

Strategies to Enhance Inclusive Practices

- Provide students opportunities to learn about successful people with disabilities.
- Create settings where peer support mechanisms can be implemented.
- Focus on student strengths.
- Have students develop pictorial or written charts to portray their strengths and needs.
- Have students invite team members and guests, including friends, to their IEP meetings.
- Encourage students to practice goal-setting strategies.
- Provide opportunities for students to monitor their progress towards achieving personal goals.
- Embed opportunities for students to self-reflect on their success or failure across various settings.
- Assign students to write an essay describing how to be a good friend. Have each student share their thoughts on kindness, acceptance and friendship.
- Establish a “Five Minutes for Friendship” ritual each day. Have students pair up with classmates on a rotating basis. Provide a topic for the pair to discuss for five minutes. Ask a few pairs to share their conversation with the class.
- Expand your morning circle activity to include various modes of communication. Use sign language, foreign languages, and augmentative communication and supports (including photos, pictures and assistive technology devices, etc.) to support those students whose communication level might not include spoken English.
- Invite the Parent Services Representative from ESE to present “More Alike than Different” – a disability awareness training.
- Invite Parents As Liaisons (PALs) to present “Kids on the Block” presentations on disability awareness.
- Encourage students to write to Congress or a local elected official about inclusive education issues that concern them.
- Have a poster contest using the theme, “Great Things Happen in Inclusive Settings”.