

# Welcome to the November Issue of CollabNews

## Volume 13, Issue 10

### In This Issue

Fall Meeting  
New Member Districts  
Job Announcement  
IDEA 35th Anniversary  
Report on Black Male Achievement  
Autism Internet Modules  
Inclusive Schools Network

### Quick Links

[Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative Home](#)  
[Fall 2010 Meeting Page](#)  
[What Works Clearinghouse: Early Childhood Education for Students with Disabilities](#)  
[Conference Materials and Presentations from 2009 Transition State Planning Institute](#)  
[Inclusive Schools Network](#)  
[The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services \(OSERS\)](#)

### About Us



The [Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative](#) is a network of special and general education leaders working together to improve outcomes for students with disabilities in the nation's urban schools.

### FALL MEETING - FOLLOW UP

#### FALL MEETING - CHARLOTTE, NC

We wish to thank our members, and our hosts from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, for helping make our Fall meeting in Charlotte an incredible success. The feedback we have received about the program has been overwhelmingly positive. We also wish to thank Alexa Posny, Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education, for her keynote presentation, her responses to questions from our members, and for seeking input from our urban district leaders regarding IDEA and ESEA (NCLB). We look forward to continuing the dialogue with her and the Department of Education.



Ron Felton, Claudia Rinaldi,  
Alexa Posny & David Riley

We are also grateful to [Dr. Leonard Burrello](#) for his pre-conference presentation on "Re-framing Public Policy for Students with Special Needs." We encourage you to [read the paper](#) he co-authored with Dr. Wayne Sailor that was the basis for that presentation, and participate in a discussion on how IDEA and ESEA might be better aligned.

On our website you will also find [copies of handouts](#) from the concurrent sessions.

SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR SPRING MEETING



## NEW MEMBER DISTRICTS

### FRAMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Collaborative is pleased to welcome our newest members, Framingham Public Schools and Malden Public Schools. Framingham Public Schools is located in Framingham, MA and has a total district enrollment of 8,372 students. Our member contact for this district is Ms. Betsey McKeon. Please visit <http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/> for more information.

Malden Public Schools is located in Malden, MA and has a total district enrollment of 6,659 students. Our member contact for this district is Maura Johnson. Please visit <http://www.malden.mec.edu/mps/> for more information.

We welcome our new members and we look forward to getting to know them at our Spring Member Meeting.

## POSITION AVAILABLE

Collaborative member district [Jefferson County Public Schools](#) in Louisville, Kentucky has advertised the position of **Executive Director - Exceptional Child Education**. The application deadline is November 30, 2010. Information can be found in the middle of the page [at this link](#).

## IDEA 35th ANNIVERSARY

### CEC WEBSITE

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the passage of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act (Public Law 94-142). The Council for Exceptional Children has created a [website](#) to pay tribute to the families, educators and policy makers who have worked hard these many years to assure the provision of a free appropriate public education to all students with disabilities.

The site features entries from parents and professionals regarding the law and what it has meant to them, success stories about students, and the historical perspectives from some leaders in the field of special education.

## REPORT ON BLACK MALE ACHIEVEMENT

### A CALL FOR CHANGE

#### **A CALL FOR CHANGE:** THE SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE OUTCOMES OF BLACK MALES IN URBAN SCHOOLS

This month, The [Council of Great City Schools](#) released a [stunning report](#) on the achievement of black male students in our nation's schools. The report is based on an analysis of test scores from the National Assessment of Educational Progress and provides information that should be of

concern to all educators. Among the report's findings: black men and boys are twice as likely as whites to be held back in elementary school, and three times as likely to be suspended from school. They are also half as likely as white male students to graduate college in four years. In large cities, black males without disabilities had reading and mathematics scores, on average, lower than those of white males in national public schools with disabilities.

In a plan of action at the conclusion of the report, the Council calls for a White House conference on the issues to help lay out a comprehensive plan of action that leaders at all levels can pursue.

### AUTISM INTERNET MODULES (AIM)

The [AIM project](#) was developed by the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) in partnership with the Autism Society of America (ASA), the Nebraska Autism Spectrum Disorders Network, the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders and Toronto's Geneva Centre for Autism. Its purpose is to provide parents and professionals with the up-to-date information they need to help individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) achieve their highest potential.

On their website you will find a series of online learning modules that includes information on assessment and identification of ASDs, recognizing and understanding behaviors and characteristics, transition to adulthood, employment, and numerous evidence-based practices and interventions. All module content has been written by ASD experts from across the U.S., including the Arizona Department of Education, the Indiana Resource Center for Autism, and the University of Miami Center for Autism and Related Disorders. In addition, OCALI staff members have designed each module to be consistent with research on how adults learn; information is presented at a universal reading level, and interactive activities both reinforce knowledge and teach learners how to make the latest research applicable to real life.

### INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS NETWORK



#### INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK 2010

2010 Celebration Kit and Promotional Products Ready to Order!

Inclusive Schools Week will be celebrated in schools and classrooms around the world on December 6-10, 2010. The Collaborative would like to encourage its members to show their support of the Week by ordering the 2010 Celebration Kit and promotional products for your District.

#### Highlights of the 2010 Celebration Kit

**"Moving From Awareness to Action":** A feature activity that includes resources aimed at helping schools to get organized, motivated and ready to

implement policies and practices that will support their move toward being more inclusive.

**Celebration Ideas:** Fun and educational ideas for promoting inclusive strategies in the classroom, school and community at tiered levels of implementation.

**Think Global:** Ideas for learning about and connecting with inclusive schools across the globe.

**Inclusive Education Resources:** Web-based resources aimed at promoting inclusive practices.

**Media Kit:** The tools you will need to promote Inclusive Schools Week in your community.

The Celebration Kit can be purchased by CD Rom, and a limited number of colorful Print Versions will also be available. [Please click here to view the online order form.](#)

#### Inclusive Schools Week 2010 Promotional Products:

With the logo, "Great Things Happen in Inclusive Schools," our products send a message that your school values inclusive education. Consider enhancing your ISW celebration by purchasing these colorful and fun items that teachers, families and kids love.

Travel Mugs and Crayon Sets with our new colorful logo  
Posters, stickers, pens, pencils, bookmarks and More!

Visit [www.inclusiveschools.org](http://www.inclusiveschools.org) to see samples of the products and to order your supplies now. Please note that your purchase supports both the Inclusive Schools Network and the Federation for Families of Children with Special Needs.



#### Collaborative Help Desk

Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative  
Education Development Center, Inc.  
55 Chapel Street  
Newton, MA 02458

Phone: 617-969-7100 x2447  
TTY: 617-964-5448  
Fax: 617-527-8906  
Email: [collaborative@edc.org](mailto:collaborative@edc.org)  
Website: [www.urbancollaborative.org](http://www.urbancollaborative.org)