Common Misconceptions of the Responsive Classroom Approach	Reality of What Fits With the Guiding Principles
Teachers can't praise students or reward students in any way.	Teachers and students enjoy celebrations for meeting goals and acknowledging hard work. Teachers show genuine appreciation and enjoyment of students and their ideas.
Logical consequences are the only things teachers can do to respond to misbehavior.	Logical consequences are a part of a set of strategies that teachers can use to respond to misbehavior that includes other strategies such as teacher language, proximity, visual cues, problem-solving conferences, and role-plays.
Teachers need to find extra time in the schedule to implement the <i>Responsive Classroom</i> approach.	
The Responsive Classroom approach is student driven so there is no structure.	
Responsive Classroom is only for younger students.	
Responsive Classroom is only for classroom teachers and isn't something that specialists or resource teachers can use.	
Responsive Classroom is a social program with Morning Meeting as its main/only component.	
The Responsive Classroom approach doesn't work with certain populations of students.	

n order to be successful in and out of school, students need to learn a set of social and emotional competencies—cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy, and self-control—and a set of academic competencies—academic mindset, perseverance, learning strategies, and academic behaviors.

Guiding Principles

Six principles guide the Responsive Classroom approach.



1 Teaching social and emotional skills is as important as teaching academic content.



How we teach is as important as what we teach.



Great cognitive growth occurs through social interaction.



How we work together as adults to create a safe, joyful, and inclusive school environment is as important as our individual contribution or competence.



What we know and believe about our students—individually, culturally, developmentally—informs our expectations, reactions, and attitudes about those students.



Partnering with families—knowing them and valuing their contributions—is as important as knowing the children we teach.

Applying the Guiding Principles to Misconceptions

1.	How does the belief system of Responsive Classroom address this misconception
2.	Are there practices that align and support this concept but in a different way?
	What would need to change or shift in order for this concept to align with the approach?

Geometric Forms

Something that "squares" with my thinking	A question that is still "circling" in my mind
Something that changed in my thinking	One new "direction" I will go in (or action I will take)