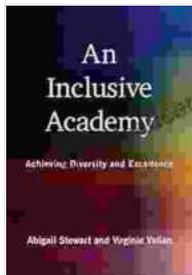


# An Inclusive Academy Achieving Diversity and Excellence



## An Inclusive Academy: Achieving Diversity and Excellence by Abigail J. Stewart

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2453 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 502 pages
Paperback	: 56 pages
Item Weight	: 7.2 ounces
Dimensions	: 8.75 x 0.25 x 11.5 inches

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In today's increasingly interconnected world, it is more important than ever for our schools to reflect the diversity of our communities. When students have the opportunity to learn alongside peers from different backgrounds, they develop a deeper understanding of different cultures and perspectives. This helps them to become more tolerant and compassionate, and better prepares them for success in a global economy.

### **The Power of Inclusion**

Inclusion is not just about bringing students from different backgrounds together. It's about creating a learning environment where all students feel welcome, respected, and supported. This means providing access to high-quality resources, teachers who are trained in culturally responsive

teaching, and opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities and leadership roles.

When schools are inclusive, all students benefit. Students from marginalized groups are more likely to succeed academically, and their white peers are more likely to develop positive attitudes towards diversity. Inclusive schools also create a more positive and productive learning environment for everyone.

### **A Case Study: The Academy for Global Leadership**

The Academy for Global Leadership (AGL) is a public charter school in Newark, New Jersey, that is committed to providing a high-quality education to students from all backgrounds. AGL was founded in 2010 with the mission of preparing students to be leaders in a globalized world. The school has a diverse student body, with students from over 30 countries, and a rigorous academic program that emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication.

"AGL is a place where all students can feel welcome, respected, and supported," said Principal Dr. Sharif El-Mekki. "We believe that every student has the potential to succeed, and we are committed to providing them with the resources and opportunities they need to reach their full potential."

AGL has a number of programs and initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion. These include:

- A mentorship program that pairs students from different backgrounds with adult mentors.

- A cultural exchange program that allows students to travel to different countries and learn about different cultures.
- A diversity club that provides a space for students to discuss issues related to race, ethnicity, and culture.

AGL's commitment to diversity and inclusion has paid off. The school has been recognized for its high academic achievement and its positive school culture. In 2018, AGL was named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

### **The Importance of Teacher Diversity**

In addition to creating a welcoming and inclusive school environment, it is also important to have a diverse teaching staff. Teachers from different backgrounds bring different perspectives and experiences to the classroom, which can benefit all students. Studies have shown that students from marginalized groups are more likely to succeed when they have teachers who share their cultural background.

AGL is committed to hiring a diverse teaching staff. The school's teachers come from a variety of backgrounds, including different countries, cultures, and races.

"Our diverse teaching staff is one of the things that makes AGL such a special place," said Dr. El-Mekki. "Our teachers are passionate about teaching and they are committed to creating a learning environment where all students can succeed."

### **The Impact of Diversity and Inclusion**

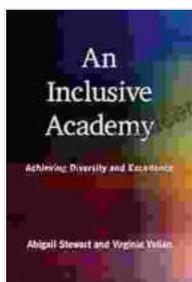
The benefits of diversity and inclusion in education are clear. When schools are diverse and inclusive, all students benefit. They are more likely to succeed academically, develop positive attitudes towards diversity, and be prepared for success in a global economy.

The Academy for Global Leadership is a shining example of how diversity and inclusion can be used to create a high-achieving and equitable learning environment. AGL is a model for other schools around the country, and its success is a testament to the power of diversity and inclusion in education.

## Call to Action

If you are looking for a school that is committed to diversity and inclusion, I encourage you to learn more about the Academy for Global Leadership. AGL is a great place for students to learn, grow, and prepare for success in college and beyond.

You can visit the AGL website at [www.aglschool.org](http://www.aglschool.org).



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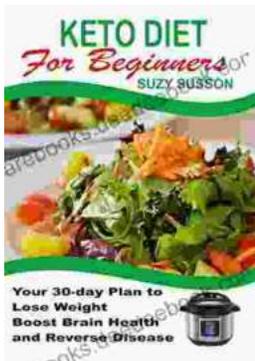
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