

educators establishing special education as a mature profession.

Professionalism in special education is the catalyst for optimal learning of children with exceptionalities, and should be the overriding guide for policy issues such as inclusion.

Over two decades of quick fix policies and strategies of blame (cite) make clear that governmental policy bodies must refocus their reform efforts toward supporting special educators establishing special education as a mature profession that collegially advances the science of the profession and the interdisciplinary practice of effective interventions. While there are multiple challenges, continued progress toward professionalism in special education is possible and necessary.

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