

Book Study Guide:

Show Your Caring and They Will Learn

By Frank Chiki

This handout is designed for teachers and principals to guide professional discussions based on key chapters of the book. Use the questions below to reflect, share insights, and plan actionable strategies.

Chapter 1: Meet the Teacher

- How do your first interactions with students and families set the tone for your classroom culture?

Notes:

- What strategies do you use to observe and record important details about students during initial meetings?

Notes:

- How do you communicate your behavioral and procedural expectations to families and students at the start of the year?

Notes:

- In what ways can you adapt 'Meet the Teacher' strategies for schools that do not host this event?

Notes:

Chapter 2: Notice the Small Things

- How do you intentionally get to know your students as individuals, beyond academics?

Notes:

- What methods do you use to gather information about students' interests, family backgrounds, and emotional needs?

Notes:

- How do you use daily observations to identify potential red flags that might hinder student learning?

Notes:

- In what ways do you share about your own life to help students see you as a caring person?

Notes:

Chapter 3: Set Expectations and Be Consistent

- What is the difference between classroom rules and expectations, and how does reframing impact student behavior?

Notes:

- How do you maintain consistency in enforcing expectations, especially when students test boundaries?

Notes:

- How do you personalize your response to students who struggle to meet expectations, while remaining fair and transparent?

Notes:

- What strategies help you communicate to students that different learners may need different supports?

Notes:

Chapter 4: Adapt When Necessary

- How do you balance consistency in expectations with the need to be flexible for individual students?

Notes:

- What reflective questions do you ask yourself when a student struggles to meet classroom expectations?

Notes:

- How do you use observation and data to inform your approach to challenging behaviors?

Notes:

- What strategies help you develop a plan for student success that provides both flexibility and consistency?

Notes:

Chapter 5: Always Care, No Matter What

- What does ‘caring’ look like in your daily practice, especially during challenging times or remote learning?

Notes:

- How do you earn trust and respect from students and families, and why is authenticity important?

Notes:

- What actions can you take to show care for students with behavioral challenges, even when progress is slow?

Notes:

- How do you balance ‘tough love’ with maintaining a caring relationship, and what are effective ways to hold students accountable?

Notes: