

“Facilitating Inclusion in the Classroom”

by Eden McCauslin

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- I have been teaching in DC Public Schools since 2011
- I started teaching at Spingarn Senior High School
- I moved to Woodrow Wilson Senior High School
- I teach English and History (2 and 2 including two advanced courses - AP English Language and AP United States History)

Tip 1: Remember they are kids

- Give them credit; they are trying to figure all of this out along with you
- Embrace the diversity in your classroom

Tip 2: You don't have to change the curriculum!

- Inclusion students are capable of completing the state-issued curriculum.
- You only have to change the manner in which the students learn or show mastery (sometimes).
- Find a mentor inclusion teacher or general ed teacher with experience.

Tip 3: Get to know your kids

- In order to properly advocate for your students, you have to get to know them.
- This takes trial and error!
- Give your students a voice to advocate for themselves either in the classroom, in the school community, etc.

Tip 4: Study your IEPs!

Student Name: Eden McCauslin

Disability: Specific Learning Disability

Present Levels: Eden performs or completes classroom assignments during class time. She is very attentive, can grasp concepts without repeated drills, remains on task, and makes appropriate comments in the classroom.

Annual Goal: Eden will determine the meaning of unfamiliar words while identifying the central ideas or themes in a text and discuss the development in a brief writing response.

Accommodations: Clarification/Repetition of Directions; Preferential seating; Small group testing; Extended time; Flexibility in scheduling.

Tip 5: Learn to advocate for both yourself AND your student

- Make sure you have all the tools you need in order to meet all of your students' accommodations and modifications!
- Ask for additional training if you feel as though it would benefit you and your students.

Final Tip: Have fun!!