

The Arc of Pennsylvania Position Statement

Inclusion of all Students

Children of all abilities and learning styles have the right to an appropriate education in regular classes, in their neighborhood schools and within the general education curriculum.

Children who are successfully included are more likely to become valued members of their communities.

Children with disabilities have a right to all of the supplementary aids and services needed to ensure a successful appropriate education in regular classes with their peers.

We advocate, therefore, that school districts provide:

- Appropriate support services needed so that programs and curricula are appropriately modified
- Students with the appropriate supplementary aids and services

Successful inclusion is an ongoing process. It requires:

- Professional development
- Collaboration between regular education teachers, special education teachers, support personnel and families
- Support from administrators
- Knowledge and skill in fostering relationships among students

Parents and caregivers should be given adequate and appropriate information to be partners with the schools to make informed decisions about their child's education.

Approved:

The Arc of PA Board of Directors- *April 20, 2009*