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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 2015 MEMBER MEETING - MINNEAPOLIS

Reducing Disproportionality & Expanding Inclusive Practices Through Systems Redesign
Nov 4-7, 2015

As previously announced, our Fall 2015 Member Meeting will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at The Marriott City Center from November 4-7. The primary topical focus is "Reducing Disproportionality & Expanding Inclusive Practices Through Systems Redesign."

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 this time.

Also, please be on the lookout for our Call for Presentations! Please consider sharing your success stories and best practices around reducing disproportionality and expanding inclusive practices in your district.
REPORT ON DISPROPORTIONALITY

STUDY: Minorities Are Disproportionately Underrepresented in Special Education

In what is likely to be a controversial report, researchers from Pennsylvania State University just published a study that investigated whether minority children attending U.S. elementary and middle schools are disproportionately represented in special education. The researchers found that, contrary to widespread concerns that minorities are disproportionately identified to receive special education services, Black and Hispanic students are less likely than their white and non-Hispanic peers to be labeled as having a disability, when factors such as household income, low birth weight and parents' marital status are taken into account.

A video by the American Educational Research Association featuring one of the researchers involved in the study is available here.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools (Metro Center)

In preparation for the Collaborative's Fall Member Meeting, we will be sharing resources that are related to our topic: "Reducing Disproportionality & Expanding Inclusive Practices Through Systems Redesign."

This month we are featuring The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools. The Metro Center is focused on driving equity and access in urban, suburban, and rural school settings - especially when confronting issues of race, gender, and
national origin.

The Metro Center includes the Technical Assistance Center on Disproportionality, and is contracted through the New York State Education Department's Office of Special Education. This center was created to develop, implement, and assess a process of providing comprehensive technical assistance and professional development trainings to New York State School Districts which are addressing issues of disproportionality. Their work includes building the capacity of regions and districts in understanding the root cause and systemically addressing the disproportionate assignment of various subgroups in special education.

YOUTUBE VIDEO RESOURCES

What Works Clearinghouse

The Institute of Education Sciences and the What Works Clearinghouse has a topical listing of videos related to special education on their YouTube site. Currently there are 17 videos available on this list - many of which are related to Response to Intervention. Other topics include Teacher Effectiveness, Data Use, Literacy and School Climate. A playlist showing all topics is available here.

TECHNICAL REPORT

Publicly Reported Assessment Results for Students with Disabilities and ELLs with Disabilities

The National Center on Educational Outcomes at the University of Minnesota recently released their sixteenth report. This report analyzed how states publicly report online assessment data for students with disabilities in K-12 schools across the United States. For the report, researchers explored websites for the 50 states, the District of Columbia and 10 other areas including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. While the availability and type of data disclosed by each state varied, the report found that there continues to be persistent, deep divisions between the performance of those with and without disabilities across the country on both reading and math exams.

THANK YOU CORPORATE PARTNERS AND SPONSORS!

The Collaborative extends a special thank you to our corporate partners and sponsors for their generous support at our Spring 2015 Member Meeting.

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