



>>> What is Inclusion?

In a sense, the concept of inclusion is “a way of thinking, a way of being, and a way of making decisions about helping everyone belong.” ([Causton-Theoharis](#), 43) Inclusion is a delicate balance that special educators, general education teachers, paraprofessionals, Speech-Language Pathologists and other related service providers must incorporate into many settings across a school day with finesse, subtlety and elegance. Adults who work with students with disabilities work to diversify their inclusion practices with more than just side-by-side support. Some of those alternative inclusive practices may include 'modifying work so students are able to access the work more independently, modify the expectations or environment, have student pair up with a peer partner, periodic check-ins, and creating visual to-do lists for students.' ([Causton-Theoharis](#), 39) The Golden Rule of Support always lingers in the back of teachers' minds to remind everyone to “support others as you would wish to be supported.” ([Causton-Theoharis](#), 37) In USD 232, we strive to create independent learners who will access their current and future communities with a high level of success.

>>> WHO'S WHO?

PARAPROFESSIONALS

Paraprofessionals are often considered the “backbone” or superhero's of a school. Paraprofessionals provide academic, behavioral, social emotional and other supports for students in both special education and general education settings. These important members of every school community, who help to make schools more inclusive, can be referred to as: teacher aides, para educators, or instructional aides, work alongside and under the direction of a certified teacher or school professional.

Paraprofessionals often work one-on-one or with small groups of students to “remove learning barriers” while allowing certified staff to support students in other ways.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SUPERHERO IN USD 232? CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO APPLY.

WE'RE HIRING PARAPROFESSIONALS!

Sources: [Vierstra](#), [Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#)



>>> USD 232 UNIFIED BOWLING

A successful third season of Unified Bowling for Mill Valley and De Soto High school teams ended in mid-November. Special Olympics Unified Sports provides inclusive opportunities by combining an approximate equal number of Special Olympics students with intellectual disabilities and students without intellectual disabilities on teams to compete. This year, MV's Unified Bowling team competed in four regular season meets. and took a team to the league meet resulting in a 5th place finish. This qualified the MV team for the state competition in Topeka where they had a great time competing against the top 20 teams in the state. The district is looking forward to watching these programs grow and continue to find success at both bowling and fostering an environment of social inclusion.

