

Are attitudes and practices regarding mainstreaming changing? A case of teachers in two rural school districts.

## ARE ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES REGARDING MAINSTREAMING CHANGING? A CASE OF TEACHERS IN TWO RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

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**Abstract:**

The study examined attitudes and practices regarding mainstreaming of 91 regular and special educators in two districts. Participants responded to two questionnaires. Results corroborated data obtained in many previous studies suggesting that educators are not strongly supportive of mainstreaming. Furthermore, regular education teachers frequently implement differentiated instructional strategies necessary to accommodate students with special education. Several demographic variables were found to be related to teacher use of instructional adaptations. These include grade level (special versus regular, grade level (elementary, junior high, and high school), gender and training in mainstreaming. Implications for teacher training and practice are discussed.

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