

Suggestions for Evaluating and Enhancing your child's program.

Do the following elements exist?

- ◆ **The School Principal** must be committed to providing a successful inclusion program.
- ◆ **Teamwork** among administrators, regular education and special education teachers is extremely important with one person designated as the coordinator for all inclusion related activities.
- ◆ **Parents** should be actively involved in the planning for inclusion and in setting up the plan.
- ◆ **Disability Awareness** activities should be planned and made available for all teachers, classroom aides, other students and their parents.
- ◆ **Staff Training** should be provided in a variety of ways: seminars, in-service training, reading materials.
- ◆ **Collaboration** is essential and should include cooperation between, home and school, regular and special education teachers during the school day, teachers and administrators, and students.
- ◆ **Supplementary Aids and Services** should include assistive technology, behavior management plans, etc. as appropriate and must be listed specifically in the IEP and in place prior to the student beginning class.
- ◆ **Modifications to Curriculum** should be made to allow the student to share experiences with their classmates .
- ◆ The program should build on the **Student's Strengths** in addition to addressing his/her weaknesses.
- ◆ Parents should share their **Long Term Goals** such as residency, job opportunities, college, etc..
- ◆ Participation in **Extracurricular Activities**, such as school sponsored clubs and watching varsity games, should be encouraged.
- ◆ **Evaluation** procedures should be in place to measure student progress and to determine the effectiveness of the inclusion program. Examples might be the students progress in meeting goals and objectives and opinion surveys of other students prior to and after experience with the inclusion .
- ◆ **Interaction** between students and non-disabled peers should be encouraged.
- ◆ **Flexibility** is vital to success. Everyone involved should be open-minded, not discouraged if some ideas do not work well, and willing to try new approaches for overcoming temporary setbacks.

This Tip sheet was developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education and endorsement is not assured.