

# Best Buddies

2017/2018

**EVERYONE BELONGS, FUN FOR ALL**

Dorothy McElhinney Middle School

# What is Best Buddies?

At DMMS, Best Buddies is a program run by the students in our ASB class. The main idea that Best Buddies is based on is including the students at our school who have certain disabilities or special conditions.

Every other week, on a Friday or Wednesday, a group of nine leadership students go to the special education classrooms.

They spend forty-five minutes to an hour doing a fun activity with them.



September 13, 2017

“How do we include special education students at our school?”

There are so many different ways to include and entertain your schools buddies! When coming up with activities to do with the students, one thing to keep in mind is **SENSORY**.

Depending on what kind of challenges the kids are facing, you want to come up with activities that can help them explore new things and learn at the same time.

Keeping in mind that everyone has different needs and different ways of learning!

Sensory activities include things that can widen their mental and physical horizons. (Feeling different textures, finding small details, etc.)

# How do I start this at my school?

- 1) Talk to your teacher or student council advisor

If you think that your school could benefit from a Best Buddies program, the first step to starting one is talking to some one like your teacher, student council advisor, or an adult who is in charge of school clubs and activities. They can help you learn about starting a club or commission on this subject!

# How do I start this at my school?

## 2) Talk with your schools special education teacher(s)

To make sure that you are doing the right kind of activities with your buddies, talk to their teacher. They will have had the most experience and education on how to be around and how to make sure the kids are having a good time.

They will be able to share with you the different and individual ways that each person learns. Make sure that when you are talking with the teacher, that you are including what kind of activities you will be doing, what days you will be visiting their classroom, and what they would want to see you do with their students.

# How do I start this at my school?

## 3) Pick the students that you want to be apart of Best Buddies!

When it comes to picking the students that you want to be apart of your Best Buddies group, make sure that you choose wisely!

Ask for input from your teacher if you are having trouble figuring out who should go! Make sure that you are picking the most responsible and respectful people possible.

Do not pick some one who has a short temper or someone who is not into getting involved and becoming a friend to the buddies!!

# Activities Ideas :)

**GAME DAYS**

**MOVIE DAYS**

**OUTSIDE OBSTACLE**

**COURSE**

**SENSORY ACTIVITIES**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**HALLOWEEN PARTY**

**ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**DAYS**

These are just some of the fun activities that you can do with your schools buddies!

QUESTIONS:)