel like this fit so well with everything I already knew and believed. Definitely compatible with research on how kids function in classroom.
 - Affirmed stuff I already do and gave so many new things!! Thanks!!
 - Novel approaches
 - The neat thing was that the lessons were also geared to support staff and teachers that go into the classroom for an hour or two. I will be able to utilize these great ideas for my first year in the classroom. Thank you.
 - I wanted to learn a few new strategies to implement in my classroom. I feel that I received a few more and why it is important – the reason for classroom management.
 - Humor madder workshop easier to understand – love those cartoons
 - Very useful and practical ideas; strategies and techniques. & FUN too! You should make charts of these words of wisdom and advice! They would sell! Yeah!

“Conscious Classroom Management: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Teachers”

The following is a composite evaluation from a ninety-minute session I did for over two-hundred people at the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Conference in Phoenix in March, 2001.

	Superior 5	Very Good 4	Adequate 3	Poor 2	Very Poor 1
Speaker demonstrated strong knowledge of the subject	18	--	--	--	--
Did program content match your expectations	16	2	--	--	--
The quality of information was	15	3	--	--	--
The presenter was well organized and prepared	18	--	--	--	--
The topic was applicable to my work	17	1	--	--	--
The pacing of activities in the session was	17	1	--	--	--
The quality of handouts/materials was	14	4	--	--	--
My overall rating of the presenter is	17	1	--	--	--
My overall rating of the session is	17	1	--	--	--

Comments on the session (these are complete and unedited)

- “Excellent: Different! The presentation was alive and moving. Informative and well worth the time. I could have sat through another hour and a half.”
- “Covered a great deal of helpful information in a short time. Practical”
- “Excellent!”
- “I liked the positive side of his instruction. He presented usable ideas that can be implemented into the classroom. Thoroughly enjoyable.”
- “Good information which we need to be reminded of periodically.”
- “Would like to have Rick come to Michigan to speak with our teachers.”
- “Thanks. Many useful ideas. Excellent modeling of how to speak to, deal with students.”
- “Good session that is applicable to all levels of teachers.”
- “Excellent advice for a young administrator struggling with inexperienced teachers.”
- “Included great information/practical that I will be able to use with new teachers. Very helpful!”