
Inclusion and acceptance

inclusion does not mean sameness



Small but not invisible

They make a very small percentage of the the total student population so you might wonder “why?”





Can we be the leader ?

Awareness days

- ★ Light it up blue
- ★ Arts contest to show what they think
- ★ Penny wars to buy therapy items
- ★ “Spirit points” for doing something



Awareness is the
first step towards
inclusion and
acceptance

Inclusion project

- ★ Add artifacts and slogans in the hallway
- ★ inclusion committee with teacher mentor
- ★ Teach and use sign language
- ★ Volunteers to support in activities
- ★ Columbine Elementary School in Colorado
exemplary model of inclusion



Together in our
uniqueness

Inclusion project

★ Columbine Elementary School in Colorado

uses an exemplary model of inclusion. All children are in age-appropriate classes; there is little or no “pull-out”, except for rare instances; there is no special education room; SE teachers are a resource team who work together, along with classroom teachers to support all students.

★ special needs training for teachers because all teachers are for all students (music, library, arts, and PE included)



Push-in rather than
pull-out

Buddy Bench/club

- ★ Find a friend
- ★ Be a friend
- ★ Build relationships



No child sits on the sidelines

– accessible playgrounds

★ Expensive but not impossible

★ Valencia Elementary in Aptos, Calif.

They tackled the higher price tag with a creative combination of strategies including running standard fundraisers, mining parent connections, and engaging in an extensive grant writing campaign. Relying on parent expertise helped cut project costs. One family within the construction industry helped the group get concrete at a considerably reduced cost. Similarly, a parent with construction project management experience provided advice throughout the process, helping the HSC avoid pricey pitfalls and ensuring quality



Fun for all. Play for all abilities

Support for parents

- ★ Help establish a Special needs PTO
- ★ IEP Parent to parent support group
- ★ a getting started flyer/desk/resource for families of kids with special needs



Parents helping
parents