

# Inclusion is...

by Charmaine Thaner [charmaine@visionsandvoicestogether.com](mailto:charmaine@visionsandvoicestogether.com)

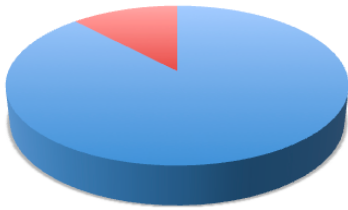
What can Native American tradition teach us about cooperation and treasuring diversity? John Fire Lame Deer, Lakota nation, said, "We all come from the same root, but the leaves are different."



All students being welcomed in the school they would attend if they did not have a disability/difference\*, in the general education classroom with same aged students.



Individualized supports and services, regardless of disability/difference being "pushed into" the general education classroom. Students are NOT pulled out.



Honoring natural proportions. Only 10-12% of students in general education classes have disabilities.



All students actively participating in shared educational experiences while achieving individual learning outcomes.



Focusing on the person the student is becoming, not just the task she/he is performing.



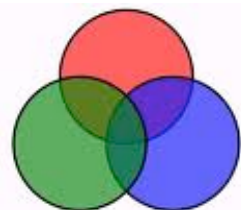
High expectations for ALL students as competent learners.



Seeing students through the lens of competence.



Recognizing and building on individuals' extraordinary gifts and strengths.



Educators, administrators, and families collaborating to ensure all students are successful.

\* Inclusion is not just about students with disabilities. Students with diverse races, cultures, sexual orientation, socioeconomic backgrounds, gifts and talents ALL need to be successful in general education classrooms!