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## **POLICY 3.20 INCLUSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND DIVERSE ABILITIES**

The Board of Education recognizes that every child has a fundamental right to a quality education that celebrates their unique abilities. Students must be afforded opportunities to develop to their full potential in the most inclusive environment possible.

Inclusive education means that all students, including those with disabilities and diverse abilities, are entitled to equitable access to learning, achievement and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of their education. The practice of inclusion is not synonymous with integration and goes beyond placement in regular classrooms to include meaningful participation and the promotion of interaction with others.

An inclusive education program is one where all students are fully participating members in a supportive community of learning which fosters a sense of belonging.

The Board commits to recognize, encourage and celebrate a rich culture of diversity in district schools.