In K-12 education, all students are on a journey to the same finish line, but their paths are not necessarily the same. Some students may take a slightly different path and other paths may be significantly modified. Due to the diversity of learning among students, some will achieve mastery of a standard before (or after) other students.

It is important that teachers assess students throughout the learning process using multiple sources in order to identify and address areas that students have deficits in order to meet the instructional needs of all students.

Standards-based instruction does not mean the students are only in the general education classroom.

Standards-based instruction can be offered anywhere and translates to students working in the same curriculum as non-disabled peers with individualization to meet the student’s specific needs.

In a standards-based educational system, opportunity to learn is critical in order to get the students to the finish.

A finish line that was not always achievable with traditional IEPs, IEP’s that only focused on isolated skills and were not aligned to grade level standards.