**Sweep Away Disruptions**

Disruptive students can cause more problems for teachers than disrespectful or defiant students. Disruptions throw the lesson off track, influence other students and often leave teachers feeling helpless in their own classrooms. The best way to deal with disruptions is to avoid them all together.

Disruptions are most likely to occur:

- During transitions in the lesson where students have do not have a task to engage in
- When students are challenged by the assignment and are avoiding work
- When students are uninterested in the assignment and are avoiding work
- When students are distracted by other situations

It’s important for teachers to remember the goal for dealing with disruptive students (as with any behavior problem) is to help the student perform academically. The goal of adjusting student behavior isn’t punishment . . . rather productivity. Therefore, getting students engaged in the work might be the biggest hurdle.

**Make “3 Sweeps” Part of Your Daily Rituals**

- **Sweep #1:** Touch base with every student to answer questions and encourage productivity.
- **Sweep #2:** Connect with all students NOT working; request questions; set goals; provide timeline
- **Sweep #3:** Reconnect with Every Student; offer praise for work well done, make interventions for obvious mistakes, address students not yet on task.

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