# (SAMPLE) RESOLUTION

# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ISD School Health Advisory Council

# Supporting Inclusive Practices for Students with Exceptionalities

# In Texas Public Schools

# Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, students with exceptionalities are entitled under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, federal civil rights law, including the Free and Appropriate Public Education information guaranteed by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; the Americans with Disabilities Act; and respective state laws, to be free from discrimination and to be provided equal educational opportunities in regular education classrooms with their peers without disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas School Health Advisory Committee (TSHAC) considers inclusion to be a commitment to educate each student, to the maximum extent appropriate, in the least restrictive environment with appropriate support services brought to that classroom to meet the student’s needs and Individualized Education Plan goals; and,

**WHEREAS**, the mission of public schools is to promote, provide, and expect high educational and personal standards, academic rigor and relevance, rich and challenging classroom experiences, and prepare and empower students to be responsible and productive citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, learning is maximized in environments that are engaging, safe, and supportive; results of standardized testing are only one measure of student achievement and success; every student is uniquely capable and deserves the opportunity to be a life-long learner; all students should be active, rather than passive participants in their educational programs; and

**WHEREAS**, strong partnerships within the school community are essential for student success, all students deserve a team of highly qualified and effective educators who use a wide variety of tools, methods, research, and resources to encourage and support student success; all schools should be encouraged to create collaborative teams (e.g., administrators, counselors, child nutrition specialists, highly qualified teachers, nurses, school psychologists, and parents) to support students with exceptionalities; student potential and awareness are enhanced when a climate of community which honors all aspects of diversity exists; and

**WHEREAS**, highly qualified teachers and support staff must be provided with appropriate preparation and ongoing and relevant professional development to meet the unique needs of students with exceptionalities; professional development should be designed to ensure that teachers of students with exceptionalities are knowledgeable about research-based best practices for effectively teaching students to their highest standards;

**WHEREAS**, coordinated and collaborative planning by highly qualified staff is essential for student success, the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) 74.3 states that the district must ensure that sufficient time is provided for teachers to teach and for students to learn as a part of their regular school day.

**WHEREAS**, the role of technology is critical for ensuring that students with significant exceptionalities are able to interact with the world and maximize their communication and learning potential; and instructional and assistive technologies foster self-determination, participation in educational, social, pre-employment, and employment activities, and in making personal choices;

**WHEREAS**, the Texas School Health Advisory Committee (TSHAC) fully supports inclusion of students with exceptionalities in order to ensure equitable learning opportunities and opportunities for success;

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Independent School District School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) fully supports inclusion as the first choice on the continuum of placements of students with exceptionalities in the least restricted environment most appropriate to the individual needs of the student in order to ensure equitable learning opportunities and opportunities for success; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Independent School District SHAC affirms that all students with exceptionalities shall be provided a high quality, inclusive education that assures full and meaningful access to the general education curriculum. To achieve this goal, support services must be provided, programs and curricula modified, and students must receive these supports in an inclusive setting. The expectation shall be that every school community shall provide a quality, inclusive education for all students without exception that is based on a shared vision of high expectations for all students and a commitment to a set of goals that are strong, clear, and put into practice.

Approved and adopted the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_. We, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ISD SHAC.

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