There's a difference between "real" inclusion... and just being present.

Key "Necessary" Components of "Inclusive Education"

• Students Are In Their Home Schools, General Education Classes

o Where the students would be if they did not have disabilities

Appropriate Supports and Services

- Based on individual's and needs.
- o Supports follow the students, the students don't go somewhere to get them

"On-Going" Planning For Success

- Obstacles are issues waiting for solutions
- o "Teams" are proactive, addressing needs before problems arise
- o Inclusion is a process, not an event
- o All team members actively seek out information and resources
- All team members have a shared vision of what success looks like for each individual student
- Classroom, building and district decisions and planning reflect the needs of students with disabilities

Active Participation

- o Exclusion can happen in a general education environments
- o All activities are designed to be accessible for all students

All Students Have A Sense Of Belonging

- All students are valued
- o Social goals are integrated within class activities for all students
- o Adults model and facilitate inclusion and interactions

Achievement of IEP Goals

o Goals are dependent on individual and worked on within general curriculum

• Natural Proportions

- Same proportion of students with disabilities are in classes as are in the general population
- Students with disabilities are not grouped

o All classes practice inclusion, none are referred to as "inclusion classes"

• Classes Get Ready For Students

- Students do not have to get "ready" to be included
- o There are no prerequisites for inclusion
- Staff are trained based on students' needs

• Collaboration and Team Planning

- o General and special education staff have ownership of students with disabilities
- o All team members collaborate and communicate frequently

Diversity is valued through out all environments, activities and events

- o Sensitivity and awareness are interwoven throughout
- o Universal design and curriculum are utilized first
- o People 1st language is promoted and used in all environments
- o All students get what they need based on individuals, not labels
- o All students count in assessments and evaluations

Written by Colleen F. Tomko
Material Copyrighted 2006 Kids Together, Inc.
This material may be copied for non-profit use only. (May be linked but not copied on to other websites)
Please notify us of your intentions.