

# Links Course Application

## Links Course Description

LINKS is about creating connections within a diverse group of students and ensuring that all students are acknowledged for what makes them different and what makes them the same as their peers. The student enrolled in the Links course will be a mentor, role model, and friend to a student with a disability. In this role, the Links Program student will be with their assigned peer a minimum of one class period per day, and they will be interacting with their peer throughout social activities during the entire school day. In addition to being a mentor, role model, and friend, they will assist the peer student in such things as appropriate classroom behavior, organization of assignments and supplies, and focusing on what the teacher is presenting or the classroom activities.

The Link student will attend monthly Case Conferences to discuss the progress of their peer student, and contribute ideas on how to more effectively help the peer student progress toward his/her goals. During a normal school week, the Link student will also be required to complete weekly disability awareness lessons using an online classroom environment. The Link will learn more about the causes and prevalence of many common disabilities, methods/techniques for working with individuals with disabilities, developing social networking supports, and developing a social climate of awareness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level in 2015-16: 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Numbers of absences from school in 2014-15: \_\_\_\_\_

## Placement Considerations

*Please honestly mark any areas of academic strength or weakness that you have. Mark as many that apply. Academic strengths and weakness do not benefit or hinder students' acceptance into the Links course. This information is used in the scheduling process, and is used for placing students with peers in appropriate classrooms.*

### Student's Academic Strengths:

Math Language Arts Science Social Studies Art Music P.E. Tech. Education

### Student's Academic Weaknesses:

Math Language Arts Science Social Studies Art Music P.E. Tech. Education

## Recommendation Signatures

*It is important that students who participate in the Links course are independent and reliable students. Please have two teachers, counselors, extracurricular coaches or supervisors, or school administrators sign this application - indicating that they would recommend you as a candidate for this course.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name & Staff Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name & Staff Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Student and Parent Signatures

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applying Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Please include, and attach to your application, a short essay on why you would like to take this course and why you feel disability awareness is important in your school community. Please keep the essay to one page or shorter.