

☀️☀️ 6 tips for a Happier School Environment ☀️☀️

1. **HAPPIFY SPACE** 🖌️

Experts tell us that color affects mood. Halls, offices and classrooms can pop with color in undistracting ways. Find color charts online. According to 99Designs, “the brighter and lighter a color, the more happy and optimistic it will make you feel.” Minimize clutter, decorate with plants and use better light!

2. **Rethink TONE** 🎵

Serious content is important, but it belongs in the classroom alongside support and conversation. Remember that students see and often internalize hallway messages repeatedly throughout the day.

3. **Reconsider announcements and** 🔔

Announcements are a great opportunity for joy. At the start of the day, especially, they should convey support and gratitude. Fun sounds can replace jarring bells to show how much happiness is valued.

4. **REKINDLE purpose!** 🐬

Educators have PURPOSE! Time to connect with this is invaluable. A culture of sharing, understanding and celebrating each other’s purpose is intrinsically motivating.

5. **DIVISION-WIDE MORNING MEETINGS** 💬

This once popular trend needs to resurface. Division-wide meetings, led by a variety of students (not just perceived student leaders), emphasize the value of community and communication.

6. **IF YOU DON'T FEED THE EDUCATORS, THEY EAT THE STUDENTS** 🐱

If You Don't Feed The Teachers, They Eat the Students is an amazing guidebook for schools.

However, this applies to all educators. Make room for:

- free time in meetings to socialize
- space for real, healing conversations
- recognition of everyone’s contributions - both publicly and privately
- acknowledgment that, along with the joy of working in schools, stressors affect everyone
 - freedom to have unique goals and personalities
 - support when someone makes a mistake



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