

What is Inclusive Education ?

Barriers and Sharing Experiences

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Alt+Shift

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Alt+Shift is an *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA)
Grant Funded Initiative through the Michigan Department of
Education, Office of Special Education



If You're Looking for a Good Read:



*“Inclusion is a right ,
not a special privilege for a select few.”*

Federal Court Oberti v. Board of Education

What is Inclusive Education?

The definition of inclusion states that all students:

- are presumed competent
- are welcomed as valued members of all general education classes and extra-curricular activities in their local schools
- fully participate and learn alongside their same age peers in general education instruction based on the general education curriculum, and
- experience reciprocal social relationships.

(TASH, n.d., para.1)










IDEA

“To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, must be educated with children who are not disabled. Further, special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment may occur only when the nature or severity of the disability of a child is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.”

Essential Pieces of Inclusive Education

Inclusive Learning Environment

**Everyone fits together in an
Inclusive Education classroom**

 <p>All students learning together</p>	 <p>Giving teachers assistance & support</p>	 <p>Focusing on abilities, not disabilities</p>
 <p>Teachers learning to expand their skills</p>	 <p>Connecting with individual learning styles</p>	 <p>Honoring the needs of all pupils, equally</p>
 <p>Valuing other cultures & perspectives</p>	 <p>Celebrating diversity & individuality</p>	 <p>Nurturing shared respect & empathy</p>

Benefits for ALL Students

With disabilities:

- Meaningful friendships
- Increased social relationships and networks
- Peer role models for academic, social and behavior skills
- Increased IEP goal achievement
- Greater access to general curriculum
- Increased inclusion in future environments
- Higher expectations
- Increased school collaboration
- Increased parent participation
- Families become more integrated into community

Without disabilities:

- Meaningful friendships
- Increased appreciation and acceptance of individual differences
- Increased understanding and acceptance of diversity
- Prepares all students for adult life in an inclusive society
- Opportunities to master activities by practicing and teaching others
- Greater academic outcomes

Inclusive Education is Easier Said Than Done...

- Barriers exist.
 - “We’ve always done it this way..”
 - “Their diagnosis means they have to..”
 - “We’re not equipped to..”
 - “Your student does X..”
- How can we move past the stigmas, challenges, barriers, hesitancy, (etc!)?
 - Families
 - Schools
 - Community

Breakout Rooms

In Your Breakout Rooms:

- Quickly introduce yourselves and your:
 - Child(ren) if you're a parent
 - Role/caseload if you're an educator
 - Read through & discuss the guiding questions
 - Encourage equality
 - Be time conscious
 - Embrace vulnerability
 - Nominate someone to share out 1 point when we return as a whole group
- 3 key

Share Out

Join Us for Future Sessions!

- “Inclusive Education in the IEP Using Assistive Technology”
 - March 10 from 12:00 -1:00pm
- “Inclusive Society: Using AT Beyond the School Day”
 - May 11 from 7:00 -8:00pm

We are here to support you!

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For more information visit:

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Michigan Alliance for Families is an IDEA Grant Funded Initiative of the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education, and Michigan's federal Parent-Training and Information Center (PTIC) funded by U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

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