



GURUS EDUCATION

August 2015 Newsletter

A NOTE FROM OUR C.E.O.

Dear Teachers,

These are dynamic and exciting times for the company. We have a new name, new programs, more locations, new books, more staff, new office address and I am excited to see these changes getting effective in full force in Fall with the help of you all.

We are moving to 42808 Christy Street, Suite 122 Fremont CA 94538. The move will be completed by the end of August.

We are offering many new programs and courses this fall including:

- Personal Finance Program
- Course For Adults: Speaking with Confidence
- High School Public Speaking and Debate Program preparing students for tournaments
- Learn from Experts Series in our Public Speaking and Debate Program
- Two new courses in PPS and PS series: Little Masters of Storytelling and Mastering the Art of Public Speaking

Kim will be sending announcements for training schedule of these new modules.

Kim is also the project lead for compiling teacher-edition books and revising our current courses. Please reach out to her if you can contribute in this project. She will also be asking for your help.

Harshita is joining us as our new Marketing Manager. She has an MBA from India. I am confident we will be able to better establish our brand with her help.

Teachers are our best ambassadors, so continue to refer our programs to new schools/tutorial centers/park and rec centers anywhere in the state, and earn some extra cash as referral bonus. Your efforts are always appreciated. Let me know if you are interested in more details on this.

Please continue to reach out to Erika for any non-curriculum related matters like schedules, supplies, parents' complaints, rosters etc. For any teaching or curriculum related matters, contact Kim.

Thank you for your hard work and co-operation.

Ritu

"The way we talk to our children becomes their inner voice."

— Peggy O'Mara



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UPDATES OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE

No Students Left Behind!

Unfortunately, we lost our contract at a major Park and Recreation department last week because of one reason: the teacher left the class before all the students were picked up.

Many teachers have expressed their frustration with late parents. In the Fall, their understanding and agreement of our Policy and Procedures will be a high priority. They will be communicated to all parents before the class, via email/Google Group, and must be returned back to us before or on the first day of class.

In occurrence, teachers have to collect this fee on their own, on the same day the parent is late.

Although it can be inconvenient to stay longer than expected (parents can forget that teachers have lives too), the students are under our care. We must wait until all students are picked up!

Don't Be Late for Your Very Important Date!

Teacher tardiness is serious ongoing issue. Moving forward, if the operations team receives report from the school/parent and it is verified by the teacher, the teacher's pay will be deducted on a pro-rated basis. We teach the students not to make haste to begin. When we are late, class tends to begin with haste.

Let's model what we teach on all fronts!

They'll Check Themselves Before They Wreck Themselves!

The Policies and Procedures form includes a section on **checkout procedures**. Parents will have to specify where and how their child will go after class:

- Home by themselves
- Home escorted by parent/specified guardian
- Afterschool program escorted by teacher)

Instructors will also have this information provided on their class roster. Please be familiar with these logistics.

They've Got a Friend in Us!

Good rapport is a high virtue! By taking care and meeting the coordinator and office admin, we are setting the foundation for constructive and cordial communication! Let's build positive and trusting relationships. You will receive the coordinator's contact information along with other vital information such as location and roster. Please help strengthen these bridges.

As teachers, we are the face/warrior of the company. It's up to use to represent Gurus Education in the best light!



The Platinum Rule

By: Megan

One of the first things I do in my class at the beginning of a course or semester (both at the collegiate level and elementary levels) is discuss the "golden rule" adage we are all too familiar with: *treat others the way you'd like to be treated*. While this sentiment is popular for a reason, that being, we should aim to be kind and respectful at all times, I argue that we can adjust this saying to be more inclusive of diversity and lived experiences.

I alter the saying to profess the "platinum rule": *treat others the way they would like to be treated*. There is a very important distinction between the two. The former connotes the notion that we are all of the same make and model, complete with the same expectancies and realities of our peers, which is simply not true. The latter infers that we all communicate differently, which is undoubtedly true.

We all come from different positionalities, hardships, cultures, traditions, and histories. More, some of us are shy, some of us battle depression, some of us are loquacious and outgoing, and some of us hate being in the spotlight. There is no sure-fire way to determine who someone is or what their communication style does or does not include. Simply because we are comfortable interacting in a certain fashion does not mean that the person we are speaking with (or teaching!) is comfortable with that manner as well.

We should all be self-reflexive and mindful of our communicative differences and learn to adjust our style of speak fluidly. I explain the importance of this rule in my classes because it holds everyone accountable for their voice – myself, as the teacher, included.

Catchphrases in the Classroom

By: Kim

This month, I had the pleasure of assisting Tenina. Right off the bat, she let them know that there was fun to be had and work to be done. With sass and conviction, she enlightened them with the catchphrase, "You gotta pay the cost to be the boss!" It was a simple phrase that was highly effective. The students took to it right away.

It was used often, especially after stressing the importance of practice, research, and investment in self. Every time she called out, "you gotta pay the COST to WHAT...?", they would powerfully and enthusiastically respond, "BE THE BOSS!"

When students overcame a fear or showed engagement, she would call them a boss. This thrilled and motivated them!

As I witnessed, classroom catchphrases can build morale and empowerment. Make up your own and see how it shifts the energy of your class! , Tenina!

