



LONG ISLAND
STRONG
SCHOOLS
ALLIANCE

What is Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion?

Diversity is about valuing unique identities, characteristics, experiences, and perspectives.

While equity is making sure to give everyone what they need to succeed by increasing access, resources, and opportunities especially for those who have been historically disadvantaged.

When diversity and equity are paramount, an inclusive environment can be achieved in which differences are celebrated and everyone is valued, respected, and able to reach their full potential.

Creating an inclusive environment is not just about providing access in terms of racial and ethnic identity, but also age, cultural identity, religious and spiritual identity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, social and economic status, and political and ideological perspectives.

More importantly it goes beyond increasing representation; it must include diversity of thought, network, and experiences.

Why is it important?

The New York State Board of Regents Policy on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
[NYSED Diversity](#)

We All Benefit!

- Schools must create opportunities for all students to learn from multiple perspectives that are just as important and valid as the narrow point of view from which history and other content areas have traditionally been taught.
- We must tell the stories of all those who have contributed to the development of this country and all those who continue to make it the diverse and beautiful tapestry it is today:
- Providing more students with integrated school environments is a cost-effective strategy for boosting student achievement and preparing students for work in a diverse global economy.
- Enhance all students' self-identity, self confidence and self-esteem by implementing non-discriminatory discipline policies and practices and focusing on the well-being of the “whole child” by always considering and addressing the full range of student developmental pathways.

We All Benefit!

- Exposing students to a diverse range of teachers and school leaders reduces stereotypes and prepares students for an increasingly global society.
- Ensuring family and community engagement practices that are based on mutual trust, confidence and respect.

Terms to know

CR-S

- Culturally responsive-sustaining (CR-S) education is grounded in a cultural view of learning and human development in which multiple expressions of diversity are recognized and regarded as assets for teaching and learning.
- 1. Welcoming and Affirming Environment
- 2. High Expectations and Rigorous Instruction
- 3. Inclusive Curriculum and Assessment
- 4. Ongoing Professional Learning



SEL

Social and Emotional Learning Programs

1. Develop self-awareness and self-management skills essential to success in school and in life.
2. Use social awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.
3. Demonstrate ethical decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community contexts

**What can I do to support
DEI in my district?**

**Write school principals,
superintendents, and board of
education members.**

- [BOE Sample LetterD.docx](#)

**Go to BOE meetings and make a
statement.**

- [BOE Statement ScriptsD.docx](#)

A truly inclusive environment takes ongoing learning, unlearning, commitment, and action. History has taught us that change is hard work, and it takes communities, neighbors, family, and friends working together. But it has also taught us that it is well worth it!