

The mission of the Division of Special Education is to provide leadership, guidance, and support to the school community in order to maximize learning for all students within an inclusive environment so that each student will contribute to and benefit from our diverse society.

LAUSD Strategic Plan 2012-2015

"Research supports that inclusive education benefits children with and without disabilities and increases the participation of individuals with disabilities in our society as a whole by fostering understanding and acceptance among peers, who will become employers, friends and neighbors."

IDEA 2004

"Almost 30 years of research and experience has demonstrated that the education of children with disabilities can be made more effective by having high expectations for such children and ensuring their access to the general education curriculum in the regular classroom ... and that special education can become a service for such children rather than a place where such children are sent."

Integration is about



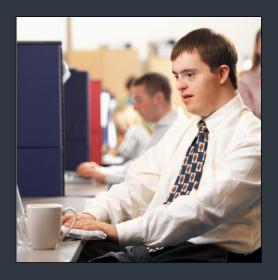
from Peterson, M. and Hittie, M. (2010)

DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

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Integrating Learning **Communities**

Supporting the success of all students





Division **Special Education**

Integrated Communities

REDESIGNING LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Students of all abilities are supported in their academic and social development.

INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR

- SOCIAL INTERACTIONS
- ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT & ACHIEVEMENT
- PRACTICING POSITIVE BEHAVIORS
- COMPASSION
- MASTERING SKILLS ACROSS ENVIRONMENTS
- LEADERSHIP
- SELF ADVOCACY



Combining the resources of diverse campuses, two schools become one learning community; a school that will serve all students with supports, services, and opportunities for integration.

Preparing for Integration: Student, Staff and Parent Supports

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

- Students from two Distinct campuses are prepared for integration through lessons and activities
- School staff plans for appropriate supports to be provided inside and outside the classroom

SUPPORTING PARENTS

- Workshops to support parents as partners in the education and development of all students
- Connecting families with resources and building relationships in their community

SUPPORTING STAFF

- Schools create Integration Teams to identify opportunities for students
- Professional development to address needs of students and strategies for successful integration
- School staffs work together to ensure process is planned and implemented
- Learning and supporting each other through collaborative teaching

REFERENCE:

Boyd, B., Seo, S., Ryndak, D. L., Fisher, D. (2005). Inclusive Education for Students with Severe Disabilities in the United States. *Inclusive and Supportive Education Congress*. Lecture

Studies on the impact of inclusive education show . . .



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Inclusive education results in greater academic expectations, a richer learning environment, more effective teaching strategies and modeling by peers, enhancing learning for all students.



SOCIAL SUPPORT

Inclusive education provides many more opportunities for interactions, development of relationships and social skill enhancement. Peer models increase their appreciation and understanding of diversity and grow in self-esteem and leadership skills.



INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

Inclusive education fosters student engagement through the development of interactive programs and cooperative learning groups, including students of all abilities in the classroom and learning community

REFERENCE

Katz, J., Mirenda, P. (2002). Including students with developmental disabilities in general education classrooms: Educational benefits. International Journal of Special Education, 17(2), 14-24.



