

Inclusion Opportunities for Students with Disabilities

Warm Springs Middle
School





Introductions


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At Warm Springs...in the words of Unified Students

- We strive as a school to including more students with disabilities in our general education classrooms;
- There are clear benefits of inclusion for all students, those with disabilities and those without.
- In the words of our students, these are the positive impacts of inclusion: “feeling a sense of ownership of our campus, feeling happy being with my peers, and making friends” Kimberly L. (in WEB-student leadership and cheer)
- "I like having friends in my class and outside my class. I get to try new things in different classes" Jasmine P.





Inclusion Revolution



At Warm Springs... in the words of Unified Students

- In the words of our unified peers, here are the positive impacts of inclusion:
- "Forming connections with students that you may not typically interact with. I got to experience others in a more in depth way and how different minds work. It taught me how to interact with people and communicate with others. I loved learning how to connect with new students in such a way, that I could connect with them when no one else could. It instills a feeling of pride to address other students by name and know their ins and outs when most kids on campus don't even take a second look at people who are different" Mae (K.) Wood
- "I love seeing other students included. It makes me realize that I get to have an impact on people. The friendships that we have developed have taught me so much; for example, patience, kindness, and even some sign language!" Lily E.
- "I like seeing students happy with smiles on their faces when they are included. It also makes me feel like a better person when I include others in things. I like positively impacting students and boosting their self-confidence. This makes people feel like they can achieve anything" Grace R.


At Warm
Springs...
in the words
of our staff


- "Inclusion benefits every student on campus. In choir, students with different abilities are given the opportunity to engage at different levels. No matter their background or circumstance, we can include all students by singing different styles and genres of music reaching all ability levels". Kimerly P.
- "Creating a place where all students belong is inclusive and necessary." Monique S.






Our goal is

- Our effort is to support all students to feel included in every environment on campus
 - That all students feel they have a safe place on campus
 - That different abilities are celebrated and encouraged through a variety of programs and extracurricular activities.
 - Create more inclusion opportunities that foster the interest and strengths of all students.
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How we develop a sense of belonging

- At Warm Springs we are flexible and provide a variety of learning opportunities.
 - We work to meet the individual needs of students.
 - We inspire students to reach beyond the classroom and encourage students to pursue extracurricular opportunities in areas of strengths such as: Drama, Choir, Cheer, Robotics, Leadership, Art ect.
 - We highlight each others abilities and strengths.
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Universal Design for Learning

- Our journey with Universal Design for Learning started....
- Our progress with UDL:
 - Math Co Teach
 - Science Co Teach
 - Technology Integration
 - Unified Experiences: Coffee Cart, PE
 - Multi-Tier SEL Interventions



Inclusion is a Product of Teamwork

We cannot have special and general education camps working in silos. Special education and general education teacher collaboration involves:

Co Teach opportunities in Math and Science

Collaboration between departments and grade levels through PLC.

Collaboration and Co Teaching between different levels of SAI support.

Not just positive results

- Inclusion is not just positive academic and behavioral results, but a lot of fun
- This is how our students have the times of their lives TOGETHER:



We Choose to Include- Pinky Promise





We Choose to Include-
Art Walk






We Choose to Included-
Extracurricular Showcase



A Christmas
Carol

"Tiny Tim"



Inclusion
requires
planning

- We are starting to plan for next year
 - Math and Science co-teaching training and discussions
 - Master schedule
 - PLCs discuss how to provide more opportunities for inclusion
 - Unified PE
 - Unified Elective
 - Peer Mentorship
 - Inclusive activities and student leadership.
 - Supported transition to middle school.
 - Embracing School Culture in all settings.



WSMS Transition to Middle School



School Culture- Wildcat Call



How does inclusion of students with disabilities impact the culture of your school?

It creates an environment of acceptance.

It allows the school resources to reach as many students as possible.

It starts the conversation about inclusion and builds a stronger community.

Question for
Principal:
How did
inclusion of
students with
disabilities
impact you as
a leader?



What are some areas of growth you would like to focus on as the middle school principal to take inclusion to the next step?

- Elective Wheel
- Smooth transitions to middle school
- Supporting student success transitioning to High School
- Transitioning from

