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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 HANDOUTS

Common, Meet Diverse: The Challenges of the Common Core State Standards for Students with Disabilities

Our Fall 2012 Member Meeting in Pittsburgh was a resounding success thanks to our members, our host district, and our keynote speakers. Copies of handouts and presentations are available to members and associates on our website.

SPRING MEMBER MEETING - SAN DIEGO

Covering the Spectrum: Current Trends in the Delivery of Services to Students with Autism
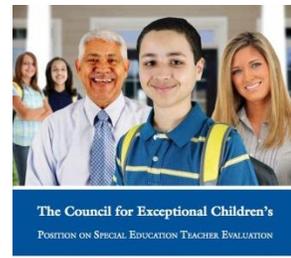
We look forward to seeing you at our Spring Member Meeting in San Diego from May 8 - 11, 2013. The topic will be *Covering the Spectrum: Current Trends in the Delivery of Services to Students with Autism*. Registration for the meeting will open in January.

SAVE THE DATES
2013 SPRING MEETING
Wednesday, May 8th -
Saturday, May 11th, 2013

Covering the Spectrum:
Current Trends in the Delivery of
Services to Students with Autism

www.urbancollaborative.org

Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina
San Diego, California

TEACHER EVALUATION

CEC's New Position on Special Education Teacher Evaluation

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) has released a ***Position on Special Education Teacher Evaluation***, providing guidance for states and districts to consider as they endeavor to design and implement new teacher evaluation systems.

CEC's position calls for evaluation systems to:

- Include fundamental system-wide components
- Identify the complex role of the Special Education teacher
- Measure the use of evidence-based practices
- Recognize the professionalism of the Special Education teacher
- Continually incorporate findings from research

SECTION 504

Disability Rights: Enforcement Highlights

The US Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) released Disability Rights: Enforcement Highlights, published to commemorate the 39th anniversary of Section 504, and reviewing OCR's work over the last three years to enforce this important civil rights statue.

The document describes how OCR has worked to ensure the protections of Section 504, as well as

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, in schools and colleges. In the last three fiscal years, OCR has received over 11,700 disability-related complaints - more than ever before in a three-year period. This document reports on data culled from the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) released by OCR last March. The CRDC surveyed 72,000 schools teaching 85 percent of America's students, and its data showed that inequities for students with disabilities remain a reality in many of America's schools. For example, nearly a third of school districts in the sample reported at least one incident of bullying or harassment on the basis of disability. Furthermore, students with disabilities represent 12 percent of the sample, but nearly 70 percent of the students who are physically restrained by adults in their schools.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

English Language Learners and the Common Core State Standards

The Regional Education Laboratory - Northeast Islands (REL-NEI) is hosting a webinar which will discuss the implications of the instructional shifts in the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards, especially as they relate to the language demands of English language learners. Information about the presenter and the focus of the webinar are available at the REL-NEI website. The agenda can be viewed here.

INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK

December 3-7, 2012

Inclusive Schools Week is an annual event held during the first week in December. Since its inception in 2001, Inclusive Schools Week has celebrated the progress that schools have made in providing a supportive and quality education to an increasingly diverse student population, including students who are marginalized due to disability, gender, socio-economic status, cultural heritage, language preference and other factors. The week also provides an important opportunity for educators, students, and parents to discuss what else needs to be done in order to ensure that their schools continue to improve their ability to successfully educate all children.

We encourage you to take the lead in coordinating Inclusive Schools Week in your school, school district, or community. Find out more here.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Parent Dispute Resolution Resource Showcase

The Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE) works to increase the nation's capacity to effectively resolve special education disputes, reducing the use of expensive adversarial processes. The Parent Dispute Resolution Resource Showcase is an easily searchable collection of resources related to special education dispute resolution that are of value to parents and the centers who serve them. The resources found here are also beneficial to educators and professionals who work with family members.

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