

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.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mark Cabaj

We are pleased to announce that the Keynote speaker for our meeting in Los Angeles will be Mark Cabaj. Mark's focus is to use a Collective Impact approach to develop practical ways to understand, plan, and evaluate efforts to address complex issues. This includes challenges such as neighborhood renewal, poverty and homelessness, community safety, educational achievement, and health.

He is particularly involved in developing and promoting developmental evaluation, a new approach to assessment which emphasizes real time feedback and learning in emerging, messy and sometimes fast-moving environments. Mark is the President of the consulting company From Here to There and an Associate of Tamarack, a charity that develops and supports learning communities that help people to collaborate, co-generate knowledge and achieve collective impact on complex community issues. Mark has worked with school leaders in Canada and we look forward to working with him at our meeting.



A bit of background on Mark: While studying the Solidarity movement in Krakow, Poland, in mid-1989, Mark experienced a variety of tumultuous events that signaled the end of communism in Eastern Europe - including walking on the Berlin Wall with a million people the week it came down in November 1989. He then rolled up sleeves and worked as an Investment Advisor in Poland's Foreign Investment Agency, the Foreign Assistance Coordinator for Grants in the new Ministry of Privatization, and the Mission Coordinator for the creation of the United Nations Development Program's first regional economic development initiative in Eastern Europe.

Back in Canada, Mark was the Coordinator of the Waterloo Region's Opportunities 2000 project (1997-2000), an initiative that won provincial, national, and international awards for its multi-sector approach to poverty reduction. He served briefly as the Executive Director of the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet) (2001) and was Vice President of the Tamarack Institute. While at Tamarack, Mark was the Executive Director of Vibrant Communities (2002 - 2011), a network of 15 urban poverty-reduction initiatives that pioneered the Collective Impact approach in Canada.

For more on Collective Impact, [click here](#).

SPRING 2016 MEMBER MEETING CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS DEADLINE!



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. To see more information about this invitation and to complete a submission form, [please click here](#).

The deadline to submit a proposal is **Monday, April 4**. Please contact Ronald Felton, Associate Director, at rfelton@edc.org with any questions. We look forward to receiving your proposal!

AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND *UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING:
LEADING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS* WITH TOM HEHIR AND
DAVID ROSE

**Special Opportunity with Harvard Graduate School of Education:
Universal Design for Learning**

Professional Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) is pleased to announce a special opportunity for member districts of The Collaborative to join us July 11-15 for [Universal Design for Learning: Leading Inclusive Education for All Students](#). This program, which is co-chaired by Tom Hehir and David Rose, is designed for participation by teams of educators with prior experience and working familiarity of UDL, and who want to lead successful school- or district/system-wide implementation of UDL to engage all students in truly inclusive education. Educators from member districts of The Collaborative are invited to apply for priority consideration by June 1, and will be offered a special program fee of \$2950. Please [click here](#) for additional information and the link to the online application. Questions? Contact us at ppe@gse.harvard.edu or call 1.800.545.1849.

COALITION OF SCHOOLS EDUCATING BOYS OF COLOR

**Learn Why COSEBOC's Professional Development is Critical For Educators of Boys of Color
at the 10th Annual Gathering**



The [Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color \(COSEBOC\)](#) has extended an invitation to educators from our member districts to attend their [annual gathering in New York City](#).

COSEBOC is partnering with the NYC Department of Education's Expanded Success Initiative (ESI) and NYC Mayor's Office Young Men's Initiative (YMI) to provide attendees with a most exciting, comprehensive, and invigorating "Gathering of Leaders". The field of support for boys and young men of color has grown exponentially since that first Gathering back in 2006.

The Gathering of Leaders in NYC represents a celebration of the decade of work that COSEBOC has been doing as the only national education organization of practitioners solely focused on promoting the educational success of boys and young men of color. Since its inception, the mission of COSEBOC is to connect, inspire, support, and strengthen school leaders dedicated to the social, emotional and academic development of boys and young men of color. Workshop highlights are available [here](#).

WALLACE FOUNDATION REPORT

Collective Impact and the New Generation of Cross-Sector Collaborations for Education: A Nationwide Scan

Collaborations in which school systems, state and local governments, businesses, community organizations and nonprofit institutions work together to improve educational outcomes for children and youth have existed for more than a century. This [just released publication](#) from the [Wallace Foundation](#) describes the landscape of collaborations today and trends in their location, reach and other matters. Written by researchers at Teachers College, Columbia University, the report identifies 182 cross-sector collaborations in education operating in the United States as of January 2015.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Student Engagement Project

The mission of the University of Nebraska - Lincoln's [Student Engagement Project](#) is to create materials for educators that help to increase student engagement



Building & Sustaining

Student Engagement

through improving student behavior, developing non-exclusionary disciplinary consequences, and increasing graduation while reducing student dropout. Among these materials are strategy briefs that focus on possible actions or interventions which might be useful to organize school improvement related to discipline and dropout prevention.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Indianapolis Public Schools

Special Education Compliance Monitor

Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) will be launching newly developed compliance monitor roles in the Special Education Department for the 2016-17 school year! These positions provide direct compliance support to assigned schools across the district. The Special Education Compliance Monitor ensures compliance with state and federal guidelines pertaining to special education by assisting with the coordination and monitoring of evaluation timelines, case conference committee meetings, implementation of IEPs, and supplementary/related services.

Qualifications: Applicants must hold a Special Education Certification

Special Education Specialist (Secondary Level)

Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) will be launching newly developed specialist roles in the Special Education Department for the 2016-17 school year! These positions serve as instructional champions for our middle and high school students with special needs by providing direct instructional support to their assigned school to increase student achievement of IPS students with

special needs. This is a 10-month, Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) position with some compensated summertime work. If there is more than one Specialist assigned to the secondary school, the principal will determine how to split the Specialist support by grade level or content area.

Qualifications: Applicants must hold a Special Education Certification

Special Education Specialist (Elementary Level)

Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) will be launching newly developed specialist roles in the Special Education Department for the 2016-17 school year! These positions serves an instructional champion for our elementary students with special needs by providing direct instructional support to their assigned school to increase student achievement of IPS students with special needs. This is a 10-month, Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) position with some compensated summertime work.

Qualifications: Applicants must hold a Special Education Certification

Apply online at www.myips.org/jointeamIPS

Questions: SnoufferAR@myips.org

NEW MEMBER

Pasadena Independent School District



Pasadena ISD is located in Pasadena, TX, and serves approximately 56,019 students. Ms. Karen Mintsioulis, Executive Director For Special Programs is the Member. Joining her are Associate Members Ms Julie Reed and Ms. Gloria Gallegos. To learn more about the Pasadena Independent School District please [visit their website here](#).

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

Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative
Education Development Center, Inc.
43 Foundry Avenue
Waltham, MA 02453

Phone: 617-618-2447

TTY: 617-964-5448

Fax: 617-332-4318

Email: collaborative@edc.org

Website: www.urbancollaborative.org

