A Occupational Therapist’s Job Description
What Your Students Might Want You to Know

Listen to me. **LEARN FROM ME.**
Be trustworthy. Always speak kindly.
Help me connect with other students.

**Let me learn.**

**Ask, “WHAT DO YOU NEED?”**

**Support belonging.**
Be safe. Handle me with care.
Be there, but give me space. **Hear me.**
When I have difficulties, kindly redirect.
Allow us to create together, laugh together, and have fun together.

**Encourage independence.**
If I am loud, be quiet.
**REMEMBER, I AM A PERSON FIRST.**
**Encourage softly.**

**Encourage interdependence.**
If I am sad, wipe my tears.
**SHARE POSITIVE STORIES WITH PARENTS.**
Attribute the best possible motive consistent with the facts.

**ASSUME COMPETENCE ALWAYS.**
When I am happy, step back.
**Allow choice.**
Ask, “How can I best help you?”
**Redirect softly.**
**Step back.**

**RELAX.** Assume friendship is possible.

Set me up to be successful.
**Watch me thrive.** Do not control.

Speak softly. **Follow my lead.**
Lead by loving. **GIVE ME SPACE.** Breathe.