

# Welcome to CollabNews

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## In This Issue

[Save the Date](#)

[Website of the Month](#)

[Research Report on RtI](#)

[Employment Opportunity](#)

[Teacher Shortages](#)

[New Member](#)

## Quick Links

[Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative](#)

[Spring 2015 Member Meeting Presentations](#)

[Fall 2014 Member Meeting Presentations and Keynote Video](#)

[Spring 2014 Member Meeting Presentations and Keynote Video](#)

[Mapping the Evolution of Special Education](#)

[American Speech-Language-Hearing Association](#)

[Education Next](#)

[Office of Special Education Programs \(OSEP\)](#)

[Education Development Center, Inc.](#)

## 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 2016 MEMBER MEETING LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

### Building Capacity to Successfully Educate Students within Urban School Districts



Our Spring 2016 Member Meeting will be held at The Omni Los Angeles Hotel in Los Angeles, CA, May 4-7, 2016.

**Keep an eye out for an invitation to register and the Call for Presentations in February. Please consider sharing your best practices with all of our member districts!**

## NEW U.S. DOE WEBSITE

**IDEAs that Work: Preparing Children and Youth with Disabilities for Success**

As part of its celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), OSERS launched a new website entitled: [IDEAs that Work: Preparing Children and Youth with Disabilities for Success](#). The IDEAs That Work website is designed to connect teachers and families with resources to assist them in supporting the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students as they become college and career ready.

## STUDY RELEASED

### Evaluation of Response to Intervention (RtI) Practices for Elementary School Reading

The U.S. Department of Education - Institute of Educational Sciences recently released an [evaluation report](#) on RtI practices for elementary school reading.

This evaluation addressed the following questions:

- How do Response to Intervention practices for early grade reading vary across schools?
- How do schools experienced with RtI vary the intensity of reading instruction for children at different reading levels?
- What are the effects on Grade 1-3 reading achievement of providing reading interventions to children who fell just below school-determined standards on screening tests?

The results of the study [raised concerns about the effectiveness of RtI](#) as a framework to teach children at the elementary level and prompted a [critical response from others](#) in the research community who are concerned that the the reaction to the evaluation does not take into account the potential misapplication of RtI in the districts and schools evaluated.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Indianapolis Public Schools

#### Learning Community Special Education Director

Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) has a new and exciting director opportunity open in the Special Education Department - Learning Community Special Education Director. This position performs a variety of supervisory, managerial, and administrative tasks to ensure high-quality implementation of special education services and compliance across the district.

#### Special Education Innovation Coordinator

The Special Education Innovation Coordinator is a 12-month administrator who organizes and manages special education supports, services, and resources for the IPS Innovation and Autonomy Schools. Qualifications: Indiana administrator's license required; Special Education certification.

### **Emotional & Behavioral Services Coordinator**

The Emotional and Behavioral Services Coordinator is a 12-month administrator who organizes and manages special education behavioral supports, services, and resources across the district. Oversees and coordinates the day-to-day execution of supports for students with special needs. Qualifications: Current Building Level Administrator or Special Education Director certification; Special Education certification.

### **Life Skills & Autism Coordinator**

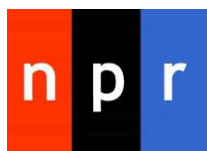
The Life Skills and Autism Coordinator organizes and manages special education supports, services, and resources for various programs across IPS. Oversees and coordinates the day-to-day operations of various programs and classes across the district to ensure student growth and achievement. This is a 12-month position. Qualifications: Building Level Administrator or Special Education Director licensure; Special Education certification.

### **Programs for Young Children Coordinator**

The Programs for Young Children Coordinator organizes and manages special education preschool supports, services, and resources across the district. Oversees and coordinates the day-to-day execution of supports for preschool students with special needs. Qualifications: Special Education certification.

For more information or to apply to one of these positions, [click here](#).  
Contact Andrea Snouffer at [SnoufferAR@myips.org](mailto:SnoufferAR@myips.org) with any questions.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER SHORTAGE**



### **Solving The Special Ed Teacher Shortage: Quality, Not Quantity**

NPR recently broadcast a segment on how one district in Idaho is working with a private learning center to help bring quality teachers into the the school district. You can read about and listen to the segment [here](#).

## **NEW MEMBERS**

### **Cobb County School District and North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale District 622**



**Cobb County School District** is located in Marietta, GA, and serves approximately 110,000 students. Dr. Tracie Doe, Assistant Superintendent, is the Member. Joining her are Associate Members Ms. Susan Christensen, Ms. Shannon Svetlay, and Dr. Laurel Kinard. To learn more about the Cobb County School District please [visit their website here](#).

**North St. Paul-Oakdale-Maplewood District 622** is located in North St. Paul, MN, and serves approximately 11,407 students. Mr. Cory McIntyre, Student Services Director, is the Member. To learn more about the North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale District 622, please [visit their website here](#).

We look forward to meeting them at our Spring Member Meeting in Los Angeles!

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