PHILOSOPHY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

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My current philosophy of special education is coming from my current work experience of being a paraprofessional. Special education also known as SPED is when a child is in need of extra assistance to accompany their individual differences. It could be very challenging to a teacher and paraprofessional for inclusion of a sped student in a regular classroom. The sped student will not be able to adapt to the setting for the best of their learning. It may be possible but seeking more help to support them educational wise would be best rather than having them in a regular classroom and you feeling helpless. Being a concerned teacher, you would want what's best for that child so you will find alternative ways. Most of them need one on one assistance with additional guidance because they are further off from their peers. However, a lot could be learned from working with special education students and you both could help one another grow. This involves individually planned curriculums, adaptive equipment and materials along with a good teaching strategy. Most teachers will know their students and know what they will need to succeed. Teachers are very attentive and have to be consistent with the students. I feel that disabled children should be inclusive, IDEA and Section 504 is beneficial to the disable child although they face many challenges dealing with their differences and teachers are the main dominant in their students' lives.

I feel that all children, even those with disabilities, can learn within a classroom that meets their needs. Children with exceptionalities are slightly different from an average child and they all learn differently. Some children may struggle in behavior while others struggle in sensory abilities. Although they both are having these difficulties, they are still able to learn but with a different strategy. Children with disabilities will need an IEP to receive the proper method of help to accommodate them with service. There are many other areas of functioning that children with disabilities could possibly have an issue with that's limiting them from the norm. Such as, autism, intellectual disabilities, vision or hearing impairments, mental health, and physical disability. However, being able to assist a child with disabilities is a gift because it definitely takes patience and self-control. Some of them will have special plans, aides, or even certain pull outs determining on their disabilities. Allowing them the opportunity to still be an inclusion in a regular classroom. Which is great for the student's self-esteem and making them feel that they are a part of the class. It all depends on that teacher to know their students and guide them on how important it is to treat everyone the same, making no difference to any student. Encouraging each other to show positive support no matter their disability. Along with, the teacher giving the child with a disability a fair chance at it and making them want more out of learning. They all are there for the same thing so, no child should be left behind. The teacher might have to work a little harder to help the exceptional child but, her goal has to be wanting what's best for the child to succeed. So, yes a child with disabilities are still able to learn in a

regular classroom as their peers, just with a few accommodations that will better assist them to succeed.

However, IDEA and Section 504 is a great benefit for children with disabilities. IDEA opens the opportunity for these children to receive free appropriate public education that will meet their needs in order to succeed. Even though each disability has its own criteria the students will always be able to receive this help that is organized by IDEA. The children that have learning disabilities that interfere with their learning from the ages 3-21 are covered by IDEA while, Section 504 covers more of the handicapped individuals. Yet, all IDEA students are covered under Section 504 far as, not all Section 504 are not covered under IDEA. This is a great impact for students with disabilities by protecting their rights and allowing them services to better educate them.

Students with disabilities face many obstacles like bullying, negativity not only from their peers but teachers too, adjusting to differences, and meeting academic standards. In my classroom, I will assist my students in overcoming these difficulties by learning about their differences and unique abilities, go the extra mile to accommodate any needs that's needed for them to grow within my class and encourage them in and out of school. This will give me the opportunity to enhance my knowledge of disable children. Boosting their self-esteem and letting them see that their abilities are one of a kind that can blossom into greater success. Although students with disabilities are labeled differently they may learn better in a classroom with normal students. It helps

with their self-esteem and makes them feel no different from their peers. So, LRE might be a great advantage for them even though some will have aides and other services.

Special education teacher's most important role would be assessing the student. This allows them to organize activities and develop teaching plans that assist the student to the best of their ability and cooperate with the parent. They are also supportive of the student and assisting the regular classroom teacher in every way they can. The special education teachers have many other roles like mentoring, working with the disabled child one on one or maybe even in groups. Whichever one that will be best fit for the student and meet their needs. On the other hand, regular education teachers' role would be to mentor the students educating them and evaluate their progress for improvement. Also, keeping things organized and encouraging a positive environment for the class. Both teachers play a big role in the students' life and could make a difference by planning and delivering lessons that will further the child's education.

In conclusion, children with disabilities are able to be successful within a class with their peers. It is a great thing that IDEA and Section 504 assist children with disabilities when the parent is cooperative and willing to help their child. One of the top current issues facing special education today is that many parents are in denial and prolong the situation from not wanting to accept it at an early age. It makes it harder for the child to learn and the child becomes less motivated when the parents are not involved with their education or cooperating with the teacher. Although, working with preschool it's a little hard to determine but, I have seen many of the characteristics of behavioral and emotional disturbance. Not many mental health problems but, I'm sure

that there are some and just not identifiable yet. Many Autism and ADHD characteristics are seen within the class however, they are some of the most intelligent ones in the classroom. They just need a little more guidance and attention than others. A positive attitude plays a big part in this also, even with the older students. Especially, when it's a behavior or emotional disorder because two negatives will not help the student. They will more than likely reject the help and the behavior will be consistent. So, in order to change it, be positive and encourage and help them bring their intelligence out to flourish and succeed by getting them assistance and going the extra mile.