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Inclusion Basics: Membership and Belonging

Video





Inclusion is not a set of strategies or a placement issue. Inclusion is about **belonging** to a community – a group of friends, a school community, or a neighborhood.

– Allen & Schwartz, 2001, p.4



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Inclusion is....

"Inclusion is a **right**,
not a privilege
for a select few."



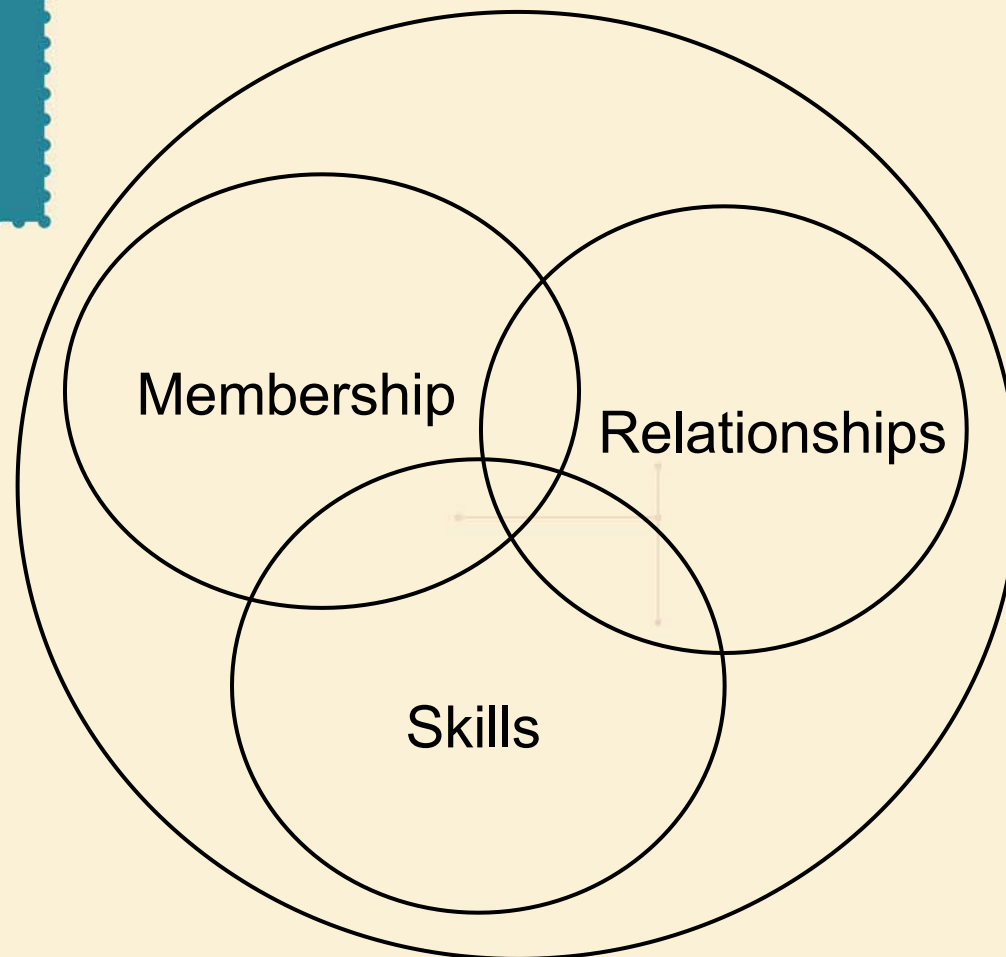
– Oberti v. Board of Education in Clementon School District, 1993

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Community of Practice

Participation in valued routines, rituals and activities



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A member is...

- Somebody who belongs to and participates in a particular group.
- Signs of membership include accommodations that we make to help children participate in groups and activities.



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Strategies to facilitate membership

- Assign children to groups at tables that are consistent over time.
- Design activities that require and support multiple participants (group art projects, games...)
- Encourage children to help each other.
- Make sure there is something everyone can do independently.



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Have fun and help your
students have fun!

