

What can I share about myself with my students?

Your students will be interested to know about your family, childhood, and recent past. Give the most attention to your interests, hobbies, and career.

Can I get a photos of my students labeled with their names?

For the safety of the students, we are unable to provide you with photos and names of students. Your teacher may be able to provide you with a names only list that you can use to make notes to help you remember who is who and the pronunciation of names.

What if I don't understand the terminology used in the goals of my students?

If the student is unable to explain the goal, please inquire from the teacher about the meaning of the goal. Acronyms and abbreviations are commonly used which can be unfamiliar for Goal Buddies.

What if a student says they are unable to achieve their goals?

Encourage the student to keep trying and to change their way of thinking. They have not achieved their goal YET. It is still possible and the only way to do it is to work hard and to keep trying. If a student is adamant that their goal is unattainable, encourage the student to request a conference with the teacher to discuss their goals.

What incentives do the students receive for achieving goals?

If a student achieves their reading and math goal, they receive a medal. If a student achieves their life skill goal, they receive a pencil. If a student achieves all three goals, their name is entered into the prize drawing. If 85% of the class achieves their reading and math goal, the classroom receives a \$25 check. The school also receives \$25 for each classroom that earned a check.

Can I bring treats or gifts for my students?

Yes. It is not expected that Goal Buddies purchase anything for their students, but it is allowed. Food items must be pre-packaged from a store. No homemade food items. Please also check with the teacher about any food allergies that may provide food limitations. Gifts are also allowed. Popular items are pencils, erasers, and stickers. To be fair, please provide enough for the entire class, not just your students. The total number of students can be provided by your Program Coordinator.

What restrooms should I use when at the school?

Adult restrooms are always available- usually in the office or staff lounge. Your Program Coordinator will direct you to the location of adult restrooms. For the safety of all, please refrain from using student restrooms.

Can I visit my students at times other than Goal Buddy Visits?

There are plenty of opportunities to support your students outside of Goal Buddy Visits. Your Program Coordinator will keep you up to date on any events occurring at the school that you may like to attend if your schedule allows. You may also make other arrangements to visit the students, but arrangements should be made with the teacher ahead of time. Academic instruction time is top priority, so your teachers will be able to tell you a good time to come by.

What do I do if I suspect my student needs help, and I am unable to assist?

Your Program Coordinator is your best resource for any questions you may have regarding your students. When in doubt, your Coordinator is ready and willing to help. If you suspect there is a serious issue of child abuse or neglect, please follow Nebraska State law by contacting Child Protective Services or 911. Your Program Coordinator can assist you with this process if you would like.