

Welcome to CollabNews

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URBANCOLLABORATIVE
Leading Equitable & Inclusive Education

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FALL 2017 MEMBER MEETING!



Ensuring High Quality Supports and Services
November 1-3, 2017

We look forward to seeing you at our Fall 2017 Member Meeting in Seattle, Washington! Please join us November 1-3 at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel where we will focus on ***Ensuring High Quality Supports and Services***. Registration for the meeting will open in July, so please be on the lookout for this and our call for presentations! Until then, save these dates!

GOP HEALTHCARE BILLS COULD CUT FUNDING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

For the past three decades, Medicaid has helped pay for services and equipment that schools provide to special-education students, as well as school-based health screening and treatment for children from low-income families. Now, educators are concerned that the GOP healthcare bill will cut Medicaid spending and strip schools of what a national superintendents association estimates at up to \$4 billion per year. [Click here to read the full article.](#)



WEBINAR: WHAT'S DIFFERENT IN THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS?



**Wednesday, September 6th
4-5 PM**

As the number of English learners and bilingual/multilingual students continues to rise in the US, teachers and administrators are in critical need of appropriate and effective processes for assessing the eligibility of students with disabilities who are also English language learners. In this webinar, you'll learn the latest updates on assessing English speakers in four areas: linguistic, cultural, legal & research. A process for distinguishing between second language indicators and learning disabilities is presented that embeds MTSS practices within the process of the eligibility decision-making process. Specific guidance will be presented on development of IEP goals that address English language development and academic needs for English learners.

After this webinar, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the language learning laws and how these related to IDEA.
2. Understand what processes should be followed in the special education evaluation process for English Learners.
3. Distinguish between discriminatory and non-discriminatory assessment practices.
4. Develop goals that addresses English learning with disabilities based on case studies that can be translated into your classroom.

[Click here to register.](#)

WHAT CAN NEW VOUCHER STUDIES TELL US ABOUT STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES?



In this article by Education Week, the author takes a look at two evaluations released this past month that reveal the effects of vouchers on students with disabilities. Researchers look at the impact on academic performance and disability classification. **Read more about the findings here.**

JOB OPPORTUNITIES!



The Madison Metropolitan School District, a leader in inclusive education is hiring a **Director of Special Education** to ensure that all students with disabilities are engaged in high quality curriculum and instruction within inclusive educational environments leading to deep learning which results in college, career, and community readiness. The Director will carry out the mission and priorities by leading, developing, and coordinating improvement efforts in the academic, behavioral, social-emotional outcomes for students with disabilities. The Director provides oversight and management of an extensive team to ensure implementation the Special Education Plan as well as both the procedural and substantive requirements of all relevant state/federal disability laws. The Director will collaborate with stakeholders to support principals and leadership teams in the school improvement process that is aligned to District's Strategic Framework. Minimum requirements: Wisconsin Director of Pupil Services (80) license or completion within 2 years. Five (5) years of exemplary experience in supervising/evaluating school staff. **Please apply: <https://goo.gl/VBISNS>**

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER DISTRICTS!

Mukilteo School District

Mukilteo School District is located in Everett, WA, and serves approximately 15,051 students. We welcome Lisa Pitsch, Director of Special Education, as our lead member and joining her is associate member, Lissan Wipfli. To learn more about Mukilteo School District, **please visit the website here.**

Katy Independent School District

Katy Independent School District is located in Katy, TX, and serves approximately 78,000 students. We welcome Dr. Brian Malechuk, Executive Director of Special Education, as our lead member and joining him are associate members, Christopher Rigdon and Kathryn Williams. To learn more about Katy Independent School District, **please visit the website here.**

CHECK OUT OUR RESOURCES ON THE URBAN COLLABORATIVE WEBSITE!



Check out our resources on bullying, disproportionality and education policy on the Urban Collaborative website! Members can register on the [Urban Collaborative website](#) using their district email to access these exclusive resources!

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

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