

Michael Auden's Teaching Boys Emotional Literacy

Interactive Training Modules



Walk and talk

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The Village Teacher

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Thank you for taking me for walk when I need to talk.

Walk and Talk

1. When walking around campus, take one student with you.
2. Places to go include: your school mailbox, the counselor's office, and the copy machine.
3. You don't have to talk about anything "heavy."
4. You might ask, "What did you do last night?" to start the conversation.
5. Let the student talk. Listen and ask questions about what he likes.
6. Notice how the student will tell you what he needs.
7. Notice how the student will give you ideas on how to better "hook him" into the class.
8. You should see significant improvement in your high energy boys after three months or less of using this technique.
9. Suggestion: After each walk, jot down a couple notes in your teacher binder. Example: *Walked with Joey. He's into 'Sims City' computer game. He said he doesn't understand two of our vocabulary words.*

- ▶ Walk and Talk is the single most effective way to transform your worst student into your best.
- ▶ Use Walk and Talk every day.
- ▶ When you use Walk and Talk, you will reconnect with all the reasons why you became a teacher.
- ▶ Walk and Talk succeeds, in part, because when people go on walks they talk and act differently than they would in a classroom situation.
- ▶ Remember that you don't have to talk about anything during a Walk and Talk.
- ▶ Walk and Talk is important because it breaks a pattern; it's likely that no other teacher has used Walk and Talk with your student.
- ▶ During a Walk and Talk, your student will literally tell you what he needs and why he misbehaves. However, don't actively try to glean information from him during walks, as it will work against you.

- ▶ If you want to bolster your credibility on campus as a dedicated teacher, try to avoid walking alone. Instead, take a student with you as often as you can.
- ▶ By using Walk and Talk with your student a couple of times per week, you will make a real, crucial connection with him within a few short weeks.
- ▶ Be aware of any rules and procedures your school has about student-teacher interactions. Never be in a situation where your integrity and reputation could be put at risk.
- ▶ Never leave the class unsupervised.

Two Page Review

Where could I implement Walk and Talk on my campus?

Three times and situations I could Walk and Talk with my students are

What tips have you learned in this session that would make communication with boys easier?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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