Classroom/Time Management Strategies

**Set the Right Tone** - Set a positive classroom tone by modeling an attitude that's friendly, respectful, and has a touch of humor. Stand at your door and greet students as they enter with a smile. Greeting students by name and smiling helps establish rapport.

**Share Daily Goals** - Tell students what the goals are for the day. Share the reasoning behind the daily targets. If you can build on yesterday’s lesson, that’s even better!

**Utilize Proximity** - Physical closeness to a student has been proven to redirect the student back on task. This type of strategy helps to increase student engagement while at the same decrease problem behaviors. Move around the room as the lesson unfolds to keep everyone involved.

Instructional Strategies

**Wait Time** - Wait time is a PAUSE that you incorporate in your instruction after you have asked the class a question. This pause needs to be about 15-30 seconds. The reason you pause is to allow students to think of an answer to your question. Be sure, when asking the question, to not say a student’s name before the question. You want ALL THE STUDENTS to be thinking of the answer.

**Wrap Up** - Wrap up direct instruction 5 to 10 minutes before the end of the period for review or closure. Spend the last minutes of class time wrapping up the day’s work and reviewing the major points covered. Make sure students are fully aware of tomorrow’s assignment, future tests, or project deadlines before the bell rings.

Assessment Strategies

**Silent Signals** - Silent signals can be used to rate or indicate students' understanding of content. Students can show anywhere from five fingers to signal maximum understanding to one finger to signal minimal understanding. This strategy requires engagement by all students and allows the teacher to check for understanding within a large group. Heads and Noses’. What does that stand for? Placing your hands on your head means “Yes, I agree”. Touching your nose means “No, I disagree”. Nonverbal cues are another great way to communicate in the classroom. Hand Signals for Formative Assessment Nonverbal Cues for the Classroom.

The resources listed are provided as options and examples. Pennsylvania does not require, recommend, or endorse any specific program or product. All curricular and instructional decisions are made at the local level.