

Hallway Procedure

With a schoolwide procedure in place, the movement of students in halls is very efficient. Read how it's done in the **Going Beyond** folder for Chapter 20 at EffectiveTeaching.com.

Students who know what to do in the classroom produce results, and results produce learning and achievement. The students take responsibility and ownership for the task that needs to be done, resulting in fewer behavior problems and increased academic learning time. Simply stated:

Effective teachers **MANAGE** their classrooms with procedures and routines.

Ineffective teachers **DISCIPLINE** their classrooms with threats and punishments.

A Morning Routine

The staff at a school in Nevada establishes and reinforces a set of consistent procedures before school begins every morning. This sets the tone for learning during the school day.

The principal of this exceptional school, located in an at-risk neighborhood, is Lee Douglas. The school has a morning routine, which is lead by a different class each week. The class has been rehearsed by the teacher, and a different student leads each part of the routine or ceremony. (Pictures of this routine can be seen on page 329.)

Morning Opening Ceremony

1. **Line Up.** A teacher beats on a set of drums and that is the signal to line up. The students have a designated line and they hurry to line up quickly because one primary and one elementary classroom will be selected to receive the "Line of the Day" award. This is nothing more than a slick with a sign at the top, but they all want to earn it.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and 30 Seconds of Silent Meditation.** A student leads the pledge to the flag and then asks for 30 seconds of silent meditation.
3. **School Song (on Tuesday and Friday).** Another student asks everyone to join in singing the school song.
4. **Law of the Pack.** The school mascot is a wolf, so they refer to themselves as the wolf pack. A student says, "Please repeat after me . . ."
A Gragson Grey Wolf is . . .

Caring, Curious, Confident,
Cooperative, Courageous,
Flexible, Friendly,
Honest, Organized,
Responsible, Respectful,
Patient, Motivated,
Shows Initiative, Effort,
Perseverance, Has Integrity,
A Sense of Humor and Is a Problem Solver.

5. **Pack Slogan.** A student says, “On the Count of Three: 1, 2, 3,” or “Ready, begin.”
We will be remembered by the tracks we leave behind.
6. **Pack Motto.** Another student leads and says, “On the Count of Three: 1, 2, 3,” or “Ready, begin.”
Good, Better, Best,
Never Let It Rest,
'Til the Good is Better,
And the Better is Best!
7. **The Grey Wolf Pledge.** A student says, “On the Count of Three: 1, 2, 3,” or “Ready, begin.”
I believe in myself and my ability to do my best at all times.
I will act in such a way that I will be proud of myself
and others will be proud of me, too.
I will not waste this day,
because this day will not come again.
8. **Review of Weekly Life Skills.** A teacher reminds the students of the life skill being learned for the week.
9. **Dismissal.** The principal, Lee Douglas, presents the “Line of the Day” award to the primary and elementary class that has demonstrated promptness, procedures, and participation.

The recitation of the words to the song, law, motto, and pledge all reinforce the CULTURE of the school.

**Thus, the students begin school each day with a vision
and purpose for coming to school and arrives with
a set of procedures to use to succeed in school.**

You can see this because when the drum beats again, the classes file off the playground, behind the Line of the Day classes.

As the students file down the hallways, there is no talking or pushing, because the schoolwide HALLWAY PROCEDURE is “ZIP” (your lips) and “FLIP” (fold your arms).

When they enter their respective classrooms, there is a bellwork assignment posted. The students start their school work immediately!

Because many of the parents walk their children to school, they stand at the back during the morning routine.

One day, Lee Douglass noted a 3-year-old child standing at the end of one of the class lines. He had learned the morning routine and followed the recitation. He said to Lee, “I’m ready to start school!”

A sixth grade boy said, “I love to come to this school. Everyone knows what to do (procedures). There is no yelling or screaming and we all can get to work.”

The test scores are exceptional. The parents, students, and teachers love this school. **The procedures create a culture of success.**