

Welcome to CollabNews

November 2017

Volume 20, Issue 10



URBANCOLLABORATIVE

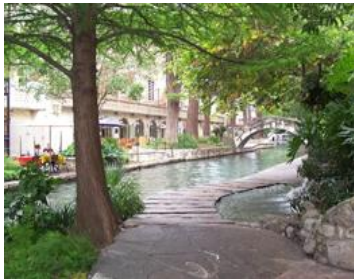
Leading Equitable & Inclusive Education

MEMBER MEETINGS

Thank you to our 214 members from 21 states and to our 21 partners and sponsors that attended our Fall Member Meeting this month! What an amazing three-days, filled with school visits and showcases from our host districts, our amazing keynote, Superintendent Carla Santorno, member presentations, consultancy sessions, and partner focus groups. Let us know how you are working on your "Can't Not Do's!"



You can access concurrent presentations on our [website](#).



We are already preparing for our Spring Meeting May 2-4, 2018 in San Antonio, co-hosted by San Antonio ISD, Northside ISD, and North East ISD.

Save the Date!



INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK!

Inclusive Schools Week is December 4-8! This year's theme is "Stand Up, Sit Tall for Inclusion." Check out the terrific information and resources from the [Inclusive Schools Network](#) (sponsored by Stetson and Associates).



JOHNNY COLLETT NOMINATED FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF OSERS

The White House nominated Johnny Collett, former State Special Education Director in Kentucky and Program Director, Special Education Outcomes at the Council of Chief State School Officers for Assistant Secretary of Education for The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS). Colleagues in the field are expressing cautious optimism. Read the press release, background on Collett, and responses to his nomination:

- [White House Press Release](#)
- [Ed Week: Trump Taps CCSSO Official for Ed. Dept.'s Top Special Education Post](#)
- [Disability Scoop: Trump Taps New Special Education Chief](#)
- [National Council of Learning Disabilities \(NCLD's\) Response](#)
- [Oneder's Interview with Johnny Collett](#)



HOW CAN WE DETERMINE WHAT IS AN APPROPRIATE RATE OF STUDENTS CLASSIFIED AS DISABLED AND RECEIVING SERVICES UNDER IDEA?



Federally, 12.9% of student are classified as having a disability and requiring IDEA services. (See [IES Fast Facts](#).) Is 12.9% the right percentage? Massachusetts (at 16.6%) and Pennsylvania (at 16.9%) are much higher than 12.9%, while Texas (8.6%) and Idaho (9.3%) are much lower. Is there a percentage of students with disabilities that is considered accurate? Perhaps the answer is not so simple.

Perhaps Texas can be used as a case study. They have recently come under scrutiny for lowering their percentage to 8.6% and possibly as a reaction, they are now showing substantial increases. Use these articles discussing Texas' special education rates to help start a conversation about what and whether there is an appropriate rate of students classified as disabled.

- [Special Education Enrollment Increases in Texas in Wake of Newspaper Investigation](#)
- [Enrollment of students in special ed programs surges in Texas](#)
- [Texas Special Education Programs Enrollment Surges](#)
- [Thousands More Texas Students Are Receiving Special Education Services After Cap Lifted](#)

WILLING, ABLE, AND FORGOTTEN

Check out The Hechinger Report series on special education called [Willing, Able, and Forgotten](#). Here is their description: Up to 90 percent of students with disabilities are capable of graduating high school fully prepared to tackle college or a career if they receive proper support along the way. Only 65 percent graduate on time. Those that do cross the finish line often are not ready for the next step.



See all of their Special Reports:

- [Special education's hidden racial gap](#)
- [How one district solved its special education dropout problem](#)
- [Student Voice: How one college student found success by "leaning in" to dyslexia](#)

- Low academic expectations and poor support for special education students are 'hurting their future'
- The vast majority of students with disabilities don't get a college degree
- Almost all students with disabilities are capable of graduating on time. