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### **Basic Understandings — The Teacher**

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*The successful teacher must know and practice the three characteristics of an effective teacher.*

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### **First Characteristic — Positive Expectations**

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*The effective teacher has positive expectations for student success.*

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### **Second Characteristic — Classroom Management**

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*The effective teacher is an extremely good classroom manager.*

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## The Effective Teacher

1. Establishes good control the first week of school.
2. Does things right, consistently.
3. Affects and touches lives.

**Furthermore, you will be expected to do your job with the same enthusiasm that you expect from your own students.** You will be expected, on your own initiative, to serve on committees, confer with parents, and attend meetings, in-service programs, conferences, college classes, and workshops to further yourself and the district's goals.

**As an employee of the district, you should expect to be reassigned from time to time.** Be a model of adaptability. Just as you expect your students to go into a changing world and adapt, show that you can adapt and excel in a changing world. Finally, understand that you have a role as part of a larger community and society.



#### Understand Your Role

1. The schools are owned and operated by the citizens of your local community.
2. Schools are the foundation for transmitting the values and traditions that ensure our life in a free society.
3. The schools are built for the STUDENTS.

*Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not.*

*—Thomas Huxley*

#### Take Responsibility for Yourself

**T**o be an effective teacher, you need to move on to the third stage of teaching: mastery—the subject of this book. Survival, the second stage (Chapter 1), is a normal stop on your journey as a teacher, but the ideal is to get beyond it quickly. Yet on every teaching staff from kindergarten through graduate school, there are instructors who have been teaching for decades and are still at survival. Why does this happen to some teachers? They acquire ineffective teaching attitudes and techniques early on, and these become crystallized into their permanent teaching repertoire.

**About the Authors**

Who are Harry and Rosemary Wong?

They are teachers.

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