

Welcome to CollabNews

September 2016

Volume 19, Issue 9



FALL MEMBER MEETING

Courageous Leadership: Building Equitable and Inclusive Schools and Districts

December 7-9, 2016

Hilton Nashville Downtown

We are excited to announce that **registration is open** for our Fall 2016 Member Meeting! [Click here to register.](#)

The goal of our Fall 2016 meeting is to build our capacity to lead a district in creating equitable and effective inclusive special education supports and services. This meeting promises to be a valuable experience in leadership development. We will also have dilemmas provided to us by our host districts, sessions presented by members, a nationally recognized keynote, and new this meeting, the option of visiting schools in Nashville and joining a book club!

Visit us at urbancollaborative.org to learn more. If you have any questions about registration, please contact Pilar Miranda at pmiranda@edc.org. We look forward to seeing you in Nashville!



FALL 2016 MEMBER MEETING CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS!

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, November, 7, 2016**. Please contact Sarah Melpignano at smelpignano@edc.org with any questions. We look forward to receiving your proposal!

SHOULD CAMERAS BE PLACED IN SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOMS?



Texas is now requiring that cameras be installed in self-contained special education classrooms when a parent or teacher requests. Stemming from a lawsuit where a child educated in a self-contained classroom was injured, this law has raised complex questions from the perspectives of teachers, parents, students and the districts. Will the law meet the intended goal of protecting students? How else should we keep students safe? Could there be unintended consequences to having cameras in classrooms? Where are the funds to pay for the cameras?

Read this controversial article published in EdWeek.

DIVISION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD'S ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUNG CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



This year's conference theme, A Winning Trifecta: Knowledge, Implementation, and Evaluation of DEC Recommended Practices, features foremost authorities in early intervention, early childhood special education, and related disciplines.

The 2016 conference will be held October 18-20. During this time, the Division for Early Childhood brings together a passionate group of dedicated individuals who work with or on behalf of young children (0-8) with disabilities and other special needs and their families. Leading experts will gather from all over the world to unite with other participants and attendees who are intimately invested in early intervention and early childhood special education. This is a tremendous opportunity for making connections with peers. Time is set aside for conversation and collaboration during breaks and often during sessions.

[Click here to register and learn more!](#)

EXCITING TRAILER FOR A NEW FILM ABOUT STUDENTS WITH "INVISIBLE DISABILITIES"!

Approximately 6.5 million Americans are identified as having an intellectual disability, and most live segregated lives based on low expectations. 17% of students with intellectual disabilities are included in general education classrooms alongside their non-disabled peers, and as adults, 24% are employed.



In the new documentary film project **Intelligent Lives (working title)**, filmmaker Dan Habib will explore how the segregation of people with intellectual disabilities became the norm, why this segregation is slowly being dismantled, and how some people with intellectual disabilities are blazing a bold new path.

Intelligent Lives will focus on three central themes:

- The history and legacy of intelligence testing, which was used to justify the forced sterilization and institutionalization of tens of thousands of Americans during the 20th century.
- How narrow perceptions of intelligence continue to disproportionately limit people with disabilities, leading to the isolation and unfulfilled potential of millions of people in the U.S. and worldwide.
- An emerging paradigm in which people with intellectual disabilities participate in general education, college, meaningful employment, relationships, and other aspects of community life.

The film will be released in 2017, however, you can watch the exciting trailer [here](#).

NEW! IRIS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE IRIS CENTER > MY ACCOUNT > ADMINISTRATIVE DASHBOARD

Administrative Dashboard

Acme School District Administrative Dashboard

Search

First Name
Last Name
School Name

SEARCH RESET

Module

School

Role

Status

Registration Date Status Module Name Post Test Level

Registration Date	Status	Module Name	Post Test Level
07/22/2016	Complete	Addressing Disruptive and Noncompliant Behaviors (Part 1): Understanding the Acting-Out Cycle	Fair
07/22/2016	In Progress	Addressing Disruptive and Noncompliant Behaviors (Part 2): Behavioral Interventions	---

Teachers: Banner, Bruce; Dent, Harvey; Eisenhardt, Max; McCoy, Hank; Murdock, Matthew; Parker, Peter; Rogers, Steven; Romanova, Natalia

Headquartered at **Vanderbilt University's celebrated Peabody College** and supported by the **U.S. Department of Education**, the IRIS Center now offers online research-validated professional development opportunities that won't break your district budget. Through the customizable *District-Level Professional Development Dashboard*, you will be able to add new teachers, monitor teacher PD progress, sort tracking results, and send reminder and update emails. Even better, teachers can access their assigned IRIS Modules anytime, anywhere, using any online-enabled tablet, phone, or computer. Teachers who complete a pre-test, work through the Module's main content, and then finish with a post-test can then download or print a

certificate to verify their effort toward their new PD.

[Click here to learn more about IRIS professional development.](#)

CHECK OUT OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Portland Public Schools

Portland Public Schools is located in Portland, OR, and serves approximately 48,815 students. We welcome Mary Pearson, Senior Director of Special Education, as our lead member and joining her is associate member, Robert Cantwell. To learn more about Portland Public Schools, please visit the [website here](#).

Salem Public Schools

Salem Public Schools is located in Salem, MA, and serves approximately 4,100. We welcome Margaret Marotta, Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Personnel Services, as our lead member. To learn more about Salem Public Schools please visit their [website here](#).

San Juan Unified School District

San Juan Unified School District is located in Carmichael, CA., and serves approximately 40,000 students. We welcome Matthew Patterson, SELPA Director of Special Education, as our lead member and joining him are associate members, Megan Doyle and Debra Calvin. To learn more about the San Juan Unified School Districts, please visit their [website here](#).

Sheldon Independent School District

Sheldon ISD is located in Houston, TX, and serves approximately 8,900 students. We welcome Susan Pansmith, Executive Director of Special Education, as our lead member. To learn more about Sheldon ISD their [website here](#).

Sweetwater Union High School District

Sweetwater Union High School District is located in Chula Vista, CA, and serves approximately 40,000 students. We welcome Ronald A. Lopez, Director of Special Education, as our lead member and joining him are associate members, Dr. Carlos Saucedo, Mabelle Glithero, Michelle Sturm-Gonzalez, Dr. Joe Fulcher and Sonia Picos. To learn more about Sweetwater Union High School District please visit their [website here](#).

We look forward to meeting them at our Fall Member Meeting in Nashville!

CONTRIBUTE YOUR IDEAS!

In an effort to invite more collaboration and participation to bridge policy, research, and practice in urban special education, CollabNews will give member's the opportunity to submit articles, research, and news related to special education and/or your district to be published in CollabNews. If you would like to submit material for upcoming issues, please click the link below to fill out a short form and we will contact you!

CONTRIBUTE

CONTACT US

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



Phone: 617-618-2447, Fax: 617-332-4318
TTY: 617-964-5448
Email: collaborative@edc.org
Website: www.urbancollaborative.org