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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.

THURSDAY RECEPTION

Reception at the Grand Concourse



This year, the Collaborative's Fall Meeting Reception will be held on Thursday, October 25th, at the historic Grand Concourse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Enjoy gourmet hors d'oeuvres with friends and colleagues and a piano performance by Mr. John Radko, while taking in the beautiful decor of one of Pittsburgh's most stunning venues. We are looking forward to this exciting event and we hope to see all of you there!

SPRING MEETING SATURDAY PLENARY SESSION

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

At the Collaborative's Fall Member Meeting in Pittsburgh, we will devote the Saturday morning session to a discussion concerning the topic for our Spring Member Meeting in San Diego, California - current trends in the delivery of services to students with autism.

Using the World Café protocol, which is structured so that participants divide into small groups and engage in rounds of conversation, participants will explore a variety of topics related to serving children on the spectrum including scaling up to serve increasing numbers of students with ASD while managing rising costs, collaboration and efficiency of service delivery, and parent engagement.

Participants will engage in framing the issues that special education and general education leaders in urban districts will be facing as they strive to deliver services that best serve the unique need of students on the spectrum. The reflections shared by our members during these conversations will guide the Collaborative's planning for what guarantees to be a provocative meeting next May in San Diego.

COMMON CORE GUIDE FOR PARENTS

The Parents' Guide to Student Success

In response to the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics, the [National PTA](#) has developed and made available online The [Parents' Guide to Student Success](#) (available in English and Spanish). National PTA partnered with experts on the Common Core State Standards to create grade by grade guides that reflect the Common Core State Standards. Individual guides were created for grades K-8 and two were created for grades 9-12 (one for English language arts/literacy and one for mathematics). Eleven (11) guides were created in all.

The Guide includes:

- Key items that children should be learning in English language arts and mathematics in each grade once the Standards are fully implemented.
- Activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning.
- Methods (questions and sample topics) for helping parents build stronger relationships with their child's teacher.
- Tips for planning for college and career (high school only).

RECENTLY RELEASED IRIS MODULE

Classroom Management (Part 1): Learning the Components of a Comprehensive Behavior Management Plan

The [IRIS Center](#) for Training Enhancements has released a revised training module on behavior management. This is the first of two updates of their behavior modules. [Learning the Components of a Comprehensive Behavior Management Plan](#) highlights the importance of establishing a comprehensive classroom behavior management system composed of a statement of purpose, rules, procedures, consequences, and an action plan. It also provides information about how culture, classroom factors, and teacher actions can influence student behavior. Funded by the US Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, the IRIS Center develops modules and other instructional resources to be used by faculty and professional development providers for the preparation of current and future school personnel.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

The Family Center on Technology and Disability

The [Family Center on Technology and Disability \(FCTD\)](#) is a resource designed to support organizations and programs that work with the families of children and youth with disabilities. They offer a range of information and services on the subject of assistive and instructional technologies. The FCTD web site provides thousands of assistive and instructional technology

resources of interest to families of children with disabilities. The website also offers access to fact sheets, Power Point presentations, monthly newsletters, online discussion and summer institute transcripts, a database of more than 3,500 organizations, a resource review database with hundreds of reviews of AT resources, and more. Through the site, users can also access FCTD Family Information Guides as well as resources in Spanish.

WEBINAR

Staying the Course Sustainability of Dropout Prevention Efforts in a Large Urban School District: Teaming, Action Planning, Implementation, Evaluation, and Celebration!



Miami-Dade County Public Schools is the fourth largest school district in the nation and for the past six years, in collaboration with the National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities (NDPC-SD), the District has worked intensively to decrease the dropout rate for students with disabilities.

Ms. Robin J. Morrison, Instructional Supervisor of Clinical Behavioral Services at Miami-Dade County Public Schools, will be presenting a free webinar on Thursday, November 15, 2012, from 12:00 noon until 1:30 p.m. (EST). This webinar will discuss the training and technical assistance provided to schools utilizing the NDPC-SD's Dropout Prevention Intervention Framework, as well as the District's key strategies and protocols for developing and implementing action plans.

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

MTSS

Multi-Tier Systems of Support in Middle Schools

The [RTI Action Network](#) is hosting an online talk with middle school principal Jonathan Ross on Wednesday, October 24, at 2 p.m. EST. Mr. Ross will explore the application of multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) in middle school settings and answers your questions about key issues. He will offer specific tips for how school teams can work together to introduce and sustain MTSS. Mr. Ross will also offer examples to illustrate the application of RTI practices that increase student achievement for academics and behavior at the middle school level.



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