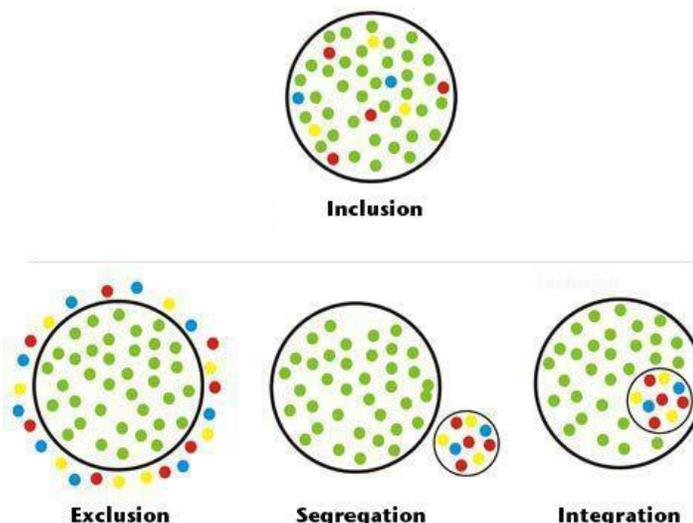


TO: Board of Education
FROM: Randall Booker, Superintendent
SUBJECT: **INCLUSION PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**

I. **SUPPORT INFORMATION**

Federal Law (Public Law (PL) 99-45), passed in 1986, is a federal law that expands services for children birth to 5-years old who qualify for Special Education services and reside within the district's boundaries. This law is now part of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Research strongly supports the immediate and long-term effectiveness of intensive, evidence-based early intervention to increase appropriate skills and reduce problematic behaviors in young children with special needs. For more information on Preschool Education Services, please visit: <http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/pubs/504001Ch13.pdf>

PUSD has partnered with a private preschool, Linda Beach Cooperative, to create an inclusive early intervention program. The Linda Beach Preschool Inclusion Program currently serves 20 children with a wide-range of disabilities ages 3 to 5. Six of these children (due to the nature of their disabilities) receive intensive early intervention services.



One of the hallmarks of this program is that it is inclusive with neuro-typical children. Inclusion services provide all students with equal opportunities, eradicating discrimination and intolerance. It embraces all children irrespective of race, gender, disability, medical, or other needs. It provides children with the opportunity to share in a common learning environment and builds diverse communities.

PUSD special education services provided at Linda Beach Preschool include:

- Access to typically developing peers and general education curriculum in a play-based preschool
- Individualized support and adaptations to address IEP goals
- Extended day support
- Credentialed special education teacher

- Paraeducator support
- Speech therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Play therapy
- Physical therapy
- School psychologist consult
- Augmentative communication specialist consult
- Collaboration between general education and special education staff
- Home-school collaboration/parent support

Inclusion Program Focus

The focus of the Inclusion Program includes:

- Language and Communication
- Social and Play Skills
- Self-Care Skills
- Self-Regulation
- Fine and Gross Motor Skills
- Kindergarten Readiness
- Parent Collaboration

II.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and discuss the PUSD Inclusion Preschool Program.