

SEDAC Disability Celebrations Toolkit

SEDAC Disability Celebrations Committee
May 17, 2022





SEDAC Disability Celebrations Committee 2021-22

Committee Timing and Scope

- The committee was created in December 2021.
- The committee was formed to find and build resources for schools to use in disability-focused events in lieu of using disability simulations.
- As the committee did its work, we began to expand our vision and goals for what we wanted to accomplish.
- We decided to create a comprehensive toolkit that could shift hearts and minds and build skills for inclusion.

Committee Members

- Jenny Crosby, Committee Chair, SEDAC Representative, Newbury Park High School (Former Elementary Teacher)
- Lee Ann Holland, Committee Chair, Member At Large, SEDAC Representative, Colina Middle School
- Erin Bell, SEDAC Chair (Former High School Teacher)
- Carole Shelton, Member At Large

SEDAC Committee Actions

- ✓ Held 8 meetings total since December.
- ✓ At our initial meeting on December 6, we discussed the vision for the committee and brainstormed ideas. We decided to prioritize creating a resource toolkit and addressing the issue of disability simulations as part of Abilities Awareness events.
- ✓ We identified the four main disability celebration events and assigned committee members to research each one.
- ✓ We created a survey to gather ideas from SEDAC members that was sent out in February.
- ✓ We created a document that describes [Disability Simulations](#) and the reasons we no longer use them, which was presented and distributed to SEDAC members in March.
- ✓ We focused on creating the Disability Celebrations Toolkit, which was presented to the SEDAC Executive Board and the CVUSD Cabinet for feedback last week.
- ✓ We are presenting the completed Toolkit to SEDAC today.





Committee Recommendations

Beyond the Toolkit

- Recommend that the district provide training to principals on the Toolkit, perspectives of people with disabilities and teaching students about inclusion.
- Recommend a potential resource for this training: Diana Pastora Carson was a teacher who developed the Beyond Awareness Program to move instruction about disability beyond awareness to inclusion.
- Recommend that the district sponsor an annual speaker with disabilities to deliver a virtual presentation that any school can access for events.
- Recommend that students be eligible for the annual recognition of Inclusion Heroes.
- Recommend that the district add additional titles to the Core Literature list with stories that focus on disabled characters.

Toolkit Structure

1. How to Include Students with Disabilities Year-Round
2. Activities and Resources for Any Disability Celebration
3. Four District-Recognized Disability & Inclusion Events and Ways to Celebrate
 - Disability Awareness
 - National Bullying Prevention Month & Unity Day
 - Disability History Month
 - Inclusive Schools Week
4. List of Disability Awareness Days and Months





Questions?