

ISWPH Celebration Guide



Global Partner:



INCLUSION INITIATIVE

Making inclusive education a reality. One district at a time.



The Teacher's Gallery

Teach. Travel. Give.

2019 INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK ^{PH}

CHARTING THE COURSE FOR INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS



DECEMBER 2–6, 2019

Lessons & Resources for Educators

Introduction

What is Inclusive Education?

As described by the Department of Education (DepEd) in the released DepEd Order No. 21, series of 2019 known as the Policy Guidelines on the K to 12 Basic Education Program, Inclusive education is the core principle of the K to 12 Basic Education Program. This promotes the right of every Filipino to quality, equitable, culture-based and complete basic education. Through inclusive education, all Filipinos will realize their full potential and contribute meaningfully to building the nation.

Inclusion is an advocacy that is emerging in the Philippine society which opened the doors to diversity especially in education, pushing progress forward for students hindered by disability, gender, socioeconomic status, cultural heritage, and other factors.

This Inclusive Schools Week PH (ISWPH) celebration guide contains the information, tools and resources needed to plan a successful ISWPH celebration and to help schools and communities move forward from awareness to action.

These celebration ideas serve as practical suggestions for facilitating the inclusion of all students in a general education setting. As the diversity of learners within our classrooms continues to grow, the need to structure curricula, lessons, and activities that not only meet the needs of all students but celebrate the diversity among those learners becomes critical.

“Every Filipino has the right to quality, equitable, culture-based and complete basic education.”

What is Inclusive Schools Week PH?

Inclusive Schools Week (ISW) is an annual event in the United States sponsored by Inclusive Schools Network (ISN) and Stetson & Associates, Inc. and is now being adapted across the globe to celebrate the progress that schools have made in providing a supportive and quality education to ALL learners especially to those who are marginalized due to their disability, gender, socio-economic status, ethnicity, religion and other factors. ISW is also an important opportunity for educators, students and parents to discuss what else needs to be done in order to ensure that their schools continue to improve their ability to successfully educate all children.

ISW is celebrated every first full week of December. It's a time designated to acknowledge and commend the hard work and commitment of teachers, administrators, students, and parents in making their schools more inclusive and, thereby, significantly contributing to the development of a more inclusive society.

Last December 3 – 7, 2018 the Philippines celebrated the first ever Inclusive Schools Week PH spearheaded by The Teacher's Gallery, Inclusion Initiative and partners from the different parts of the country. This time, we hope to involve more schools, communities and partners to celebrate all our efforts in making Philippines an inclusive society.

The 2019 Theme – “Charting the Course for Inclusive PH Schools”

The celebration of the ISWPH provides educators, students, parents, schools, agencies and communities with the opportunity to think about our current philosophies and practices regarding inclusion and to plan for the “next steps” in the process.

What are the goals of Inclusive Schools Week PH?

- Celebrate the progress of schools in educating an increasingly diverse learner population.
- Acknowledge the hardwork and commitment of schools, families, and communities in creating inclusive opportunities for all children regardless of disability, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and other factors.
- Encourage reflection on how culture, policies and practices in schools can promote inclusive education.
- Promote action plans to increase the capacity of schools and communities to meet all the needs of learners.

How can schools get involved?

Inclusive Schools Week is celebrated during the first full week of December. We are encouraging everyone to be part of this global celebration to make a lot of noise about the advocacy for inclusive education. The more schools and partners involved, and the more we celebrate together, the wider our reach will be --- forming more inclusive communities!

