

Maximizing Student Success: Starting the Conversation about Diversified Education



CATHY MUZZY

**DIOCESE OF ORANGE
SERRA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, CA**

What's the Plan for this Workshop?




- Pre-Workshop Inventory
- Objectives
 - Strategic Planning Considerations
 - How things work in the Diocese of Orange & Serra Catholic
 - Planning, Implementation, and Assessment of a Program
 - Beyond the Elementary School
 - Lessons Learned
- Discussion Points
- Archdiocese of Seattle Panel of Educators
- Post Workshop Survey

Materials in Dropbox



- Dropbox Access to Documents:
 - Link: www.dropbox.com
 - Login: diversifiededucationdocuments@gmail.com
 - Password: **dioceseoforange**
- Diocese of Orange Diversified Education, Learning Support Handbook
- Santa Margarita Catholic High School Auxiliary Studies Program Brochure
- ELS Brochure



Each person is created in God's image, yet there are variations in individual abilities. Positive recognition of these differences discourages discrimination and enhances the unity of the Body of Christ.

United States Catholic Bishops, 1998



Meet Serra Catholic....

(Video Link)

Diocesan Diversified Education Learning Support Handbook



Catholic education in the Diocese of Orange commits itself to the following goals:

- To teach all students by acknowledging and responding to the learning styles and needs of each learner.
- To proactively guide all students to reach their full potential.
- To serve as Christ-like models in spreading the love for each student as a unique gift of God.
- To create the most appropriate activities which will allow all students to have success within their learning environment.
- To provide for ongoing evaluation of each student's progress, thereby enabling each student to have success and challenge in learning.

Catholic education within the diocese strives to accept everyone for whom an appropriate program, based upon the above, can be designed and implemented. Diocesan Diversified Education Learning Support Handbook – page 6

Elements of Successful Inclusion Programs



Empathy – Entire staff

Collaboration – Goal is Student Success for All Students

Learning Support Teams – Include all Involved in supporting child

Professional Development – Ongoing scheduled training and meetings (Title 2A)

Diocese of Orange History and Organization



- History – Mrs. Sally Todd, Associate Superintendent, Diocese of Orange
- Learning Support Coordinator Meetings
- Handbook – 2010
- Diversified Education vs. Inclusion

Mission, Philosophy and Goals

- Diocese of Orange Handbook pg. 6
- Note: Catholic education within the Diocese strives to accept everyone for whom an appropriate program, based upon our mission, philosophy and goals, can be designed and implemented.



Why Accommodate and Modify?



- Diocese of Orange Handbook, pg.9
- We are called to “Teach as Jesus Did.”
Reference: Justice, Care, and Diversity: Addressing the Needs of All Students in Catholic Secondary Schools (Litton & Martin, 2009, NCEA)
- Parents want a Catholic Education for their Children.



Discussion Time

- Your school has decided to admit children with special needs. Several members of your faculty are highly resistant to this new policy change. How will you address their concerns?
- Parent support is critical if an inclusion program is to be successful. Some parents will feel that including all types of learners in the school will detract from what their children are learning. How do you address this misperception?

Diversified Education Model for Catholic Schools



- Diocese of Orange Handbook page 8
- The Climate Catholic Schools Can Provide
- How We Can Accomplish Our Goals
- All Schools in Orange have some form of a Learning Support Program.

Learning Levels for Diversified Education



- Types of Students, Handbook pg.10
- How you approach developing a program – What can you do to help all succeed?
- Students included in regular classroom
- Student Support Assistants

Overview of Serra's Diversified Educational Program



- Serra's History, Mission Statement, and Educational Philosophy, Handout pg. 3
- Maximizing Student Success:
 - Admissions Process
 - Classroom/Level Placement
 - Educational Resources and Programs
 - A look at Serra's Program :

Development and Evolution

- Development and Evolution of Serra's Learning Support Program
 - What can we do for all Students?
 - School Learning Support Team
 - Policies and Procedures



Assessing Student Needs



- Sources of Information:
 - Previous Records
 - Teacher Concerns
 - Parent Input/Concerns
 - Current Assessments

Planning for Student Success



- Formal Referral Process
 - Teacher Referral Form
 - Classroom Observations
- Learning Support Binders
- Build A Professional Relationship with local Catholic universities in your area (Loyola Marymount)

Planning for Success (cont.)



