

# Access and Inclusion Universal Design for Living and Learning.

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Studio photos courtesy of Jodi Collins  
Urban photography

Music Daniel Jarvis Holland and Earl Marson,  
produced by Quinn JarvisHolland  
(PPS students)

A young boy with light brown hair and glasses is leaning against a large, grey stone monument. He is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt and is smiling at the camera. The monument has three lines of text engraved on it. In the background, there are green trees, a bridge, and a body of water.

Sure, I go to school.

Same as you.

I'm an American.

Each public agency must ensure that, to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities are educated with children who are nondisabled.

-- Least Restrictive Environment, IDEA mandate 1975

**In 1882 “undesirables, idiots and the feeble minded” were not even allowed into the U.S.**

**In 1970, U.S. schools educated only one in five children with disabilities. Many states completely excluded certain groups such as deaf, blind and mentally retarded students.**



**We now know that the average child with Down syndrome will learn to read and write. They will be able to work in our communities with relevant supports.**



# PPS Schools are on average 65 years old, which takes us back to the year 1947

When these schools were being built, many children with physical and intellectual disabilities were sent to Fairview Institution and were considered uneducable. So most of our schools, by design, segregate children.



# ACCESS IS ALSO ABOUT CURRICULUM

- With supports and differentiation as well as a lot of her hard work. Eleanor Bailey graduated from Grant High School with a regular diploma.
- We need universal design of instruction to reach all of the bell curve.



# EQUITY

All students regardless of class race or disability need a high quality education.

- We need to celebrate the diversity of our students and support training to encourage competencies related to culture, disability, class, and race.
- Sharing all of our skills across silos will help create truly accessible schools





