Buddy Classroom Procedure:

We all know the basics of classroom management when dealing with general misbehavior in our students:

- Eye Contact, Pause in teaching, The teacher “look”
- Physical proximity, Touch or gesture
- Praise appropriate behavior observed in others
- Reminder, “If you ________, we will have time for __________.”
- Ask for a response that ends inappropriate behavior (“Take out scratch paper and list… raise your hand if…”)
- Gentle verbal correction (quiet, quick, calm)
- Ignoring
- Owed Time (lunch, recess, etc.) in which the student reviews classroom expectations with you

But, sometimes we need a more structured approach to correcting student behavior. The following process needs to be taught to students at the beginning of the year at a time in which all students are calm and focused (via a Buddy Classroom Cool Tool).

- If the learner doesn’t comply with the above classroom management interventions, send them to a Buddy Room.
- If they can’t calm in a Buddy Room, the staff member should send them to the Office.

Buddy Room- A Buddy Room is a safe place for a student to go when they persist in the negative minor behaviors (see T-Chart). A Buddy Room is a prearranged place in another teacher’s room generally a grade higher but also in close proximity.

Processing and Returning to Class - If the student successfully transitions back to class, the teacher makes sure to welcome them back and acknowledge any positive choices they make upon returning.

Here is an example:

Joey was sent to the Buddy Room after repeated prompts to stay in his seat. When he returns the teachers first response is, “Joey, I am so glad you are back, we missed you. Are you ready to show me how a second grader sits at their table spot?”

Many teachers have found that by using this process, most of the students that would normally go to the office for misbehavior straighten out in the buddy classroom. This limits the amount of instructional minutes lost as well as maximizes the student’s connection to the classroom and maintains the Classroom Teacher as the primary authority figure.

If a student is sent to your classroom for a reset…

- welcome and acknowledge them to your classroom
- prompt them to go to a quiet space
- when they seem regulated and calm, prompt them to return