- Teacher Competencies Handbook pg.7
 - Classroom Adaptations (Accommodations and Modifications)
 - Strategies for Students with (and without) Special Needs
 - Student Support Assistants

Planning for Success (cont.)

- Learning Support Meetings
- Individualized Learning Plan
- Individualized Learning Plan Process
- Minimum Requirements for Students in the Serra Catholic School Learning Support Program
- High School Transition – Communication



Diocese of Orange / Serra Catholic School
Learning Support Program
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INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING PLAN

☒ Academic Plan

☐ Academic and Behavioral Plan

☐ Behavioral Plan

Student: Mary Catherine Muzzy

ILP Meeting Date: 12-8-2011

Homeroom Teacher: Mrs. Christine Joines

Grade/Section: 7A

ILP Written By: Mrs. Muzzy & 7th Grade Instructional Team

☐ ELS

☒ LEP

☐ Advanced Subjects (*list*):

☐ Accommodated Subjects (*list*):

Student Strengths:

Mary very much enjoys learning and comes to school with an attitude of willingness to learn. She follows rules and well listens to the teacher's instructions. She likes to please her teachers. Mary does not rely on the approval of her peers when making decisions and is not easily swayed by peer pressure. She wants to do well and consistently put forth her best effort on assignments. An area of relative strength is her mathematical computation and problem-solving skills. She is very comfortable and well spoken when orally presenting information. As evidenced by her testing completed in January 2010, Mary scored in the superior range in overall oral language. She prefers a quiet work environment and has stated this learning preference. Mary has benefited from the support of homework club and consistently completes class and homework assignments. Mary's extra-curricular activities, especially ballet and tap dance, benefit her greatly in areas of gross motor development, balance and coordination which have been long time areas of challenge.

Student Areas of Development:

Mary struggles with her ability to comprehend grade level materials especially in the areas of literature, social studies and science. She is challenged with written assignments that require higher level thinking or the ability to synthesize information. Mary's rate of reading and her completion of tasks is very slow and labored. Mary is



Discussion Time

- Implementing an inclusion program will involve some hurdles. What are some strategies that you can utilize to help increase buy-in among your colleagues?
- What steps need to be taken to begin building a culture that welcomes all types of learners?

Professional Development Resources



- *Teaching Students Who are Exceptional, Diverse and At Risk* by Sharon R. Vaughn, Candace S. Bos and Jeanne Shay Schumm ISBN: 13:978-0-13-715179-0
- IRIS Center at Vanderbilt University <http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu>
- *Pre – Referral Intervention Manual* by Stephen B. McCarney and Kathy Cummins Wunderlich, Hawthorne Educational Services, Columbia, MO
www.hawthorne-ed.com
- *Leading and Managing a Differentiated Classroom* by Carol Ann Tomlinson and Marcia B. Imbeau ISBN: 978-1-4166-1074-8
- *Catholic School and the Law of Special Education: A Reference Guide* by Russo, Massucci, Osbourne, and Cattaro ISBN: 1-55833-273-1

Administrative Considerations



- Staffing Needs
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Professional Development
- Resources
- Confidentiality
- Collaborating with Outside Professionals
 - Authorization to Exchange Information, Handbook pg. 36
- Record-keeping



Lessons Learned



- Foster Teamwork and Ownership
- Maintain Standards of Excellence
- Be Proactive, Creative, Flexible, and Adaptable
- Celebrate Success/Acknowledge Limits
- Siempre Adelante-Always Forward!

Panel Discussion



- Introduction of Panelists
- Background Information of Each School
- Questions for the Panel
- Q & A from all participants

Post Workshop Inventory

Thank you!



- Please take time to complete the post workshop survey at
- Thank you for your participation in today's event!

Contact Information



Mrs. Cathy Muzzy

Principal, Grades 5 - 8

Serra Catholic School

cmuzzy@serraschool.org

(949) 888-1990 x 157

Open Invitation....Come Visit Us at Serra Catholic!