

Pennsylvania Disability Inclusive Curriculum Pilot Toolkit

est. 2023

The Disability Inclusive Curriculum Pilot Program, as added to the Pennsylvania Public School Code in the Summer of 2022, is intended to instruct all K-12 students on the political, economic, and social contributions of individuals with disabilities. It also aims to increase the accurate and regular representation of disability throughout all aspects of school to help learners understand that disability is a natural part of the human condition.

Considerations for implementing a disability inclusive curriculum may include the following:

- Form a committee or advisory group (with disability representation) to support planning and implementation.
- Provide opportunities to speak regularly with regard to disability through the use of lesson plans, books, posters and calendars.
- Intentionally infuse and embed information from the “disability lens” across schoolwide environments, spaces, and programs.
- Continually assess current practices and the effectiveness of implementation activities.
- Develop plans to sustain practices to include mentor sites, a dedicated space for updates and sharing lesson plans.
- Develop tools to solicit feedback from students, teachers, and other vested parties.

The resources below will assist in identifying information/materials/resources aligned to the four domains (Instructional, Environmental, Student Body Representation, Communication Pathways) outlined in the grant application. These resources may be helpful to support the implementation of your action plan.

Resources are categorized into four domains:

- Instructional Domain - resources that are educational and are intended to use for teaching
- Environmental Domain - resources that relate to or arise from a person’s surroundings
- Student Body Representation - resources that relate to entire student body as a whole
- Communication Pathways - resources that promote communications across all school-wide messaging whether direct or indirect

INFORMATION/MATERIALS/RESOURCES	INSTRUCTIONAL DOMAIN	ENVIRONMENTAL DOMAIN	STUDENT BODY REPRESENTATION DOMAIN	COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS
<p><u>DISABILITY EQUALITY EDUCATION (DEE)</u> This website includes resources to help end the stigma of disability. Included on the site is a comprehensive disability inclusive curriculum lesson plan library. This is a resource for teachers to explore disability in the classroom.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p><u>ABOUTFACE “A LESSON FROM FRANKIE AND PEARL”</u> In collaboration with the facial difference community, teachers, and social workers, ABOUTFACE has created a unique school program. “A lesson from Frankie and Pearl” is a lesson plan based on an animation that tells the story of a girl with a birthmark, navigating her first day at a new school. There are three lesson plans that support health curriculums: Kindergarten-grade 1, grades 1-3, and grades 4-6.</p>	✓			
<p><u>ADAPT ONLINE HISTORY MUSEUM</u> This collection of articles, videos, music, artifacts, ephemera and more represents over 30 years of history of a grassroots disability rights organization that is still going strong.</p>	✓			
<p><u>ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE DISABILITY LESSONS</u> This collection of k-12 curricula includes timely lesson plans and multi-grade units that promote critical thinking and assist educators in teaching current events topics through the lens of diversity, bias, and social justice.</p>	✓			
<p><u>AMPLIFIER WE THE FUTURE</u> Education Amplifier helps students discover and engage with the key conversations of our time. The learning experiences help students: explore new ideas through art & technology; analyze how those ideas relate to their own lives and activate their voices and advocacy for a shared world. Download free lesson plans.</p>	✓			

INFORMATION/MATERIALS/RESOURCES	INSTRUCTIONAL DOMAIN	ENVIRONMENTAL DOMAIN	STUDENT BODY REPRESENTATION DOMAIN	COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS
<p>ASSEMBLIES</p> <p>While not sufficient on their own, assemblies can add valuable opportunities throughout the year to include disability. Avoid assemblies that focus on inspirational concepts, the goal is to regularize disability. Organizations that may offer these include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability Equality Education (DEE) • Western PA Disability History and Action Consortium • Mikayla's Voice • IT'S OUR STORY 	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p><u>CDC DISABILITY AND HEALTH INCLUSION STRATEGIES</u></p> <p>Inclusion of people with disabilities into everyday activities involves practices and policies designed to identify and remove <u>barriers</u> such as <u>physical</u>, <u>communication</u>, and <u>attitudinal</u>, that hamper individuals' ability to have full participation in society, the same as people without disabilities. Disability inclusion involves input from people with disabilities, generally through disability-focused and independent living organizations, in program or structural design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.</p>	✓	✓		
<p><u>CRIP CAMP CURRICULUM</u></p> <p>This curriculum uses the Netflix film Crip Camp to extend the knowledge and understanding of disability and of disabled people as portrayed in the documentary. It is grounded in an equity and justice approach to disability, one that challenges us to go beyond the expectations of inclusion and diversity.</p>	✓			
<p><u>DISABILITY HISTORY MUSEUM</u></p> <p>The Museum of Disability History is a museum related to the history of people with disabilities from medieval times to the present era. The Disability History Museum's mission is to foster a deeper understanding about how changing cultural values, notions of identity, laws and policies have shaped and influenced the experience of people with disabilities, their families, and their communities over time.,</p>	✓			

