Urban Collaborative Member Conversation
April 9, 2020
Before we begin...

“It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.” – Mahatma Gandhi

Hope everyone is doing well!
Our goal:

Sharing practices and resources on remote education for students with significant cognitive and other low-incidence disabilities.
Agenda

• Introduction/Goals/Zoom norms 5 min

• Sharing recent guidance/advocacy/resources with members 10 min
  – Whole group – Muted/Comments via Chat

• Sharing practices and resources among members 20 min
  – Small breakout groups (10 people) – Unmuted/Talk with each other!

• Sharing practices and resources from small breakouts 20 min
  – Whole group – Muted/Unmuted/Chat

• Next steps 5 min
Zoom Meeting norms

– Mute yourself when not talking

– When whole group is together, use chat or raise hand feature to share or to ask questions

– One person talking at a time

– Wear pants!
School Closures
How, if at all, do you plan to make up instructional time lost to coronavirus closures? Select all that apply.

- Extending the school year into summer/running summer school for everyone: 4%
- Longer instructional days: 2%
- Eliminating vacations/holidays: 2%
- We have not yet decided: 44%
- We are not planning to make up any lost instructional time: 20%
- We have not lost any instructional time due to coronavirus: 15%
- Other, please specify: 34%

NOTE: Most people who selected "other please specify" said they were doing online instruction. Totals do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: EdWeek Research Center survey, March 2020
Recent Guidance

- (4.6.20) Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos Authorizes New Funding Flexibilities to Support Continued Learning During COVID-19 National Emergency

- (3.28.20) CARES Act: DeVos is required to submit a report to Congress within 30 days from the signing of the law, which was March 28. The report will recommend what waivers should be made to IDEA during the pandemic. A range of organizations are weighing in making recommendations. Opinions range from the need for expansive waivers to no waivers at all.
  - (4.9.20) CCD Ed TF Letter to Congress on IDEA Waivers & COVID
    No additional waivers are necessary under either the IDEA or the Rehab Act.
  - (3.31.20) Letter to OSERS/OSEP - CEC Response to the CARES Act
    Timelines/FAPE
  - (4.7.20) Disability rights groups, school administrators spar over possible changes to special education laws
Letter from UC to DOE (4.9.20)

• **Timelines** – We suggest relaxed timeframes for IEPs and (re)evaluations, allowing room to develop remote practices and remain true to the integrity of assessments.

• **Flexibility imposing IDEA violations** – We suggest a flexibility of citing IDEA violations. If districts can document “good faith” efforts, the failure to provide services because of an inability to work in-person with students or provide services strictly as outlined in IEPs designed to be implemented in-person should not constitute an IDEA violation and should not require compensatory services. Compensatory services are used to mitigate a failure to provide FAPE; a cure to a violation. We contend that developing services in the midst of a pandemic should not be considered a violation.

• **ESY Services** – We ask for guidance regarding the consideration of ESY services. Unquestionably, all students (regardless of a disability) will experience regression with schools closing in early to mid-March. The consideration of regression/recoupment and other ESY criteria under the current pandemic circumstances for ESY this summer are inapplicable at this time. IEP teams cannot apply ESY criteria when students have not been in school and applicable data does not exist. Additionally, it is unlikely that IEP teams will have the opportunity to hold IEP meetings to determine ESY for all students in a district.
Resources – Educating Students with Low Incidence Disabilities

UC Resource List

- Center for Online Learning and Students with Disabilities
  - Resources for making online learning accessible

- NEW! Easter Seals - Resources from Easter Seals Illinois Autism Partnership
  - My Social Distancing Story
  - School Closure Toolkit for Students with Autism

- Innovations in Special Education Technology (ISET)
  - Education Companies Offering Free Subscriptions due to School Closings
  - Hyperlinked Resources for K-12
  - Remote Teaching for Special Educators
Small Groups 10 people (20 min)

- Goal: Sharing practices and resources on remote education for students w/ significant cognitive and other low-incidence disab.
- Questions (Google doc):
  - District/Member Name
  - Practices
  - Resource Name/Link to Resource/Purpose of Resource (consider SWDs and Els/SWD)
  - Additional Questions
- Large Group:
  - What is working for you that might be able to support others?
  - What do you need? What questions do you have?
- Facilitators
Large Group (20 min)

Sharing practices and resources on remote education for students with significant cognitive and other low-incidence disabilities.

• What is working for you that might be able to support others?

• What do you need? What questions do you have?

Please keep comments to 1 minute so as many people who want can participate.
Next Steps...

• Upcoming Member Meetings – Tentative
  – November, 2020 – San Diego
  – May, 2021 – Albuquerque

• Resource and guidance documents – www.urban collaborate.org

• Next Zoom meeting – April 23rd

• Please complete our survey so we can address your questions, comments or concerns at our next meeting, as well as cover topics of interest to you.
Most of all...

Stay Home,
Stay Safe
I Can't Wait Until We Get Off Punishment. I Ain't Even Do Nothing!! 😂😂😂😂😂
Watch Hallelujah Performed by the Rodean School in South Africa