INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

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INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MEANS we no longer accept that separate classrooms, separate schools, and separate lives are in the best interest of any student. Separating people by ability disadvantages everyone. Belonging is a human need. Our educational system, practices, and spaces need to be reimagined.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MEANS every student is valued because of their strengths, gifts, and even challenges. As disability is simply... diversity. Everyone benefits from meaningful participation and opportunities to learn grade level content with diverse peers. We must trust that all students come to us as incredible whole people who do not need to be fixed.

IT IS POSSIBLE TO CREATE INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WHERE ALL STUDENTS FLOURISH!

TO ACHIEVE INCLUSIVE EDUCATION WE MUST:

1. REDESIGN SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES that center and value our human diversity, foster strong relationships, and create a true sense of belonging between and among us

2. PRIORITIZE HIRING diverse and inclusive-minded leaders, creative and compassionate educators, and skillful paraprofessionals

3. ELIMINATE BARRIERS to students' access, participation, and learning by abandoning inequitable practices, policies, and procedures

4. CREATE WELCOMING SPACES where students' multiple identities are seen and celebrated

5. CO-TEACH AND COLLABORATE EFFECTIVELY by sharing instructional roles, designing authentic lessons, and generating joy filled learning experiences

6. PARTNER WITH FAMILIES to incorporate their dreams for their children

7. DIFFERENTIATE TO CREATE ACCESS POINTS that allow students to engage in meaningful experiences, share their thoughts and ideas, and demonstrate their competence

8. PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT and enrichment for ALL - continuously and seamlessly - when and where students need it

9. UTILIZE CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS as an opportunity to create warm and safe relationships, reduce stressors, soothe systems, and nurture students' well-being

BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE, TAKE ACTION, AND WATCH STUDENTS THRIVE!