INFORMATION/MATERIALS/RESOURCES	INSTRUCTIONAL DOMAIN	ENVIRONMENTAL DOMAIN	STUDENT BODY REPRESENTATION DOMAIN	COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS
<p><u>EXPLORING AND INTEGRATING DIVERSE CHILDREN'S LITERATURE</u> This Padlet offers literacy training and promotes logistics of book selection on integrating diverse children's literature in classroom libraries.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p><u>FAMILIES TO THE MAX</u> Families to the max: <i>Pennsylvania statewide family network (f2max)</i> is a dedicated group of families, professionals, and community members leading change in our homes, schools, and communities. By building awareness, empowering families, presuming competence, and fostering high expectations of students with disabilities, the network is leading change in Pennsylvania.</p>	✓		✓	
<p><u>FRAMEWORK FOR ACCESS AND BELONGING (FAB) WITH SUPPLEMENTARY AIDS AND SERVICES</u> FAB is a structured method to analyze the instructional, physical, and social environments within general education from the perspective of a student with a disability. The intended outcome of using the FAB process is for the FAB team to identify barriers that may interfere with meaningful access and belonging within an educational environment. Once barriers are identified, the team selects tools, strategies, and/or resources to reduce and/or eliminate these barriers to enhance participation and learning for the student with a disability in the general education classroom.</p>	✓		✓	
<p><u>GOOGLE ARTS AND CULTURE DISABILITY RIGHTS EXHIBIT</u> This exhibit celebrates just some of the many groups and people who made the ADA possible, explores how and why it was passed, and concludes by looking at some of the major challenges we're facing now. The ADA changed America, but there is a lot of work left to be done.</p>	✓			

INFORMATION/MATERIALS/RESOURCES	INSTRUCTIONAL DOMAIN	ENVIRONMENTAL DOMAIN	STUDENT BODY REPRESENTATION DOMAIN	COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS
<p><u>HYP HUNE'S YOUTH PROGRAM</u> HUNE promotes family engagement as an evidence-based practice, as parents and families are part of the planning team. HUNE works with the families of the youth through monthly parent meetings and networking with school entities.</p>			✓	
<p><u>INSTITUTE ON DISABILITIES AT TEMPLE UNIVERSITY</u> The Institute on Disabilities at Temple University is one of the sixty-seven university centers for excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service (UCEDD) working toward a vision of self-determination, independence, productivity, and community inclusion for people with disabilities throughout the lifespan.</p>	✓			✓
<p><u>MIKAYLA'S VOICE</u> Mikayla's Voice challenges kids to create a kinder, more inclusive world where everyone has a friend. Assemblies and/or book(s) provide background knowledge regarding what it is like to have a disability and serve as a springboard for further discussion.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p><u>PA EVIDENCE RESOURCE CENTER</u> This collection of evidence-based strategies was curated to help educators make evidence-based decisions and implement strategies, interventions, and activities that are best fit for their needs and local context.</p>	✓			
<p><u>PA ALTERNATE ELIGIBLE CONTENT</u> The Assessment Anchors are one of the many tools the Pennsylvania Department of Education has developed to better align curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices throughout the state. Alternate Eligible Content is designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are eligible for and assessed by the PA Alternate System of Assessment (PASA).</p>	✓			

