

Advocacy for Inclusive Education: What Can One Person Do?

Advocacy Actions & Dispositions

1. Clarify Your Vision

What is your vision of inclusive education?

2. Identify your current and future spheres of influence

What is your current sphere of influence?

What are your possible future spheres of influence?

3. Examine your own practices

Which of your past and current practices/actions/dispositions forward inclusive education?

Which of your past or current practices/actions/dispositions thwart inclusive education?

4. Listen, Listen, Listen to Concerns

What concerns about inclusive education have you heard and by whom?

5. Provide rationale related to concerns

What rationale have you provided?

What additional rationale do you need to learn more about (e.g., legal, ethical, data-based)?

6. Learn about and link inclusive education to other Best Practice Change Initiatives

Which Best Practice Initiatives that support and align with inclusive education are you aware of at this time?

Which Best Practice Initiatives do you need to learn more about in the very near future?

7. Weave Your Web/Build Alliances

Have you begun to build your web? Whose heart and mind have you captured?

What is the next step for you to weave an even bigger web? Whose heart and mind are you hoping to capture?

8. Tell the Story & Honor the Past

What is your story?

What other stories are you aware of that will capture heart and minds?

With respect to Inclusive education, what is the history that you aware of and share?

Who are your heroes?

9. Celebrate

What of your past advocacy efforts, effort of others and outcomes do you celebrate and honor?

10. Bring in reinforcements

Who is available in “real time” to support, problem-solve, and help you advocate?

Who can you conjure up from the past or present to help you stay strong, clarify goals, and problem-solve (be a muse) when struggling to advocate or figure out possible solutions?

11. Never give up hope – BELIEVE

On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not likely to happen, 5 = it definitely can and will happen) how strongly do you believe significant progress in creating and sustaining inclusive education will occur in the foreseeable future?

1

2

3

4

5

12. Plan for System Change

Have you within your sphere of influence:

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| a) Articulated and built consensus for a vision of inclusive education | Yes | No |
| b) Provided professional development opportunities | Yes | No |
| c) Provided incentives to assist people during the process of change | Yes | No |
| d) Allocated or reallocated resources to support inclusive education | Yes | No |
| e) Developed a 3 to 5-year action plan | Yes | No |

13. Be Courageous

On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not very courageous, 5 = very courageous) how courageous have you been to date in your advocacy for inclusive education?

1 2 3 4 5

What is the next courageous thing you will do to forward inclusive education in the foreseeable future?

14. Accept a challenge, be creative, come at it in a different way

What is the inclusive education challenge you are prepared to accept today?

How do you plan to tackle it, differently than the ways you have done so in the past?

15. Empower Others

Who can you empower? Who can you help achieve self-determination?

How will this be done?

16. **Maintain a Sense of Humor**

What struggles, interactions, or outcomes during your advocacy for inclusive education can you now look back upon and find humorous?

What is the best joke that you know?

17. **Take Action**

Which of your current practices, actions and dispositions have been validated by the content of today's presentation?

Which of your practices can be tweaked a bit to become more effective?

What is/are things that you need to learn more about, to do, or to try to be a more effective advocate?

What will you do? What actions will you take? How will you build your web?

in the next week?

in the next month?

in the next year?