

Jazmine Bowling

Standard 3: Learning Environments

The teacher works with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

Description:

Name of Artifact: Family and Teacher Newsletter

Date of Artifact: September 30th, 2024

Course in which this artifact was produced: Education 230: The Exceptional Child

Rational:

What is the artifact?

My artifact is my newsletter from my Education 230 The Exceptional Child course. I was instructed to create a newsletter that explains what an inclusive classroom looks like from a teacher's perspective. This assignment overall helped me understand the key components of inclusivity in education and how to effectively communicate these ideas to my audience. As engaging with inclusive classroom practices provides future teachers like myself with insights into how to effectively differentiate instruction to meet the diverse needs of students. This understanding enhances my ability to design and deliver lessons that cater to various learning styles and abilities.

Why am I choosing this particular artifact for this standard? Why does it fit here?

My family and teacher newsletter fits into INTASC Standard Three by highlighting how I or other teachers can work with others to create inclusive learning environments. By discussing the benefits of inclusive learning and emphasizing parent and community involvement, I am showing how collaboration supports individual and group learning. I believe that this approach fosters positive social interaction, active engagement in learning and self-motivation among all students. My newsletter truly demonstrates my commitment to building supportive environments through teamwork and community engagement which aligns perfectly with standard three.

How does this artifact relate to the standard as a whole or to a certain part of the standard?

My family and teacher newsletter relates to INTASC Standard Three as a whole because it demonstrates my efforts to collaborate with others to create a supportive learning environment. By addressing the benefits of inclusive learning and involving parents and the community, I show how these partnerships can enhance individual and collaborative learning. This collaboration encourages so much and exemplifies how working with others can build a more inclusive and effective educational environment.

Reflection:

When reflecting on my family and teacher newsletter and how it perfectly aligns with INTASC Standard Three, I see the true importance of creating an inclusive learning

environment and its large, ongoing benefits. This artifact is something that I can look on for years to come especially when creating an inclusive learning environment in my very own classrooms.

Family and Teacher Newsletter:

NEWSLETTER

By Jaimie Bowling

DEAR PARENTS, EDUCATORS, AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO CREATING AN INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT AS A TEACHER AND PASSIONATE ADVOCATE FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION. I AM EXCITED TO SHARE INSIGHTS, STRATEGIES, AND THE GREAT BENEFITS OF INCLUSIVITY IN OUR CLASSROOMS.

INTRODUCTION TO INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

AN INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM IS A LEARNING SPACE OR ENVIRONMENT WHERE STUDENTS OF ALL BACKGROUNDS, ABILITIES, IDENTITIES, AND LEARNING STYLES ARE WELCOMED AND SUPPORTED. THE PHILOSOPHY BEHIND INCLUSIVITY IN EDUCATION COMES FROM THE BELIEF THAT EVERY STUDENT DESERVES EQUAL ACCESS TO LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES REGARDLESS OF WHAT.

KEY FEATURES OF AN INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM

STUDENT LEARNING STYLES: AN INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATES VARIOUS AND VARYING LEARNING STYLES, ENSURING THAT ALL STUDENTS CAN ENGAGE WITH THE MATERIAL IN A WAY THAT SUITS THEM BEST AND THEY ARE ABLE TO SUCCEED ACADEMICALLY.

POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT: COLLABORATION AMONG STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND SUPPORT STAFF IS VERY IMPORTANT. IT CREATES A POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WHERE EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS SET.

PERSONALIZED LEARNING: STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT INCLUSIVE EDUCATION LEADS TO IMPROVED OR BETTER ACADEMIC OUTCOMES FOR ALL STUDENTS, NOT JUST THOSE WITH A DISABILITY OR SPECIAL NEEDS. THIS ENVIRONMENT ENCOURAGES CRITICAL THINKING, PROBLEM-SOLVING, RESPECT, OPEN-MINDEDNESS AND EVEN EMPATHY WHICH IS GREAT FOR EVERYONE IN THE ROOM.

BENEFITS OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

IMPROVED SOCIAL SKILLS: INCLUSIVITY HELPS STUDENTS DEVELOP ESSENTIAL SOCIAL SKILLS BY INTERACTING WITH THEIR PEERS FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS. THIS INTERACTION BUILDS UNDERSTANDING, TOLERANCE, AND STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS WITH ONE ANOTHER.

EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS: STUDENTS LEARN TO APPRECIATE AND RESPECT DIFFERENCES, LEADING TO A MORE POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.

PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

EMPOWERING INCLUSIVITY AT HOME: ENCOURAGING DISCUSSIONS ABOUT DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT HOME, COLLABORATE OPPORTUNITIES AND TEACH CHILDREN THE VALUE OF EMPATHY AND RESPECT. EVEN WHEN THEIR STUDENT MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM THEM AND HAVE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: AT TIMES, WE INCLUDE, FORGET, AND REGRET THAT MOMENTS. INCLUSIVITY YOUR PARTICIPATION HELPS BUILD A SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY THAT VALUES DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION FOR EVERYONE AND SETS A GREAT MODEL FOR THE STUDENTS.

JOIN US ON OUR JOURNEY TO INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

TOGETHER, WE CAN CREATE A CLASSROOM COMMUNITY WHERE EVERY STUDENT FEELS VALUED AND SUPPORTED.

ALL IN ALL, THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVITY AND FOR BEING AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

LET'S CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR CLASSROOM A PLACE WHERE EVERY STUDENT CAN THRIVE AND SUCCEED.

THANKS!!

JAIMIE BOWLING

REFERENCES

SMITH, J. & COOK, D. (2018). INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: STRATEGIES AND BENEFITS. EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH JOURNAL, 35(2), 15-30.

JOHNSON, L. & BROWN, K. (2020). CREATING INCLUSIVE CLASSROOMS: TEACHING AND LEARNING. JEDU, 12(1), 45-60.