

You're Invited

More information on invitational education is in the **Going Beyond** folder for Chapter 9 at EffectiveTeaching.com.

Effective teachers know how to open the door and invite their students to learn.

We all like to be invited to go shopping, to go to a party, to join a group. Most of us have the common courtesy to greet people at the door, to exchange pleasantries when introduced to others, and to offer food or drink to a visitor. These same concepts are practiced by effective teachers in the classroom. In fact, the effective teacher is *deliberately* inviting.

When you send an invitational message to your students, you are being deliberate. You are saying, "You are important to me as a person."

If the concept of Invitational Education appeals to you, please go to <http://www.invitationaleducation.net/> for more information.

William W. Purkey and Betty Siegel are the movers behind the concept of invitational education. We thank them and credit them for their invitational thoughts, such as:

- Every new school year is an invitation to success.
- At heart, every student wants to be invited.
- Opportunities are everywhere, but nothing happens until invitations are sent.
- Invitations are like gifts; to exist they must be given.
- An invitation is a choice someone made and a chance that someone took.
- People want to be affirmed in their present value and invited to realize their potential.
- Inviting *actions* speak louder than inviting *words*.
- To invite is to include; being included is everything.
- Life loves the person who accepts the invitation to live it.
- Many invitations are not accepted because they were never received.
- To love is to act lovingly; to care is to act caringly.

The door to a student's heart opens quietly; waiting to be invited to the classroom, to the lesson, and to the world. Listen carefully for your cues and follow up with the invitations.

These thoughts and actions take time to implement; your caring and love will shine through with every action.