Tips on teaching emotionally disturbed students

- Get to know your students
  - Become familiar with student’s educational history
    - Contact parents, licensed professionals
    - Behavioral IEP’s
    - Student Behavior Intervention Plans
  - Document characteristics of the student
- Develop classroom rules
  - Good rules provide structure for ED students
  - Only create a few rules
    - State the rules in a positive way
    - Be specific
    - Behaviors stated in the rules must be observable and measurable
  - Consistently implement your rules
- Watch out for triggers
  - Reduce amount of stress for ED student
    - Be aware of seating assignment in the classroom
  - Create classroom routines
    - Prepare the student in advance of an upcoming change to the daily schedule
    - Provide cues for transitions between activities
- Be positive! 😊
  - Focus on positive feedback and reinforcement-this should break the chain of negative behaviors
  - Use reinforcers that are intrinsically motivating
- Lean on your team
  - Plan staff meetings that will facilitate program planning, behavioral consultation, and keep open communication between your colleagues

Source: http://www.atpe.org/TeachersToolbag/emoDisturb.htm