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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.

POSTSCRIPT SPRING 2015 MEMBER MEETING BALTIMORE

Enhancing College and Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities in Urban Schools

We had a significant turnout for the 21st annual Spring Member Meeting in Baltimore, MD. In attendance were 207 members, associate members, and colleagues from 74 school districts across the nation.

The Wednesday consultancy sessions focusing on dilemmas presented by our two host districts - Baltimore City and Baltimore County Public Schools - were stimulating and thought provoking. Thursday was highlighted by an informative size-alike session with representatives of the newly formed [National Technical Assistance Center on Transition](#), an engaging keynote address by [Dr. Mary Morningstar](#), and an incredible reception at Baltimore's Rusty Scupper restaurant.

We are grateful to the eleven member districts who, during the Friday concurrent sessions, shared what their respective districts are doing to prepare their students for college and/or careers.

Presentations from the meeting are available online on the [Collaborative's website](#). We are looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting in Minneapolis in September.

RESEARCH REPORT

School Practices and Accountability for Students With Disabilities



The US Department of Education recently released a [report](#) of a study that was conducted to provide policy-relevant information about the education of students with disabilities. This report examines their inclusion in school accountability systems, and the use of school practices that may relate to their educational outcomes, in both schools that are accountable and schools that are not accountable for the performance of the SWD subgroup.

The report presents descriptive findings focusing on school practices related to staffing, student support, instructional time, educational placements, teacher collaboration, and professional development in schools explicitly held accountable for the performance of the SWD subgroup and schools that are not accountable for the performance of the SWD subgroup. The focus of the report are these research questions:

- How do school characteristics and staffing differ between SWD-accountable and non-SWD-accountable schools?
- How do school programs and student support strategies differ between SWD-accountable and non-SWD-accountable schools?
- How do instructional time and settings differ between SWD-accountable and non-SWD-accountable schools?
- How do teacher collaboration and professional development differ between SWD-accountable and non-SWD-accountable schools?

WEBINAR

Outreach to Urban Native American Parents Who Have Children and Youth with Disabilities Monday, May 11, 2015 2:00 pm (EST)

The [Native American Parent Technical Assistance Center \(NAPTAC\)](#) is scheduling a webinar focusing on strategies and techniques for providing effective and successful outreach to Native American families and Native American community members. Presenters will share the successful outreach story of the Denver Indian Family Resource Center in Denver Colorado. There will be a discussion of "Who are urban Native Americans?" and the provision of step-by-step information on how to provide outreach to this often overlooked population.

NAPTAC will post information about the webinar on the [Education for Parents of Indian Children with Special Needs \(EPICS\)](#) website or contact Judy Wiley, Program Manager Lead TA Specialist NAPTAC at judy@epicsnm.org.

WEBSITES OF THE MONTH

National Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention

The [National Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention](#) (CBCAP) provides training and technical assistance to federally funded CBCAP Programs. The site serves as a resource to those programs and to the rest of the Child Abuse Prevention community.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. To recognize this important month, CBCAP introduced "[Connections](#)," a special National Child Abuse Prevention Month series of short videos that will be released on each of the five Wednesdays in April, 2015.

National Child Abuse Prevention Website

The U. S. Department of Health & Human Services also has a website dedicated to [National Child Abuse Prevention Month](#). The site contains a number of resources for professionals on preventing child abuse including the *2015 Prevention Resource Guide: Making Meaningful Connections*.

IDEA DISCIPLINE DATA

EDFacts IDEA Discipline Data Infographic



The [IDEA \(IDC\) Data Center](#) has created [an infographic](#) that provides basic information about the EDFacts files used to submit IDEA discipline data to the U. S. Department of Education. The interactive infographic consolidates information available in the six separate IDEA discipline EDFacts file specification documents.

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