

*Secondary
Edition!*

CHAMPS

Classroom Management

Tip of the Week

Scan & Circulate

We can often prevent misbehavior just by being present. Use circulation and proximity strategies to monitor student behavior consistently.

What is “withitness?”

While most teachers are excellent multi-taskers, the best teachers are “withit.” “Withitness,” a term coined by Jacob Kounin, is the art of running a classroom with *eyes in the back of your head*.

“Withit” teachers may also anticipate student misbehavior or disengagement. This may allow the teacher to diffuse the situation before it disrupts learning. Remember, prevention beats intervention every time!

- Circulate the classroom in unpredictable patterns.
- Continually scan the classroom for participation.
- While circulating, provide positive feedback for 1) the task at hand and 2) effort. *Note:* Some secondary students prefer private, individual or anonymous group praise to public recognition.
- Have a physical presence at potential problem areas before asking students to transition.
- Consider circulating with a sticky pad to jot notes of positive praise and private reminders to students. Even a simple smiley face can go a long way!



Remember, what you pay attention to grows! Intentionally seek and acknowledge the positive student behavior within each activity and transition.