

Proposal for Reducing Background Chatter

Issue: Chatter during class is unproductive and distracting for the entire class. It makes it difficult for the teacher to teach and ultimately makes class less fun.

Observations: After a very healthy discussion with the class we came to the following conclusions. Not necessarily agreed upon by all.

- *Chatting is a problem.*
- *In some cases threats don't work and rewards are not appropriate.*
- *A reminder, such as a bell or name being written on the board, would be helpful.*
- *Chance cards sounded fun.*
- *Per table instead of per person seemed like an interesting idea.*
- *To be fair, we need a randomized seating arrangement.*

Proposal: We start off each week with a random seating assignment. The goal of the week is to maintain an appropriate and productive learning environment.

1 - If a table is being loud or distracted, their table name goes up on the board. If there is a second problem within the period, the entire table has to eat lunch with me in my classroom the next day. If only one person is being a problem, they will head to Ms. Lawrence's office.

2 - If over the course of the week a table has been extremely good, they can opt to stay together as a table the next week. If they can maintain that status for four weeks, there will be a reward and they will be randomly assigned after that point. If over the course of a week a table has been not so good, they have to draw a chance card and do whatever embarrassing thing is on the card. They also must be randomly assigned the next week.

3 -If on the whole the class has been good for the week, we will do a fun science demo and/or question box time on Friday.