Dan Tully – Principal
Leandra Juarez – Director of Burke Scholars Program

BURKE SCHOLARS PROGRAM
NOTRE DAME COLLEGE PREP
Goals for the Session

- Share the story of inclusion at Notre Dame College Prep
- Describe how you can begin a secondary inclusion program at your school
- Provide ideas and practice for modification to support inclusion
Questions for Audience

Tell us about your school

- High school or elementary school?
- Do you have an inclusion program for students with learning disabilities?
- Do you have an inclusion program for students with mild to moderate cognitive disabilities?
Description of Program

- Program designed to provide a Catholic education for students with mild to moderate cognitive disabilities and/or significant learning disabilities
- Some students have genetic or other significant learning differences
- Students are included in most ND classes
History of Burke Scholars Program

Program Beginnings
- **October 2007** – Kevin and Elaine Burke approached Notre Dame
- **April 2008** – Visit to Pope John Paul II HS in Tennessee
- **July 2008** – Board approval

Program Development
- **August 2009** – 1st student began
- **August 2010** – 3 more students began
- **May 2013** – 1st student graduated (7 students have graduated to date)
History of Burke Scholars Program

- **Program Status**
  - Currently 9 students in the program
  - Max enrollment = 10 students
  - 2 full-time staff members
  - Burke Scholars Center

- **Mission** = inclusive
Logistics of Burke Scholars Program

- **Funding**
  - Tuition – 9 students (~ $103K)
  - Fundraiser (~ $35K)
  - Students are eligible for financial aid

- **Costs**
  - 2 full-time staff members
  - School space
    - Small classroom with access to technology, Promethean Board, and bathroom
    - IDEA $ can support materials or staffing
Program Outline

- Eligibility Requirements
  - Current 8th grader and at least 14 years old
  - Math and English proficiency at a 2nd-5th grade level
  - Ability to follow high behavior expectations
  - Ability to appropriately interact with peers
  - Ability to initiate written and verbal expression
  - Ability to participate in classroom and social activities without the use of an educational assistant
Program Outline

- Acceptance Process
  - Evaluation of current IEP
  - Review of current psychological evaluation
  - Shadow day at Notre Dame
  - Observation of student in current educational placement
  - Parent/Student interview

- Certificate of Completion vs. Diploma

- Educational Service Plans
  - Private school version of IEP
  - Held annually
  - Includes 3-year re-evaluations
Program Outline

- Burke Scholars Classes
  - English (two levels)
  - Math (two levels)
  - Life Skills
  - Science
  - Study Hall

- Inclusion Classes
  - History
  - Religion
  - PE/Health
  - Fine Arts/Electives
  - Other
Modification Exercise

How would you modify this assignment?

- Patron Saint Assignment (Original)
- Patron Saint Assignment (Modified)
Inclusion Approach

- **Goals for Inclusion**
  - Academics
  - Independence
  - Peer socialization
  - Religious environment

- **Teacher communication/collaboration**
  - Team meetings on a regular basis
  - Weekly lesson plans/assignments
  - Observations
  - Weekly evaluations
  - Open door policy
Inclusion Approach

- Inclusion Monitoring
  - Google Forms
  - 2-4 areas of focus
  - Observations

- Grading
  - Separate grade book
  - Equivalent percentages
Inclusion Approach

- Peers and socialization
  - Buddy Club
  - Natural and authentic peer leadership
  - Benefits to school

- Extra-curricular activities
  - Sports
  - Managers
  - Band
  - Clubs
  - Fans
Burke Video and Invite

- Burke Scholar Fundraiser
  - October 22nd – 6:00pm
  - St. John Brebeuf Parish
  - Free – donations welcomed

- Video
QUESTIONS?