

# Welcome to CollabNews

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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 2013 MEMBER MEETING - CHICAGO

**Success At An Early Age: Improving Outcomes for  
Young Children with Disabilities**  
November 6-9, 2013

As previously announced, our Fall 2013 Member Meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois, at the Westin Chicago River North from November 6th-9th. The primary topical focus is "Success at an Early Age: Improving Outcomes for Young Children with Disabilities."

Registration for the meeting will open in mid-July, and we will send out an email to our Members and Associate Members with registration information at that time. Also, please be on the lookout for the Call for Presentations which will be sent out electronically and by mail as well.

Please consider sharing the successful practices of your district with us at the meeting!



## SPRING MEMBER MEETING

### Results from Size-Alike Group Activity

At the Spring Member meeting in San Diego, the focus of the Thursday morning Size-Alike Session was a report by the Wallace Foundation entitled, [The School Principal as Leader: Guiding Schools to Better Teaching and Learning](#). This report examines the critical leadership role played by principals in improving achievement and highlights five key responsibilities of principals if they are to become "leaders of learning."

Each table of participants, separated into size-alike groups of large, medium, and small school districts, were asked to look at one of the five key responsibilities discussed in the report. The participants were asked to discuss how, in each of their districts, special education leaders and other central office administrators support principals in meeting these responsibilities and what more could be done to assist principals in these five areas. The results of these conversations were compiled and are now posted on the Collaborative's website. You are invited to review this and other materials from the Spring Member Meeting by clicking [here](#).

## NEW MEMBER DISTRICTS

### Dysart Unified School District #89 and Highline School District 401



The Collaborative is pleased to announce our newest members, Dysart Unified School District #89 and Highline School District 401.

Dysart Unified School District #89 is located in Surprise, AZ, and has a total district enrollment of 25,593 students. Our member contact for this district is Ms. Joy McCain, Director of Exceptional Student Services. For more information about this district, please visit their [website here](#).

Highline School District 401 is located in Burien, WA, and has a total district enrollment of 18,000 students. Our member contact for this district is Dr. Carla Jackson, Deputy Superintendent. For more information about this district, please visit their [website here](#).

We welcome our new members and look forward to getting to know them at our Fall Member Meeting in Chicago!

## POSITION AVAILABLE

### Executive Officer, Instructional Support Nashville, TN



Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools in Nashville has an opening for the position of Executive Officer, Instructional Support. Information about the position can be found [here](#).

## CHARTER SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

### Digging into Charter Schools' Special Education Enrollment Differences

The National Charter School Resource Center hosted an interactive webinar on May 22, 2013, entitled [Digging into Charter Schools' Special Education Enrollment Differences](#). The webinar, which is now available to view online, featured distinguished presenters from the Center on Reinventing Public Education (CRPE). During this webinar, the presenters shared key points from CRPE's November 2012 Report, *New York State Special Education Enrollment Analysis*, which describes the distribution of students with disabilities in New York State charter and district-run schools. The webinar includes a discussion on ways in which state education agencies and authorizers can address and respond to potential enrollment issues. In addition, they talked about the interconnectedness of all stakeholders' activities and discussed solutions that identify roles of responsibility across the charter sector.

## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

### National Institute for Early Education Research

As we approach the Collaborative's Fall Member Meeting, we will be sharing resources that focus on early education and intervention. This month we are highlighting [The National Institute for Early Education Research \(NIEER\)](#), an organization that conducts and communicates research to support high-quality, effective early childhood education for all young children. The Institute offers independent, research-based advice and technical assistance to policymakers, journalists, researchers, and educators.

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