



Inclusion After Home Quarantine

Family and Community Resource Committee, Aug 2021

Inclusion

Best practice for special education: **Inclusion** refers to the placement of children receiving special education services in a general education setting among their grade level peers to the maximum extent possible as agreed by the student's Admission, Review & Dismissal (ARD) meeting. Support is provided in the general education setting, as agreed at the most current ARD.

Home Quarantine

- Global pandemic of the coronavirus (COVID-19) began in late 2019.
- March 2020 was the beginning of "home quarantine."
- Virtual/distance learning began.
- Schools began providing partial in-school and partial virtual instruction.
- As home quarantine began decreasing, schools began instruction back in the classroom in different phases depending on the school districts.

What about Inclusion?

- MOST students will experience regression due to home quarantine.
- This is a great opportunity to have ALL students learning together and getting support for ALL students.
- Social interaction is now needed for ALL students!
- THIS BECOMES AN IDEAL TIME FOR INCLUSION!

Benefits of Inclusion

- Co-teaching can take place so special education and general education teachers can work together in the general education classroom so it can benefit ALL students!
- Para-educators are vital to provide added assistance in general education to help ALL students!
- Accommodations can be applied in a general education classroom and may now help other students in addition to students with special needs.
- Modifications can take place in a general education setting.
- Peer tutoring works! If a peer needs to help "tutor" his classmate receiving special education services, he must learn the material himself. "HE MUST LEARN IT TO TEACH IT!" What a great opportunity!
- Social interaction will provide positive role models for each other to help RELEARN how to socialize with peers.
- Research shows the power of including all children in a general education setting can benefit ALL students. https://docs.google.com/document/d/0BwJ2Fk_uSEdzfN1pgYUtGbGRhMW8/edit?resourcekey=0-nTtbOUCLrkjv_wY_4_PkMA
- USDE on Least Restrictive Environment: <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/regs/b/b/300.114>