To assist you with the planning for the celebration, we have categorized the activities into 3 groups: for classrooms, schools and districts, and communities. Within the categories, there are three levels of implementation:

1. **Activities that Promotes Awareness:** These are the activities that can help create awareness of the benefits of inclusive education. Awareness is the first step in promoting positive change. Once people are able to recognize the promise of inclusive education, they can begin to seek the knowledge and skills necessary to realize their goals.
2. **Activities that Build Knowledge and Skill:** These are the activities that reflect the importance of taking awareness to the next level which is putting it to ACTION! Building the knowledge and skills of students, families, school staff, and members of the community increases the likelihood that inclusive practices will become integrated into the framework of the community.
3. **Activities that Influence the System:** These are the activities that reflect the importance of taking knowledge and skill to the next level which is about creating positive change within the system! By changing policies, procedures, and culture of our schools, it is more likely that positive advances in inclusive education will become an integral part of the community framework.

What activities can you do for ISWPH?

ISWPH celebration is completely flexible. You can decide whatever activities you can do as part of the celebration depending on the level of implementation you wish to pursue. The following celebration ideas serve as practical suggestions for facilitating the inclusion of all students in a general education setting.

Classroom Celebration Ideas

- Decorate your classroom with items that support academic development for all learners.
- Discuss sign language and assistive technology devices of its application and implications for learners with disabilities.
- Ask students to create ISWPH cards including reasons why they like being part of an inclusive school.
- Ask related service personnel to include typically developing peers in the activities that they do with children with disabilities in your classroom. Create fun games that promotes friendship and teamwork.
- Ask students to write about a time that they didn't feel included in a group. Talk about how it made them feel. Ask them how their experiences relate to anyone who is perceived as different and what challenges they might face in a school setting.

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- Have students keep journals to regularly record their contributions to an inclusive school environment.
 - Create art projects, such as “I am special” or “Great things happen in inclusive schools” artworks that the students can display during the Week.
 - Invite a guest speaker with a disability to speak about his or her experiences. Be sure to include a question-and-answer time for students.

School Celebration Ideas

- Implement ISWPH themed contests among students such as Slogan-Making Contest, Poster Design Contest, and T-Shirt Design Contest.
- Create a freedom wall for students to answer the question, “What does it mean to be inclusive?”
- Ask students to contribute to a list of “100 Things that Make our School Inclusive”. Use a word cloud application such as wordle to combine all the words collected within your school to describe inclusion/how to be inclusive.
- Disability and inclusion awareness film showing – examples of movies: Wonder, Beautiful Pain
- Invite resource speakers to train teachers on how to handle students with disabilities in a regular classroom.
- Develop a school motto or mission statement that highlights the school’s definition of inclusive education.
- Create a student-run planning team for ISWPH and have a faculty advisor to guide the group.
- Highlight an “Inclusive Practice of the Week” in the faculty room.
- Use social media to share your school celebration and inspire other schools.

Community Celebration Ideas

- Look for opportunities to highlight your school or district’s inclusive practices at community events, such as town meetings, holiday concerts, art exhibits, local religious events, etc. Have students make buttons, posters, or other items to sell that will remind the community of the inclusive nature of the school, while raising money to support events promoting inclusive education.
- Sponsor a school or community contest using the ISWPH theme.
- Promote the ISWPH to community organizations (e.g. after school programs, senior centers, recreation centers, boys and girls clubs) and/or invite these groups to participate in the Week’s activities to further build an inclusive community.
- Host a community meeting to educate local employers and other community leaders about how they can support transition-age students with disabilities by providing summer and long-term employment opportunities.
- Inclusive Fun Run.
- Boodle Fight

Please don’t forget to use #ISWPH2019 when sharing your posts to social media. 😊

INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK PH

Planning and Record Form

School Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Email: _____ Contact No: _____

Instructions: Use this planning sheet to record the activities planned and implemented during the Inclusive Schools Week PH celebration. You can get ideas for each level from the Celebration Guide or come up with your own ideas.

We encourage you to share your ideas and accomplishments with us by emailing a copy of this form to ISWPH@theteachersgallery.com. We will include your celebration ideas on our website www.theteachersgallery.com.

Also, please use the official hashtag **#ISWPH2019** when sharing your celebration posts to social media. 😊

**Activities that Promotes
Awareness**

**Activities that Promotes
Knowledge and/or Skills**

**Activities that Influence the
System**