Uniting Forces to Improve Education

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There are as many ways to run a school as there are to skin a cat. Some of these ways, so far as schools are concerned, seem to be better than others; at least, this is what school people generally have come to believe. And, whatever the pattern, the notion that what is involved is a co-operative undertaking of responsible people has appeared to gain widespread support in recent years. But perhaps this is a notion found only in textbooks and articles, heard about only in speeches and in conferences. The real situation, the school itself, may be something else again.

This unhappy speculation was stirred by what is printed below. This statement of regulations for a small school (developed in 1955) came to my desk weeks ago. I have finally decided that I should share it with others. I present it without comment, unless the title, for which I hope I may be forgiven, may seem a bit cryptic.

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HUMnnnnnnn . . . . !

School Regulations
Regarding Standards of Conduct and Discipline by Principal

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Tim. 2:15)

The motto of (blank) School is "Petimus, Credimus"—"We Seek, We Trust." We seek to inculcate into our pupils a desire for a well-rounded education, and we seek to satisfy that desire. In all our work and play, in personal life and public relations, we seek to be loyal to Christ our Savior. We trust the Bible as the inspired Word of God, the Lord Christ as the only Hope of the World, and His gospel as the solution to the problems of our school.

Prayer of each teacher: "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." (Ps. 119:18.)

One Rule: DO RIGHT

1. Teachers shall have the ringing of preliminary bells at 8:50 A.M. and at 12:50 P.M. so that the children may take care of miscellaneous items before classes begin.

2. Teachers shall ask all children to remain on the school ground from the
time they arrive until the time of the departure of their buses unless they are given permission to leave by the teacher or the principal.

3. Teachers shall exercise complete authority over any pupil who disturbs the tenure of the school while he is being transported to and/or from school.

4. The principal or any teacher shall not return any child to the child's home during school hours because of illness unless the child has a compelling reason which makes the trip both logical and necessary.

5. Teachers shall insist that all pupils be present ten minutes before the opening of school each day.

6. Teachers shall supervise the loading and the unloading of the school buses.

7. Teachers shall supervise the play activities of the children on the playground and/or in the classrooms.

8. Any salesman who interferes with the hum of activity within the classrooms without the permission of the Principal or the County Superintendent of Schools shall be earmarked as an impostor.

9. Teachers shall exercise precautionary measures and common sense in the manipulation of corporal punishment whenever corporal punishment is found to be necessary. It is very expedient to have a witness.

10. Any teacher shall report to the Principal any offender who makes any statement which berates the prestige of a teacher in the school.

11. Teachers shall arrange the children uniformly for play according to size as much as possible.

12. Teachers shall expect all children to play in an orderly and becoming manner. All of the children should refrain from kicking, shoving, pushing and tripping while they are at play.

13. Teachers shall encourage the children not to overdo the privilege of going to the rest rooms during class hours.

14. Teachers shall ask all children to walk, not to run, while they are traveling in the classrooms or to and from the school buses.

15. Teachers shall require all children to refrain from the use of filthy and profane language.

16. Teachers shall not permit the reading of any comic books in regard to killing or to sex.

17. Any teacher shall report to the Principal any unsanitary conditions found to exist in the rest rooms.

18. A teacher shall report any unsatisfactory progress or any unsatisfactory conduct to the parents of a child whenever such report is thought to motivate the learning situation.

19. Teachers shall report to the Principal any neglect of the custodian or any deficiency of the heating equipment in the classrooms.

20. Teachers shall not permit the dribbling of balls or the jumping of ropes in the classrooms.

21. Any child shall not be permitted to do anything in the classrooms which interferes with the hum of activity.

22. Ice skating shall not be permitted on concrete surfaces.

23. Teachers shall insist that all children refrain from the use of tobacco while they are in the teachers' charge.

24. The Principal and the teachers shall not compromise with any injustice when truth and right are in jeopardy.

25. Members of the teaching staff shall encourage the children to choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong, and never to be content with a half truth when the whole truth can be won.

Signature
(Primary Teacher)

Signature
(Principal)

Signature
(County Superintendent of Schools)