



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 MEMBER MEETING- REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Designing Learning Environments for All Students: Increasing Access through Technology November 5-8, 2014

We are excited to announce that registration is now open for our Fall 2014 Member Meeting in Houston, Texas! The meeting will be held at the Royal Sonesta Houston from November 5th-8th and the primary topical focus is "Designing Learning Environments for All Students: Increasing Access through Technology." This meeting will provide opportunities for Collaborative Members and Associates to learn how Member Districts are integrating technology and pedagogy to enhance outcomes for students with and without disabilities.

As with all of our meetings, our Fall Meeting will provide many opportunities for participants to network with one another and share emerging best practices. Given the timeliness and importance of the topic, I encourage you to invite your general education, curriculum, instructional technology, and assistive technology colleagues to join you.

Please register at www.urbancollaborative.org. If you have any questions about registration, or need your login information, please contact Stephanie Stroman at ssstroman@edc.org.

We look forward to seeing you in Houston!

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Now Accepting Proposals!

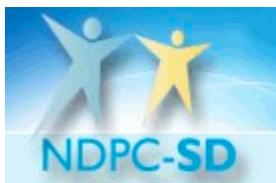


As district-to-district sharing is a central focus of our Collaborative Meetings, we invite our Member Districts to submit proposals to present a Concurrent Session on Friday, November 7th. With this Call for Presentations, we are looking for presentations from Member School Districts that use technology and pedagogy to address the distinct learning needs, interests, aspirations, and/or cultural backgrounds of individual students.

A copy of our invitation and proposal form has recently been emailed and mailed to our Members and Associate Members. [An electronic form can also be accessed on our website here.](#) Please consider submitting a presentation proposal no later than Friday, September 19th, to the Collaborative's Associate Director, Ron Felton, at rfelton@edc.org.

DROPOUT PREVENTION

Research Synthesis on Prevention Strategies



Recently, [The National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities](#) released a report, *A Literature Map Of Dropout Prevention Interventions For Students With Disabilities*, that provides an up-to-date review of dropout interventions for students with disabilities. The authors conducted an extensive literature search to find articles that described school completion interventions which yielded positive outcomes for students with disabilities. The report concludes that the most commonly implemented interventions include multiple components involving mentoring, family outreach, academic support, attendance monitoring, additional support services, and students' participation in school-related activities.

ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS

Intervention Tools Charts

[The National Center on Intensive Intervention](#) has established a standard process to evaluate the scientific rigor of commercially available tools and interventions. These tools and interventions can be used as part of a data-based individualization program for educating students with disabilities who require intensive intervention due to persistent learning and behavior problems. The Center is conducting annual reviews of tools and interventions in the following four domains: Academic Progress Monitoring, Academic Intervention, Behavioral Progress Monitoring, and Behavioral Intervention. Most recently, the Center released the first ever [Behavioral Intervention Tools Chart](#). All four areas of the Tools Chart are available here on the [Center's website](#).

PERSONALIZED LEARNING

Policy Playbook for Personalized Learning

In preparation for the Collaborative's Fall Member Meeting, we will be sharing resources that focus on designing personalized learning environments, particularly those that increase access to the curriculum through technology.

Last month, [Bellwether Education Partners](#) issued the *Policy Playbook for Personalized Learning*, a document designed to help state and local policymakers identify the policy changes needed to expand access to quality personalized learning in their states and communities, and to give them the tools to make those changes. Each of the 15 policy ideas, or "plays" in this playbook, provide background context on the challenges it is designed to address and the benefits it will produce; examples of places where similar policies have been implemented; and a discussion of the policy or implementation considerations that must be taken into account.

NEW MEMBER DISTRICT

Matteson School District



Please join us in welcoming the Matteson School District as our newest member to the Urban Collaborative!

Matteson School District is located in Richton Park, IL and serves approximately 4,000 students. Ms. Yvonne Williams, Chief Officer of Special Education, is the member. Joining her is Associate Member Ms. Andrea Kidd, Director of Special Education. To learn more about the Matteson School District, please [visit their website here](#).

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