



## **Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress (MDSC) Education Task Force Core Values**

### **We believe that...**

every child is of equal value regardless of ability, and that every child enriches the life of his or her school community

every child has a potential for growth that is to be discovered and nurtured

every child should be held to high expectations

every child has a unique learning style which should be the foundation of his or her education

every child should do meaningful work in a manner that encourages self-determination and independence

educators should assume every child is competent, and believe that every child “can” before considering he or she “can not”

educators should nurture reciprocal friendships for all children

educators should receive on-going training and support based on up-to-date scientific research

every school should foster a team approach, and every school should include families as valuable members of the educational team

every school should promote inclusion as it stimulates intellectual, social, and civic learning for all children

We believe that inclusion is very often the least restrictive and best environment for all children, including children with Down syndrome