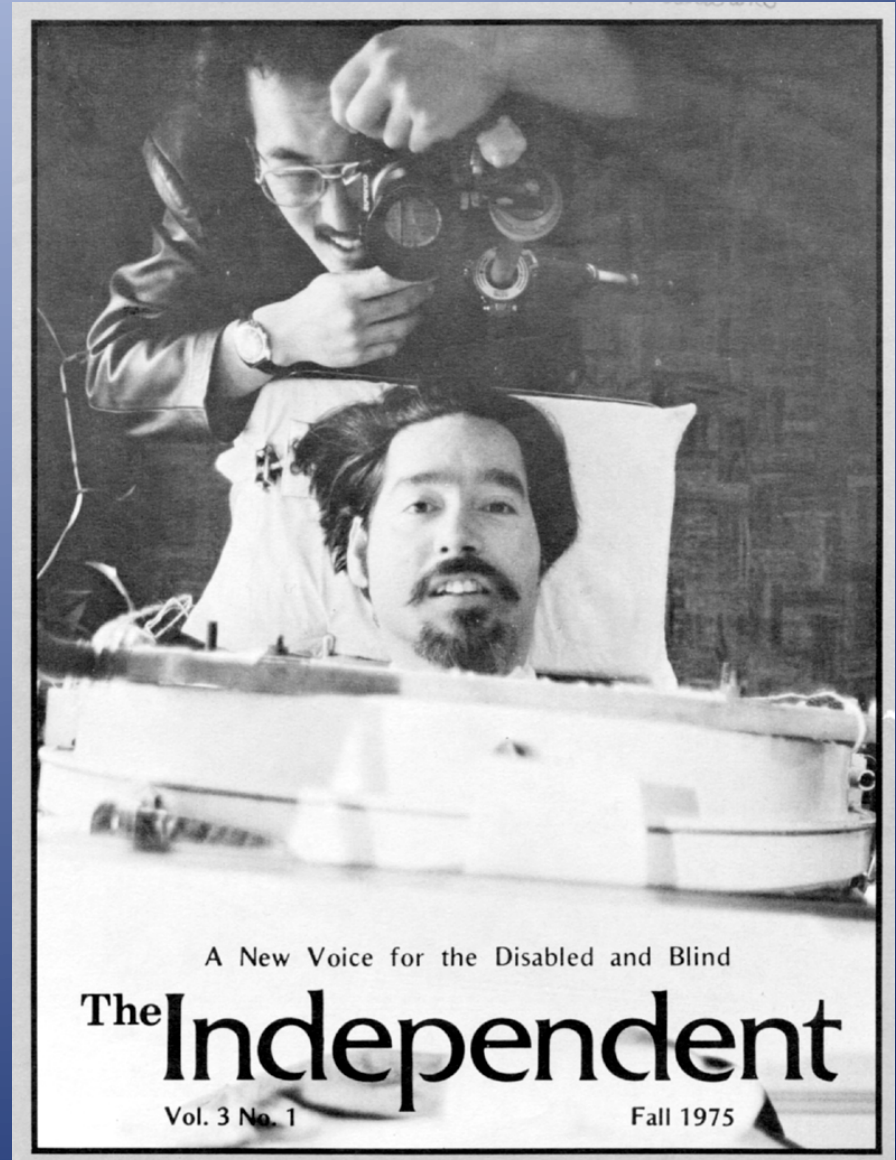
**WE HAVE  
WAITED  
LONG  
ENOUGH!**



# We know what is possible

**Curb cuts were one invention we all benefit from**

- Pioneers such as Ed Roberts showed us what activists who had a vision could teach us.
- “midnight curb cutters” created solutions before we had laws.



# Lets support great teachers

Where we have success lets

Shine a light on it.

Allow time for sharing

Inspiration.



# Special education is often a scapegoat for system wide failures

- If general educators “push out” differences rather than work with specialists to embrace them in the class, we will continue to segregate.
- If we refuse to follow ADA and invest in access we will continue to segregate.



# We all need to get involved

A vision of all children learning and thriving together will need leadership and courage.

It will need investment in teachers, buildings and civil and human rights.

It will need you!



# Neurodiversity requires differentiation not segregation

- Diversity is the norm, not the exception, wherever individuals are gathered, including schools.
- We need flexible spaces and rich welcoming environments with flexible teachers!



# EQUITY AND BELONGING

Community and friendships are among the gifts a school can bring.



# We need the experts

Listening to  
speakers who  
may make us  
uncomfortable  
will help us all  
grow





# Chief Joseph School 1949-2012

No elevator to second floor

No access to stage

Etc

Etc

Etc



Some groups are tired of waiting  
for their share of the treasure.

ARRRRRRRE  
you going to  
honor ADA?



# Can we see through another's eyes?

- Accountability is requirement of the entire school community—not just special education Leadership is needed at all levels—classroom, building, district, greater school community—to ensure that all students receive an appropriate education.”
- NABSE Focus Groups, 2001



# Rosa Parks School

- Our most accessible school building

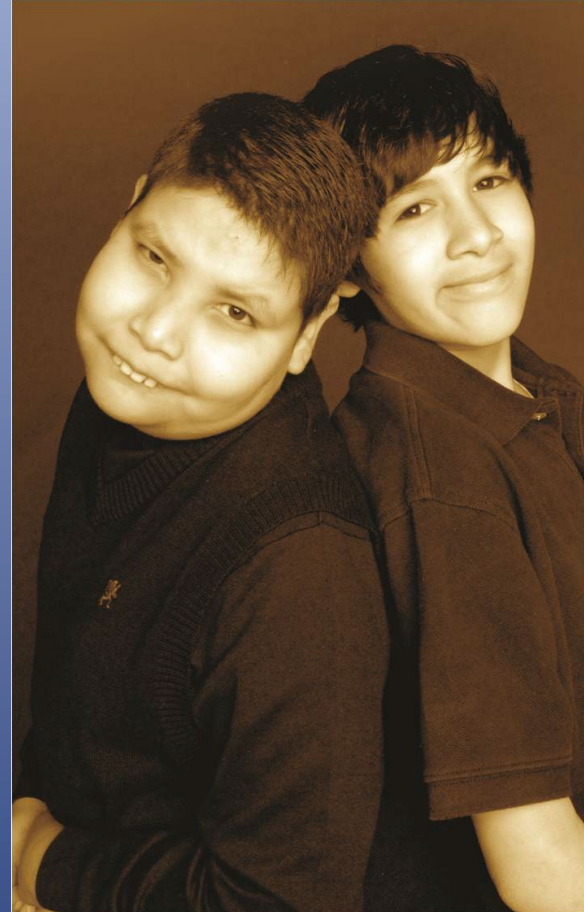
It has spaces to share resources teachers and accommodate multiple modalities of teaching and sensory needs of students.

It welcomes parents and volunteers and has a family/volunteer space .



# We are all teachers we all learn from each other.

- We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community - and this nation."



# Volunteers come in every shape and size we need to let them all in.

- We cannot continue to ignore classrooms, auditoriums, lunch rooms, gyms that prevent parents, teachers, students and volunteers from being a part of the school community.



# Guiding principals should embrace diversity and create equity for all

## We respectfully suggest

All students regardless of class race or disability

Safe, Warm Accessible And Dry

Honor human and civil rights ,  
IDEA, ADA and 504

They are not just good ideas  
they are the law.

