

Welcome to CollabNews

January 2012
Volume 15, Issue 1

In This Issue

Happy New Year
Spring Member Meeting
Keynote Speaker Announced
Free Webinar
Membership Drive
Dropout Early Warning System
Newcomer Programs

Quick Links

[Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative Home](#)

[Fall 2011 Meeting Presentations](#)

[Spring 2011 Meeting Presentations](#)

[Spring 2011 Keynote Presentation](#)

[What Works Clearinghouse: Interventions for Students with Special Needs](#)

[Conference Materials and Presentations from 2011 Transition State Planning Institute](#)

[The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services \(OSERS\)](#)

Follow Us!

FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK



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.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Welcome to 2012!

We wish all our Members and Associates a happy and productive New Year.

SPRING MEMBER MEETING - TAMPA

English Language Learners with Disabilities:
Successes & Challenges

As previously announced, our 2012 Spring Meeting will be held in Tampa, Florida, at the Hyatt Regency Tampa, from April 25-28, 2012. The primary topical focus is "English Language Learners with Disabilities: Successes & Challenges."

Results of a Collaborative Member survey this past fall indicate a growing concern for how such programs and services are designed and implemented; how special education departments and bilingual education departments collaborate more effectively to coordinate services and improve outcomes for this growing population of students; how to satisfy increased and complicated staffing demands; and,



how to respond to the sometimes competing priorities of law and regulation and the increased scrutiny of monitoring agencies such as the Office for Civil Rights and Department of Justice.

Presentations and discussions during our Tampa meeting will attempt to shed some light on what best practices are being advised to school districts and "what's working and why" among the Collaborative's member school districts.

Our members will soon be receiving a Call for Presentations. Please consider sharing the successful practices of your district.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Janette Klingner



We are delighted to announce that Dr. Janette Klingner, Professor of Education at the University of Colorado at Boulder, will be our Spring Member Meeting's keynote speaker. Dr. Klingner was a bilingual special education teacher for ten years before earning a PhD in reading and learning disabilities from the University of Miami. To date she has authored or co-authored more than 100 articles, books, and book chapters, and presented at numerous national and international conferences, frequently as a keynote speaker. Her principal areas of research focus on reading comprehension strategy instruction for culturally and linguistically diverse students and Response to Intervention for English language learners.

REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN THIS WEEK!

WEBINAR

GraduateFIRST: The Dropout Prevention Destination

GraduateFIRST is based on a data driven intervention framework developed by the National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities. This webinar will highlight how school-based teams and team leaders diagnose causes of dropout and develop site-specific plans and strategies. Schools participating in GraduateFIRST are having success using tools and resources for monitoring and supporting students at-risk for dropping out.



Georgia's GraduateFIRST initiative is designed to help students with disabilities and other students who are struggling stay in school and graduate. Dr. Laura C. Brown, Coordinator of Georgia's GraduateFIRST initiative, will be presenting a free webinar on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, from 12 noon until 1:30 PM (EST). Participants will hear how schools have redesigned programs, adopted new practices, and implemented research-based strategies to become highly successful in preventing students with disabilities from dropping out. GraduateFIRST results, best practices, challenges and lessons learned will be shared.

Additional information regarding the webinar and on how to register can be found by clicking [here](#).

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Refer a Colleague

The Collaborative is about to launch its annual campaign to recruit new member school districts and we need your help.

As you know, our ability to maintain member services at current levels is contingent upon revenue generated from several sources: membership fees, professional development and technical assistance contracts, partnerships with federal projects, and corporate Partner and Sponsors. It is membership fees, however, that provide the foundational support for the work of our organization.



If there is another school district and colleague who you think would welcome an invitation to consider enrolling in the Collaborative, please send us that information on our [Member Referral Form](#) and we will be sure to get an invitation packet out to them. If the schools district(s) you refer enrolls as a Collaborative member we will waive the registration fee for an extra participant from your school district at our Spring Member Meeting in Tampa, Florida.

DROPOUT EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

New Middle School Tool

The National High School Center recently released a new Early Warning System Middle Grades (EWS MG) Tool and an enhanced version of the Early Warning System High School (EWS HS) Tool. The Early Warning System tools are free, Excel based tools that rely on readily available student-level data (attendance, course failures, grade point average, credit accumulation, and behavior) to identify middle grade and high school students who show early signs that they are at risk for dropping out of high school. Learn more about early warning systems and download the tools. To supplement the release of the new tools, the Center hosted a series of webinars focused on the implementation and use of the tools in middle and high school and experiences from states that have been using the early warning system in November and December. For more information and to access the webinar recordings and presentation materials visit <http://www.betterhighschools.org/>.

NEWCOMER PROGRAMS

Exemplary Programs for English Language Learners



A new report funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York focuses attention on newcomer adolescent English language learners at the middle and high school grades and offers promising practices for serving their educational and social needs. It includes a discussion of special education services.

The report is based on a 3-year national research study, [Exemplary Programs for Newcomer English Language Learners at the Secondary Level](#), conducted by the [Center for Applied Linguistics](#) on behalf of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. This research project consisted of a national survey of secondary school newcomer programs; compilation of program profiles into an online, searchable database; and case studies of ten of these programs, selected for their exemplary practices.

Collaborative Help Desk:

Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative
Education Development Center, Inc.
43 Foundry Avenue
Waltham, MA 02453

Phone: 617-969-7100 x2447
TTY: 617-964-5448
Fax: 617-332-4318
Email: collaborative@edc.org
Website: www.urbancollaborative.org



[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to sstroman@edc.org by collaborative@edc.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).
Education Development Center | Education Development Center, Inc. | 55 Chapel Street | Newton | MA | 02458