

**Your mentors for the 2021-22  
school year are: Dion Dawkins, Reid  
Ferguson and Tyler Matakevich!!!**



A close-up portrait of a young Black man with short, curly hair and a light beard, smiling slightly. He is wearing a blue and white shirt. The background is white.

**INTRODUCING**

**CLASSROOM**  
**CHAMPIONS**  
*how better gets better and better*

A decorative graphic in the bottom left corner consisting of a large yellow circle with a blue center, surrounded by several smaller green circles.

**Dion Dawkins**



Dion is going into his fourth year with the Buffalo Bills as an Offensive Tackle. You can track him on the field with his number 73 on his jersey, wearing this because two other football players from Rahway, New Jersey wore number 71 (Olsen Pierre) and number 72 (Antonio Garay).

Dion started his football career in his hometown of Rahway, New Jersey before playing at Temple University from 2103-2016. Dion earned First Team All-American honors after his senior year having played 41 of 44 career games.

Dion is the self-proclaimed Snow Man - a term he used in high school to display his oversized personality. More words of wisdom from Dion: "I always set my goals high."

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**Reid Ferguson**





Reid Ferguson was signed by the Buffalo Bills as an undrafted free agent on May 2, 2016 and became part of the practice squad later that year. After a year of hard work, Reid became the starting long snapper for the Bills in 2017. Reid played in all 16 games that season and helped the Bills reach the NFL Playoffs. Reid again played all 16 games during the 2018 season and in January 2019, he signed a three-year contract extension with the Bills through the 2021 season.

Reid first started playing football in Buford, Georgia and was ranked the #2 long snapper in that nation during his senior year in high school. Reid continued playing at Louisiana State University, where he played all 51 games during four years and earned first-team All-American honors.

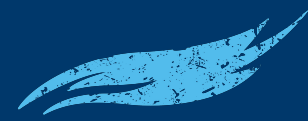
Reid has a dog named Buck- he's a golden doodle! Words of wisdom from Reid: "I'm still not perfect. You always have to work to be perfect. There's always something to improve on."



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**Tyler Matakevich**



Tyler Matakevich is #44 on the Buffalo Bills team, a Temple University alumni from Philadelphia, PA and being a 7th round draft pick on the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2016.

Comping from Stratford, CT Tyler attended St. Joseph High School in Trumbull, CT and played both football and baseball during his time there!

During his senior year at Temple University, Tyler become the 7th player in FBS history to record 100 tackles all 4 years. Leading Temple to the inaugural AAC Champ

During his final year of eligibility, Tyler received national honors including the AAC Defensive Player of the Year, the Bronko Nagurski Trophy and the Chuck Bednarik Award. All three were firsts for Temple Football.

His motto is to “Prepare like a starter.” He is excited to be a first time Classroom Champions mentor and cheer you on throughout the year!