Working with Paraeducators

The special education teacher is the primary decision-maker in the classroom.

Use diplomacy when making final decisions, and use delicacy in how you use your authority.

Discuss clearly defines roles and responsibilities.

Discuss classroom operating procedures (e.g., who will grade students’ academic work or monitor them during recess).

So not argue with your paraprofessional. If you have attempted to collaboratively solve problems without success, bring the problems to a higher authority.

Discuss how to handle students who try to play you against each other.

Discuss maintaining behavior point sheets.

Discuss assisting students that arrive and leave on the school bus.

Discuss who will contact parents.

Discuss how to provide assistance to students individually or in groups.

Discuss how to handle confidentiality.

Discuss how to deal with disagreements productively.

Discuss how to monitor student behavior.