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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.

SPRING 2014 MEMBER MEETING

Bridges to Learning: Providing High-Quality Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Supports to Students in Urban Schools



Our Spring 2014 Member Meeting will be held at the Park Plaza in our hometown of Boston, Massachusetts, April 30 - May 3, 2014.

Be sure to save the dates and look out for registration information coming soon!

BRIDGE WEBINAR

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Toward a Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Model for English Learners



Multi-Tiered Systems of Support that deliver high-quality, research-based instruction and interventions can support the growing English language learner population in both general and special education. On Thursday,

December 12, 2013, Claudia Rinaldi, Assistant Director of the Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative at Education Development Center, Inc., and Julie Esparza-Brown, Assistant Professor and Project Director for Portland State University's Bilingual/Special Education Program, will present research on a culturally and linguistically appropriate model for MTSS and provide examples of instructional planning, assessment, and intervention across the tiers. In this [Bridge Webinar](#), Rinaldi and Esparza-Brown will present concrete examples of preventive assessment measures, collaboration structures, data-informed problem solving, and instruction and intervention planning and delivery to support ELLs. The presenters will highlight the importance of collaboration and joint responsibility among ELL, special education, and general education educators in meeting the needs of all English language learners, including those with disabilities.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

The Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

As we approach the Collaborative's Spring Member Meeting, we will be sharing resources that focus on providing social, emotional, and behavioral supports to students. The [OSEP Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports \(PBIS\)](#) is a collaboration between the U.S. Department of Education and 11 technical assistance units across the United States. The Center is directed by Drs. George Sugai (University of Connecticut), Rob Horner (University of Oregon), and Tim Lewis (University of Missouri). The Center builds from a 10-year history of defining, implementing, and evaluating PBIS across more than 9,000 schools in 40 states. The mission of the Center is to give schools capacity-building information and technical assistance for identifying, adapting, and sustaining effective school-wide disciplinary practices.

IEP FACILITATION TRAINING

IEP Facilitation Training Video Resources

The [Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education \(CADRE\)](#), in partnership with the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education and the Connecticut State Education Resource Center, supported a two-day IEP Facilitation Training in March 2013

with Joyce and Doug Little, founders and lead trainers of Key2Ed. Portions of the training were videotaped and are available through the CADRE website. [The first six video clips are now available](#). Each week, CADRE will upload additional video clips until all 16 clips are available in mid-December.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI)

Establishing a Multi-Tier System of Supports in Secondary Schools



The [RTI Action Network](#) has scheduled an online [RTI Talk session](#) for December 1, 2013, with Dr. Rebecca Sarlo. Dr. Sarlo is the Coordinator of Secondary RTI Implementation for the Florida

Problem Solving and Response to Intervention Project (PS/RTI). Prior to this position, Dr. Sarlo worked as an RTI Specialist for the Florida Department of Education as part of a regional Differentiated Accountability (DA) support team. Dr. Sarlo has extensive experience facilitating both elementary and secondary school-based leadership teams as they scale up their RTI implementation efforts.

Join Dr. Sarlo as she answers your questions about establishing a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) at the secondary level and provides specific tips for how school teams can work together to introduce and sustain MTSS. Dr. Sarlo will also offer examples to illustrate how an MTSS framework can improve the academic skills and post-graduation outcomes of students.

NEW MEMBER DISTRICT



The Collaborative is pleased to announce our newest member district, Evergreen Public Schools, who is rejoining the Collaborative, having previously been a member in 2009. Welcome back!

Evergreen Public Schools

Evergreen Public Schools (EPS) is located in Vancouver, WA, and has a total district enrollment of 27,000 students. The member contacts for this district are Jey Buno, Director of Special Education, and Lisa Pitsch, Assistant Director of Special Education. For more information about EPS, please visit their website [here](#).

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