

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.

SPRING 2015 MEMBER MEETING CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Enhancing College and Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities in Urban Schools April 22-25, 2015

We are excited to announce the Concurrent Sessions that will be presented at our Spring Member Meeting!

- **Baltimore City Public Schools**-*From Classroom to Work...An Option for All*
- **Baltimore County Public Schools**-*Celebrating Infinite Possibilities: Post-Secondary Education for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities*
- **Bellevue School District**-*School-to-Work: Success for ALL*
- **Clark County School District**-*Pathways to Success: Ready by Exit*
- **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**- *Exceptional Children Graduation Success Initiative*
- **Denver Public Schools**-*Getting Real: A Continuum for College and Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities*
- **Houston Independent School District**-*Advancing College Readiness, Access and Completion for All*
- **Kalamazoo Public Schools**-*Becoming an Urban Literacy Community to Prepare Students for College*
- **Madison Metropolitan School District**-*Madison School District: Implementation of Project SEARCH*
- **Montgomery County Public Schools**-*Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES)*
- **Shelby County Schools**-*Strategies to Improve Graduation Rates for Students with Disabilities*

We look forward to seeing you on Friday, April 24, for these informative and engaging presentations!

SPRING 2015 MEETING RECEPTION

Rusty Scupper
Thursday, April 23
5:30-7:00 pm

Join us after the keynote address for our Opening Reception at the Rusty Scupper, a favorite of Baltimore natives. Located above the Inner Harbor Marina in a dramatic, free-standing building, the Rusty Scupper rises three levels above the water and can boast a beautiful view from every table. The Rusty Scupper affords guests dramatic, sweeping views of Harborplace, the Inner Harbor, and Fells Point. Guests can relax and enjoy live piano entertainment and the region's highest quality fresh seafood. Mingle, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, catch up with Collaborative colleagues, and introduce yourself to new members. We look forward to seeing you there!



COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Students with Disabilities and "College/Career Readiness 101" Documents

In preparation for the Collaborative's Spring Member Meeting in Baltimore, we will be sharing resources that focus on the upcoming meeting's topic, "Enhancing College and Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities in Urban Schools."

The OSEP-funded National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC) developed documents around four topics relevant to secondary education and students with disabilities. These resources were developed as entry-level guidance ("101"). These are:

- College and Career Ready Standards and Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities
- High School Redesign and Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities
- Tiered Interventions and Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities
- Universal Design for Learning and Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities

The documents are available [here](#).

ACCESSIBLE TELEVISION

Accessible Television Portal Project

The U.S. Department of Education [recently announced](#) the availability of free, video-on-demand children's television programming for thousands of students who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, or hard of hearing.

Dozens of children's and family TV episodes may now be viewed online featuring closed captioning and descriptions through the Education Department's [Accessible Television Portal](#) project. Among the shows are: "Ocean Mysteries," "Magic School Bus," "Bill Nye the Science Guy," "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood," "Expedition Wild," and "Peg + Cat."

The portal is part of the Department-funded [Described and Captioned Media Program \(DCMP\)](#).

This portal includes video-on-demand content provided at no cost by the major television networks, as well as producers and distributors such as PBS Kids, Sesame Workshop, Cartoon Network, Sprout (NBC), the Fred Rogers Company, Scholastic Media, Litton Entertainment, Out of the Blue, and Fremantle Television.

DISCIPLINE AND RACE

Beyond the Color of Discipline: Radical Possibilities for Culturally Responsive School Discipline

The [Equity Alliance](#) at Arizona State University has [published an article](#) that addresses the issue of racial disproportionality in school discipline - a persistent and seemingly intractable problem that requires complex systemic solutions. The author, Aydin Bal, is an Assistant Professor of Special Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Professor Bal studies racial disproportionality and capacity building in local education agencies for systemic transformation.



WELCOME CLEAR CREEK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT & WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS!



Please join us in welcoming Clear Creek Independent School District and Wake County Public Schools as the Urban Collaborative's newest members!

Clear Creek Independent School District is located in League City, TX, and serves approximately 30,000 students. Our member is Dr. Cyndi Short, Executive Director of Special Services, and our associate member is Ms. Cynthia Peltier, Director of Special Education Programs. To learn more about their district, please visit their [website here](#).

Wake County Public Schools is a district of approximately 155,000 students in Cary, NC. Our member is Ms. Karen Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education Services, and joining her are associate members Ms. Pam Doak, Senior Director of School Support, Instruction and Programming, and Ms. Janet Godbold, Director of Family and Community Connections. To learn more about their district, please visit their [website here](#).

We look forward to welcoming Clear Creek and Wake County at our Spring Member Meeting in April!

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