



Graphic by Allison McMaster and Claudia Sprigler /the Visionary

# FC student body should unite as one

## Staff editorial

Students enrolled in special education classes are often overlooked by the majority of the student body. These students are a part of our school but aren't treated as if they are. They are known of but not known about. Students may not be aware of the events that take place daily as a disabled student. Students taking special ed classes have the option to take general classes. The Indiana State Board of Education states in title 511, article 7, section 43 that "general education" means those programs provided or available to all students, including, but not limited to, the following: sequential grade advancement, elective courses, extracurricular activities, the general curriculum. They should feel welcomed by every student, faculty member, teacher and administrator.

A special ed aide at Highland Hills agreed that special

ed students should be more involved with the school and student body. "Almost all of the kids in our class at Highland Hills are outgoing and love the attention," said Highland Hills special ed aide Janet McMaster.

Special ed students should be helped in socializing with the students during lunch and passing periods. An easy but effective alternative would be to allow students to incorporate these young adults into their personal lives if they choose to. They should have the opportunity to enroll in popular electives to meet new people and make new friends. Most students don't even know the names of these young adults. Special ed students should be invited to sporting events and extra circular activities. They can also join clubs such as Outdoor Club, Chess Club, and Spanish Club.

Overall there shouldn't be anything stopping the entire student body from being one. Something as little as a physical or mental disability shouldn't discourage students from socializing with everyone else.