

HOW TO BUILD A STRONG TEACHING TEAM WITH A SHARED VISION

Teaching with CLASS® Podcast
Season 3 Episode 2
Guest: Deidre Harris



Key Take Aways

+ The Importance of a Shared Classroom Vision

- **Vision Creation** - Reflecting on what the perfect day looks like in your classroom.
- **Team Collaboration** - Discussing and creating a shared vision with your teaching team.
- **Foundational Questions** - What does your organization's vision statement mean in day-to-day practice? What would a perfect day look like, from morning drop-off to evening pick-up?

+ Strategies for Developing a Strong Teaching Team

- **Clear Communication** - Ensuring all team members are on the same page regarding goals and expectations.
- **Vision in Action** - Describing what interactions should look like to reflect the shared vision.
- **Keeping it Simple** - Breaking down the vision into manageable parts and having regular conversations about it.

+ Creating and Maintaining Team Agreements

- **Writing Down Agreements** - Documenting team agreements to provide a neutral reference point.
- **Front-loading Agreements** - Planning how to handle conflicts before they arise.
- **Flexibility and Revisions** - Treating agreements as living documents that can be adjusted as needed.

+ Handling Conflicts and Maintaining Positive Relationships

- **Expecting Conflicts** - Planning for conflicts as an inevitable part of teamwork.stress.
- **No Blame, No Shame, No Guilt, No Fault** - Encouraging a supportive approach to resolving conflicts.
- **Seeking Clarity and Support** - When agreements fail, revisiting and clarifying them together.

+ Inclusivity in Team Agreements

- **Involving All team Members** - Ensuring that everyone, including itinerant staff like speech therapists, is included in the team agreement.
- **Articulating Roles and Responsibilities** - Clearly defining who does what, when, and how to ensure seamless classroom operations.

Practical Applications

- **Emotional Support Domain** - Applying CLASS principles to adult interactions in the classroom, focusing on Positive Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, and Regard for Student Perspective.
- **Conflict Resolution** - Using team agreements to prevent and address conflicts, ensuring that all team members are heard and respected.
- **Building Relationships** - Using vision creation and team agreements as tools to build and strengthen relationships within the teaching team.

Creating a positive and effective teaching team requires intentional effort, clear communication, and a shared commitment to the vision. By involving all team members and maintaining open, supportive interactions, teaching teams can create a healthy, connected environment for both educators and children.

To listen to this episode and read the transcript, visit our blog at <https://info.teachstone.com/blog/how-to-build-a-strong-teaching-team>

