

New Beginnings Classroom - 2024

Updated August 2024

Garrett Elementary utilizes a program called the “New Beginnings Classroom” (NBC Room) to help students learn how to process through emotions that are making classroom learning difficult and be a productive student in their classroom by managing unwanted behaviors on a daily basis. The NBC room is a Social Emotional Classroom. Our mission and vision are:

Mission: In a supportive and caring community, our students will develop skills to become effective communicators who demonstrate strong character and self-regulation. Garrett’s NBC Team will strive to provide a safe place for students to process through emotions that are interfering with classroom learning and teach students strategies to self-regulate for their learning.

Vision: Garrett’s NBC team will provide emotional support and coaching, along with restorative lessons that will help students learn how to work through emotions and be productive students in their classrooms. The NBC team will use Social Emotional lessons to help students manage unwanted behaviors on a daily basis.

What the New Beginnings Classroom Is...	What the New Beginnings Classroom Isn't...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Kind★ Feelings focused★ Forgiving★ Nurturing★ Accommodating★ Safe★ Patient★ Healing★ Science based	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Discipline★ Judgemental★ Academic intervention★ “Trouble”★ Free play time★ Babysitting★ A replacement for Classroom Management

This program is for all students at Garrett. Any student that is struggling with an emotion or social skill that is making learning difficult has the opportunity to visit the NBC room for a break to help them “reset” and return to class. Our NBC Team will use a variety of strategies to help students with what they need in that moment to be able to return to class successfully. These strategies include (but are not limited to) calming time, behavior reflection, restorative practices, journaling, social skills lessons, and positive interventions and rewards.

Students With a Behavior Interventions Involving the NBC Room

The structure of “regular” day in this classroom involves 3 parts. First, we respond to assistance calls from teachers as needed. Each of these instances is different and we use our best judgment to intervene based on the situation. This could involve staying in the room with the student, speaking to them in the hallway, taking a walk and talk, or time in the NBC room. We try to keep these times to 15 minutes, but will be with them longer if we feel it’s necessary.

The second part involves providing scheduled breaks, check ins, or incentive reward breaks to students identified through the SST meetings. These students come to the room (or we check in with them) on a set schedule and spend a predetermined amount of time before returning to class. The majority of the time the students have a goal or goals they are working towards that needs to be tracked by the teacher. Whether or not they met the goal determines what type of break they get. This is considered a “Tier 2” intervention and must be set up in a SST meeting.

Third, we also supervise any students that have issues during the day and are brought to the room by any of the administrators. These students generally just need a place to go and some time to take a break, but sometimes will be assigned to the room for the rest of the day.

Students Who are “Assigned” to the NBC

The NBC room is also utilized for students that struggle with ongoing classroom behaviors or are receiving referrals for the same offense repeatedly. Some students continually make choices that are interfering with not only their academic success, but other students as well. Teachers have a difficult job in trying to help students behaviorally, academically and socially. Some students need more individualized help and attention to see success. This is where the NBC room is effective. Students will be kept at school to work on behavior and academics in a small setting that can address their most immediate needs. It will be used in lieu of out of school suspension for our students in Tier 2/3 that need assistance. We have a teacher and teacher assistant leading this classroom.

When a student is assigned to the NBC room, classroom teachers will provide daily work for their students. The students will complete the work just like their grade level peers. Teachers are required to provide work and instructions to Mrs. Jaycox prior to the start of the day. Mrs. Hanandeh will also use this information.

Grading of any kind will be done by the homeroom teacher.

The students’ day will consist of academic, lunch, and break times. One 15 minute time frame will be given in the morning and another in the afternoon for a break. These breaks will be held in the NBC room. Students will be allowed to choose from a variety of break options: technology sites that are school approved, a movement break, or a mindfulness moment in the

calm down corner. If the student has been working hard and following the NBC rules, they may also have a choice of an activity from the Incentive Area. These activities include puzzles, Playdough, Legos, or games. Students will also eat lunch in this classroom. Lunch time will be the same time they would normally eat with their class. Students are responsible for cleaning up their lunch area.

Mrs. Jaycox will eat her lunch from 11:40-12:10. Mrs. Hanandeh will eat her lunch from 12:30-1:00. These lunch times are tentative, as the daily schedule can change based on the needs of the students in the classroom that day. As a teacher, Ms. Jaycox receives a 55 minute plan time each day. This time can also shift sometimes based on the needs of the students and situations in a day.

Parent communication and support are vital for this program. Parents will be communicated with prior to students being placed in the program. Parents will be informed that OSS is always an option they can choose. Ongoing parent communication will occur at the beginning of the stay in the program and/or at the end.

If a student re-enters the NBC (or has a second offense), a care team will be held to document and investigate alternative interventions.

Teachers will not be allowed to assign or send students to the NBC. This intervention will be assigned by the Principal or Assistant principal only.

If a student's behavior is disruptive to the NBC, that student will either be sent home or spend the remainder of the day in the office due to the severity of the concern. An additional day will be added to the student's length of stay to make up for this interruption. The parent will be notified of these events.

If a child earns additional days during a NBC stay due to behaviors and lack of points, parents will be notified.

For students to successfully be able to return to class they need to meet the requirement of earning at least 9 points a day. Points are earned in the following ways:

1. Being respectful with a greeting upon entering the classroom. (Saying hello or good morning to the teacher.)
2. Having materials and/or work ready to go. (This may include homework or papers out on your desk.)
3. Following the classroom rules.
4. Sharing with others. (Sharing supplies or ideas respectfully).
5. Being polite to other students in the classroom. (Using your manners.)
6. Assisting another student with work or academic difficulties.
7. Cleaning up your work area or lunch area. (Taking care of your environment.)
8. Reading a book during transition times.
9. Being safe in your work area.

10. Completing work/working hard on classroom assignments
11. Working through the behavior binder and completing a think sheet with NBC team
12. Participating in a lesson on apologizing and apologizing to the appropriate person

Points are only given, not taken away. Focus on student work and relationship building is key. This program is an intervention and should be treated as such. Focusing on replacing poor behavior choices should be done with modeling and reinforcement with points.

If a student does not have the total amount of points needed (9 per day) at the end of their stay, they can be given additional days to earn the right to go back to their classroom.