IS YOUR SCHOOL OR DISTRICT THRIVE-ALIGNED?

This checklist is designed to help principals and school leaders determine how closely their schoolwide practices are aligned with The Ability Challenge's THRIVE Framework for inclusive education. For more information, HTTPS://THEABILITYCHALLENGE.ORG/OUR-APPROACH.

Your school is THRIVE aligned if:

Culture of Inclusion

- ☐ You have established a clear, inclusive vision that staff members understand and implement
- ☐ Staff share core beliefs: all students can learn, serving diverse learners is everyone's responsibility, and inclusion benefits all students
- ☐ School policies consider and address the needs of diverse learners before decisions are made
- ☐ Your school structure supports regular collaboration between general and special education teams
- ☐ Students with disabilities participate fully in school life, from classroom activities to leadership roles
- ☐ Your school regularly gathers and acts on feedback from students, staff, and families to improve practices

Student-Centered Curriculum & Instruction

- ☐ Your leadership team or others provide teachers with coaching, modeling, and professional development to differentiate instruction effectively
- ☐ You hold teachers accountable for ensuring that students have access to grade-level content through scaffolded instruction, accommodations, and collaborative teaching
- ☐ Your school provides collaborative teachers with clear roles and planning time
- ☐ You prioritize and model examining student data by subgroup, classroom, and grade level to make instructional decisions

Student-Centered Curriculum & Instruction

☐ Your school implements an evidence-based, standards-aligned curriculum

☐ You hold teachers accountable for ensuring that all lessons have clear learning goals that students understand

Shared Understanding of Special Education Mandates

☐ All staff understand their legal responsibilities under IDEA and Section 504

☐ Your school has systems to ensure compliance with IEP development, timelines, and implementation

☐ Regular training helps staff understand how disability impacts learning and instructional practice

☐ The leadership team demonstrates commitment to students with disabilities as integral members of the school community

☐ Your school regularly reviews the quality and impact of special education documents and services

Equitable Systems and Resource Management

☐ Resources are allocated based on student needs and aligned with the school's inclusive vision

☐ Data is used to identify and continuously address gaps in resource distribution or program implementation

☐ Special education teachers, paraprofessionals, and service providers are effectively integrated into the school team

☐ The whole-school schedule supports collaboration and inclusive practices

☐ Your school has clear processes for struggling students to access responsive support and intervention (e.g., multi-tiered systems of support, special education, etc.)

Meaningful Family Partnerships

☐ Families of students with disabilities are engaged as partners in their child's education

☐ You provide accessible resources and communication tools to keep families informed about their child's progress

☐ There are opportunities for families to contribute feedback and participate in decision-making processes

☐ The school hosts workshops or events to educate families about inclusive practices and their rights under IDEA

☐ Family feedback is regularly collected and used to improve programming