1. Continually examine your instructional practices. A reflective teacher is always improving!

2. Communicate a sense of urgency. Cut out unproductive activities. Keep expectations high, monitor progress closely, and give students the supports they need before they fail.

3. Communicate high expectations while recognizing student needs. Communicate that you believe they can succeed, and differentiate instruction to meet individual needs.

4. Keep increasing your knowledge. Adopt a “lifelong learner” mindset. The more you know, the more your students will benefit.

5. Recognize the positive intent behind challenging behavior, and redirect students to more appropriate ways to reach their goals.

6. Focus on the 3 Cs—be a caring, creative, and courageous teacher.

7. Tell your students why they should learn what you’re teaching. Answer the question what’s in it for me?

8. Consider doing the opposite of what you feel like doing. When you feel like screaming at a noisy class, whisper—students will have to quiet down to hear what you’re saying.

9. Engage your students in the classroom community by giving them jobs and roles and providing them with multiple opportunities to interact with peers as they learn.

10. Model what you want to see in your students: kindness, respect, thoughtfulness, and enthusiasm for learning.

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