

MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS LEARNING SERIES

Equity Strand

Equity Considerations for Students with Disabilities,

Presented by Dr. Joshua Cole

Webinar Summary:

This session will help educators develop an equity mindset in working with students with disabilities by shifting the historical educational paradigm that has focused on equality toward equity. Based on the legal standard that requires schools to demonstrate ‘meaningful progress’ and ‘appropriately ambitious’ goals for students with disabilities, the process by which to make this a reality is rooted in developing a culture of equity in schools. This session will help educators develop their own personal journey toward an equity mindset and empower them to support their colleagues, families and most importantly students through a personal critical self-reflection process. Essential action steps beginning with authentic professional relationship building, and thoughtful decision making and implementation strategies focused on students’ abilities will be outlined for educators to develop an equity mindset to support students with disabilities to reach and exceed their goals.

Resources:

- [A World Where Fish are no Longer Forced to Climb Trees](#) (YouTube)

References:

- Hulett, K., (2019), 7 Tips for Achieving Equity in Special Education, Rethink Ed.
- Worthen, M. (2016), The Future of Personalized Learning for Students with Disabilities, State Education Standard, v16 n3, pp. 33-39, 44.

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Discussion Guide:

1. How would you approach a colleague who was displaying an inequitable perspective toward a student with a disability?
2. What types of qualitative data would help you create a personalized IEP for a student?
3. What types of questions would you ask about the quantitative data about a student to help you create a personalized IEP for that student?
4. What are some strategies that you would use to develop lessons to meet the needs of students?
5. How are you going to hold yourself accountable for holding others accountable to have high expectations for students with disabilities?