

## An Exploration of Inclusion:

Smooth Transitions to Inclusion

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STAY CONNECTED

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Our goal is to educate, empower and inspire students from PreK through High School to become the change makers for tomorrow and to build a more inclusive, just and equitable society.

- 501(c)(3) educational non profit organization
- Partners with schools to promote social-emotional learning and cultivate inclusive and equitable learning communities
- Offering curriculum resources, educator professional development, & family engagement workshops



## Changing Perspectives

#### **School Based:**

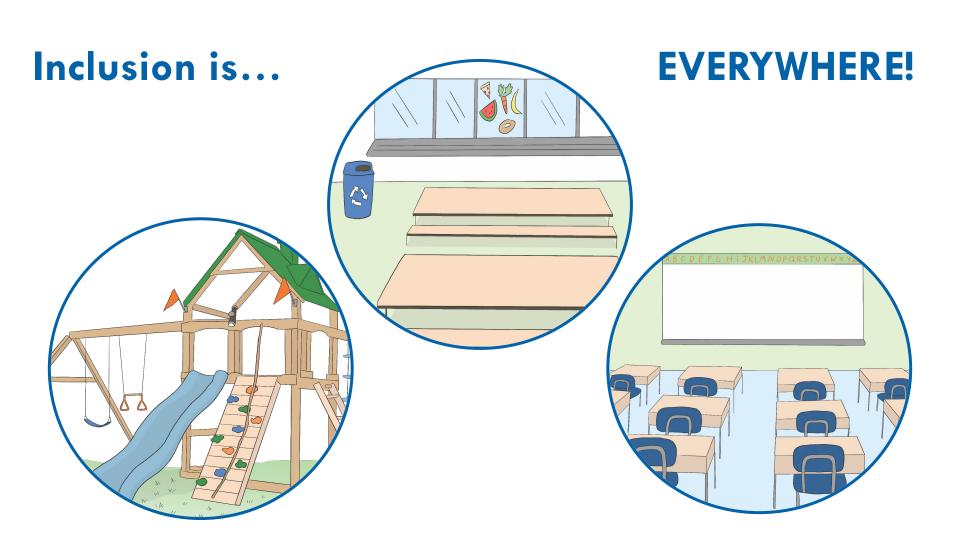
#### Four Elementary Schools to Grow Belonging

- Natoma Station Elementary: Inclusion during lunch and recess
- Rancho Cordova Elementary: Inclusive recess opportunities and physical inclusion
- Mangini Ranch Elementary: Building common language around inclusion and students with disabilities
- Cordova Gardens Elementary: Inclusive STEAM lessons for grades 3-5

## Understanding Inclusive Models

## **Inclusion Models**

- Push In
- Pull Out
- Reversed Mainstreaming



## Intentional vs Unintentional Inclusion

Intentional

Unintentional

The design of spaces and places to ensure all students can participate

Students
make
inclusive
choices
unprompted

## **Unpacking Inclusion**

**3 COMPONENTS** 



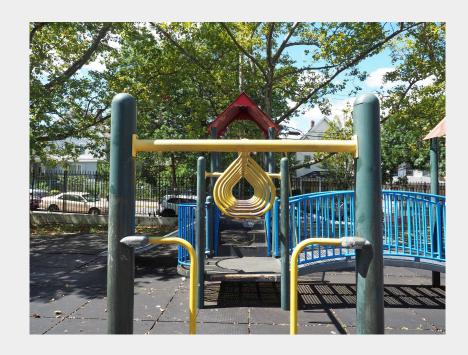
#### **Academic Inclusion:**

- Academic Accessibility
- Academic Participation
- Sense of academic achievement
- Diversity Representation



### **Physical Inclusion:**

- Design of spaces and places
- Sensory Inputs for success
- Access to spaces and places
- Access to materials



#### **Social Inclusion:**

- Inclusive Play
- Sense of belonging
- Ability to participate
- Community in which diversity is valued
- Everyone has a role



# Consider what is meaningful inclusion for YOUR child?

- Meaningful inclusion doesn't look the same for all students
- Consider connecting inclusion to IEP goals
- Communicate your child's inclusion goals with the entire child support team



#### **Inclusion Promotes:**

Social/Emotional Growth for **ALL** students

Academic
Achievement
for
ALL students

# Inclusion = Social/Emotional Growth

- Empathy and Perspective Taking
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Relationship and Social Skills
- Self-Awareness
- Social-Awareness



# Inclusion = Academic Achievement

- Opportunity for peer-peer learning (plus 1)
- Improved test scores in math and reading for students with disabilities
- Greater flexibility to demonstrate learning
- New ways of engaging with content



## **Preparing For Inclusion**

### **Engage Students in Team Meetings**

- Consider when it is appropriate
- Don't wait till High School
- Provide time for student voice in the meetings
- Prep students ahead of time for the meetings

## **Develop Self-Advocacy Skills**

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Confidence
- Self-Advocacy

Preparation = Seamless Transition

## **Way to Prepare**

- Tour new spaces and places
- Buddy Up
- Practice with Sensory Inputs
- Meet all adults
- Create a non-punitive exit strategy
- Students view all spaces as their classrooms



# Questions?