Inclusive Education in Hawai`i

Strengthened Sense of Belonging
- Embraces and educates all students with meaningful supports in their local schools. Student connections are strengthened as they learn and grow together to know who they are, where they are from, and what they belong to.
- Students and families feel welcomed and valued for their unique needs and learning styles.

Strengthened Sense of Responsibility
- All educators can effectively facilitate learning for all students and support diverse learners as a core component.
- The school community promotes a culture where all students can fully participate while applying their specialized learning styles.
- All schools support one another to make it a safe and welcoming learning journey— as education is a kākou thing and belongs to all of us.

Strengthened Sense of Excellence
- All teachers value the strengths of their students with disabilities and are prepared to provide high-quality instruction and access to challenging content thus enabling students to become active participants in their schools and community, furthering to post-secondary education and career.

Strengthened Sense of Aloha
- All schools have a collaborative and respectful school culture which presumes students with disabilities are competent, have opportunities to develop positive social relationships by promoting their participation in the school community.

Strengthened Sense of Total Well-Being
- All schools empower students to learn and achieve their highest potential. Students are encouraged and supported to participate in all areas of education and extracurricular activities. e.g., sports, school government, clubs, etc.

Strengthened Sense of Hawai`i
- All students have access to content learning to enrich their sense of place and culture to be contributing members of their community, State and Nation.

Research has shown a connection between Inclusion, positive behavioral supports and academic achievement.

Rationale: Inclusion is a commitment to success for all students. Research shows that inclusive practices result in better attendance, achievement, referral rates and postsecondary outcomes. Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, inclusive practices are a statewide strategic initiative.

Inclusion Rate: Percentage of students receiving special education services who are in general education classes for 80 percent or more of the school day.

School Year Rate 2017-18 = 44%
Target Rate SY 2020 = 51%