



Educational Equity

Guidelines & Considerations for Educators

Educational equity is a three-part commitment to: care for those we teach, create and maintain a safe learning environment, and ensure that all students are learning. These guidelines and considerations maintain a focus on teaching and learning and summarize the tenets of educational equity as defined by **R277-328 Educational Equity in Schools**.

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY & INCLUSION

● What is Educational Equity?

Educational Equity means:

- acknowledging that all students are capable of learning; and
- distributing resources to provide equal opportunities based upon the needs of each individual student. Equitable resources include funding, programs, policies, initiatives and supports that recognize each student's unique background and school context to guarantee that all students have access to high-quality education.

● What is Inclusion?

Inclusion is:

- the practice of ensuring students feel a sense of belonging and support; and
- to the maximum extent appropriate, for students with disabilities, providing access to general curriculum and engagement in regular education classes with peers without disabilities.

PRINCIPLES & STRATEGIES OF INCLUSION

● Invite and Engage All Students

Strategies of inclusion consist of the following practices but are not limited to:

- welcoming students to class
- building positive relationships with students and supporting students in developing positive relationships with each other
- maintaining high expectations for all students
- actively engaging all students with a variety of effective tools and strategies
- giving each student authentic feedback

● Acknowledge differences and show due regard for feelings, rights, cultures and traditions

Due regard means that in our classrooms we do not want to alienate any student. We show respect for cultures and beliefs by not advocating for or elevating one culture over another, or promoting one belief over another.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

● Foster a learning environment that is safe and respectful of all students

All school personnel share responsibility for maintaining a safe learning environment with effective instructional practices such as:

- cultivating conditions that focus on learning and removing barriers to allow students to have access to learning opportunities and resources
- establishing clear expectations, routines, procedures, norms, and guidelines
- establishing discussion protocols such as language frames on how to agree and disagree respectfully

● Demonstrate the professional responsibility of impartiality

An educator's professional responsibility includes being a neutral moderator. Within the boundaries of the learning standards and approved curriculum, teachers equitably present multiple sides of an issue, but do not promote, endorse, advocate for, or indoctrinate in any one.