

# SLCSD Inclusion 1.0

A monthly newsletter for parents, students, teachers, administrators  
and friends who support inclusion in the SLCSD



January 2020

## In the Community

### ➤ **Disability Advocacy Day**

Thursday January 30<sup>th</sup> @9:30 at the Utah State Capitol

Learn about the legislative process and how to make your voice heard! Features include workshops, speakers, exhibits, and networking with legislators & other advocates. This event is free, but you must register to attend.

For more information:

<https://cpd.usu.edu/disability-advocacy-day>

### ➤ **Learning Aids at Tracy Aviary**

A downloadable social story, "Let's Visit Tracy Aviary," is provided as a pre-visit guide for guests with developmental disabilities or autism spectrum. Sensory backpacks are also available.

For more information:

<https://tracyaviary.org/accessibility-information>

## Inclusive Classroom Tip

**Embrace Universal Design** - Universal Design makes your curriculum accessible to all students regardless of background, learning style or ability.

- ✓ Deliver content in diverse ways (visually, verbally, written)
- ✓ Students show learning in diverse ways (speaking, illustrating, writing)
- ✓ Use multiple materials to engage students (Software, art, theater, video, object lessons)

## SLCSD Inclusion Beliefs Statement

"In Salt Lake City School District, we believe that every student has the right to be a valued member of their school community. We believe that all students are general education students first. We believe in inclusion for students, even with the most significant disabilities, and recognize that this inclusion must always be individualized and can never be static. We believe that all members of the team are equally important and their expertise is critical. We strive to make inclusion successful for our students with disabilities, while recognizing that inclusion cannot preclude a student's need for specialized education services outside of the general education classroom, at times that meet their individual needs. We believe that attitude matters and that the achievement of all students depends on our belief in their competence. We will never ask students to "keep up," instead we will ask that they "keep learning." Inclusion is not a program we offer, it is who we strive to be."

## Inclusion in Action

- ❖ Dilworth Elementary music teacher **Cary Berg** collaborated with EE teacher **Kalinda Dobson** to include a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student in a performance by arranging supportive seating, ensuring similar props and helping her participate in a fun demonstration with a few of her fellow 4<sup>th</sup> graders.
- ❖ Highland Park's art teacher, **Courtney Stevens**, welcomes **Jessie Fiat** and **Taylor Hekking's** EE student to join his peers by assisting him to keep up and guiding him with hand-over-hand support when needed.
- ❖ At Parkview, student success is a "team" effort. Resource teacher, **Scoshi Cahoon**, added an EE student from **Lily Berganza's** class to her first grade math and reading groups to better support his needs.
- ❖ Highland Park EE 4<sup>th</sup> graders from **Valarie Blamires's** class joined their peers from **Pieter Lingen** and **Erin Agrimson's** classes in a Tanner Dance performance highlighting 4th grade science curriculum.
- ❖ **Amy Firestone's** 4<sup>th</sup> grade EE students will complete an animal research report alongside **Lou Smedsrud's** class as part of a library project, guided by librarian **Jessie Furman** and supported by para **Kara McGee**.
- ❖ **Jeanne Hall** includes **Kalinda Dobson's** EE student in her 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Social Studies groups at Dilworth Elementary. She provides supportive seating, a variety of visuals and engaging questions.
- ❖ Parkview's 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers **Shari Gummow**, **LE Avelar**, **Sandy Joley** and EE teacher **Carolyn Quist**, with paras **Jennifer Wardell**, **Bonnie Welch**, and **Mele Blake**, celebrated 5<sup>th</sup> grade EE students' remarkable scores on an informal assessment of science concepts taught September through October.
- ❖ Meadowlark Elementary teachers **Holly Beaumont**, **Darby Persson**, **Jeanie Yeske**, **John Arthur**, **Christine Gibbs**, and **Keenan Burkley** send students to support **Rachel Hawkes**, **Quincy Watkins**, & **Tessa Huecksteadt's** EE students in transitioning to the bus each afternoon.
- ❖ **Sammie Hansen** collaborates with **Julia Waldroup** and **Andrea Gardner** so that two EE students can join her fifth grade class for science activities at Nibley Park School (K-8).
- ❖ **Lisa Gifford's** 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Highland Park EE students enjoyed a field trip with **Rebecca Hess's** class to the Children's Discovery Museum.

*"Inclusion is not a strategy to help people fit into the systems and structures which exist in our societies; it is about transforming those systems and structures to make it better for everyone. Inclusion is about creating a better world for everyone."*

*– Diane Richler, Past President, Inclusion International*