INFORMATION/MATERIALS/RESOURCES	INSTRUCTIONAL DOMAIN	ENVIRONMENTAL DOMAIN	STUDENT BODY REPRESENTATION DOMAIN	COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS
<p><u>PA STANDARDS ALIGNED SYSTEM: MATERIALS AND RESOURCES</u></p> <p>The Standards Aligned System (SAS), developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, is a comprehensive, researched-based resource to improve student achievement. SAS identifies six elements that impact student achievement: standards, assessments, curriculum framework, instruction, materials & resources, and safe and supportive schools. schools and educators across Pennsylvania are supported in their efforts to implement SAS by the development of a state-of-the-art portal.</p>	✓	✓		
<p><u>PA STANDARDS ALIGNED SYSTEM: VOLUNTARY MODEL CURRICULUM</u></p> <p>The Voluntary Model Curriculum (VMC) is a series of unit and lesson plans that incorporate learning progressions and content resources aligned to the Pennsylvania standards within the Curriculum Frameworks. The VMC is available in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.</p>	✓			
<p><u>PA YOUTH LEADERSHIP NETWORK (PYLN)</u></p> <p>The mission of the Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network is to coordinate a network that is led and driven by inclusive organizations of youth and young adults with and without disabilities across Pennsylvania. PYLN promotes advocacy, self-determination, leadership, empowerment, and service learning in the areas of transition, employment, education, and community engagement.</p>	✓			
<p><u>PATIENT NO MORE VIRTUAL EXHIBIT AND CURRICULUM GUIDE</u></p> <p>Discover a remarkable, overlooked moment in U.S. history when people with disabilities occupied a government building to demand their rights and won. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 made it illegal for any federally funded facilities or programs to discriminate against disabled people, but four years later one missing signature stood in the way of the law taking effect.</p>	✓			

INFORMATION/MATERIALS/RESOURCES	INSTRUCTIONAL DOMAIN	ENVIRONMENTAL DOMAIN	STUDENT BODY REPRESENTATION DOMAIN	COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS
<p><u>PATTAN INCLUSIVE PRACTICES HUB</u> The inclusive practices hub is a repository of resources related to least restrictive environment, supplementary aids and services, and universal design for learning. The intent of this site is to feature videos and materials that support and promote safe and welcoming environments, so every student is successful.</p>	✓	✓		✓
<p><u>PDE WEB RESOURCE: ACCELERATED LEARNING THROUGH AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT</u> This series provides a systematic process and technical support for school communities to make key decisions for the start of the new year. It introduces a Cycle of Continuous Improvement mindset that will lead to strategic vision, needs assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring, and adjusting. Most importantly, each system supports the success of the others.</p>	✓	✓		
<p><u>PENNSYLVANIA TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK (PATTAN)</u> Working with the Bureau of Special Education (BSE), Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), PaTTAN provides a full array of professional development and technical assistance targeted to improving student results. This professional development and technical assistance is displayed in many forms in order to meet the varied needs of the PaTTAN constituents. Week-long summer institutes, ongoing professional development series, webinars, on-site assistance, and individual student or teacher supports are some of the means by which PaTTAN provides support to schools.</p>		✓	✓	✓
<p><u>THE ARC OF PA E-LEARNING MODULES</u> The Arc of PA's mission is to advocate with and for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to promote and secure their rights. The Arc of PA's vision is for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be valued members in inclusive communities throughout their lifetimes.</p>	✓	✓		

INFORMATION/MATERIALS/RESOURCES	INSTRUCTIONAL DOMAIN	ENVIRONMENTAL DOMAIN	STUDENT BODY REPRESENTATION DOMAIN	COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS
<p><u>TRANSITION DISCOVERIES</u> The primary focus of Transition Discoveries is to empower communities to share leadership and collaboration to plan for life after high school with young people with disabilities, their families, and stakeholders. You can use TD’s unique multi-step model of data-driven community action planning to uncover “what’s working” in transition.</p>	✓			✓
<p><u>UNIFIED SPORTS</u> Young people with disabilities do not often have an opportunity to play on their school sports teams. More and more U.S. states are adopting the Unified Sports approach that Special Olympics pioneered. In more than 8,300 Unified Champion Schools across the country, Special Olympics has trained and mobilized youth leaders and educators to create more inclusive schools by including students with ID in all aspects of school life.</p>	✓		✓	✓
<p><u>UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING (UDL)</u> The UDL guidelines are a tool used in the implementation of universal design for learning, a framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning for all people based on scientific insights into how humans learn. These guidelines offer a set of concrete suggestions that can be applied to any discipline or domain to ensure that all learners can access and participate in meaningful, challenging learning opportunities.</p>	✓	✓	✓	