MODULE SEVEN: DEALING WITH STUDENT DISRUPTION

Overview:
This module is focused on managing student behavior that is disruptive. These are behaviors that, purposefully or not, disrupt the learning environment or otherwise prevent or interfere with other students’ ability to follow directions.

Big Ideas:

1. Teach Appropriate Behavior
   - Consider the purpose or function of behavior
   - Model with students and engage in discussion
   - Provide reminders
   - Develop routines and arrangements to facilitate success
   - Avoid predictable triggers

2. Teach Standard Consequences Ahead of Time
   - For both appropriate and disruptive behaviors
   - Reinforce appropriate behavior with public praise
   - Address disruption privately
     - Present as a choice the student makes
     - Follow through with consequences, making sure to take behavioral function into account
     - If student escalates, follow through with intervention steps based upon stage in the cycle

3. Keys to Addressing Disruption
   - Recognize agitation early
   - Redirect student in a clear and neutral manner
     - provide one very clear direction for student to follow – should focus on the behavior that was taught.
     - break complex directions into smaller steps and direct the first step
   - Communicate concern for student – not for you
     - present options for student – not ultimatum
     - be private as much as possible – but don’t hover
     - remind and assist student to use appropriate behavior
   - Continue to acknowledge other on-task students
   - Acknowledge change in behavior or implement consequence in a neutral manner
   - Activate crisis management plan as necessary

Activity:
In your group, think about how the teacher’s interactions with Kristen’s were different and how this facilitated a more positive relationship.

Task:
Between now and when you meet for the next module, think about students you have or have had in your classroom that have problems with disruption and include your relationship with students as you consider the following:

- What pre-teaching is in place regarding alternatives to disruptive behavior for these students?
- Are consequences considered in terms of function provided in the form of a choice for the student?
- Which of the keys for addressing disruptive behavior have you tried when confronted with disruption?