

Empowerment

SOCIAL CONTRACT & 4 QUESTIONS

SOCIAL CONTRACT

In each class at the beginning of the school year, students create a Social Contract facilitated by the teacher using four questions related to the environment of the classroom.

4 QUESTIONS

- HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE TREATED BY THE TEACHER?
- HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE TREATED BY EACH OTHER?
- HOW DO YOU THINK THE TEACHER WANTS TO BE TREATED BY YOU?
- HOW DO WE WANT TO TREAT EACH OTHER WHEN THERE IS CONFLICT? (CHECKS AND FOULS)

FOLLOW-THROUGH

- This results in a list of adjectives which serve as the basis for student expectations of behavior in the classroom.
- The Social Contract is signed by all classroom members including the teacher.
- The Social Contract is a living document: it is referred to on a regular basis to highlight success and serve as a guide for when problems arise.

4 QUESTIONS FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- What are you doing?
- What are you supposed to be doing?
- Are you doing it?
- What are you going to do next time?

4 QUESTIONS FOR DISRESPECT

- How are you talking to me/him/her?
- How are you supposed to be talking to me/him/her?
- Were you doing it?
- How are you going to talk to me/him/her?

NOTES

- Ask no more than 2 times.
- Affirm the person, not the behavior.
- If no answer, "You are choosing a consequence."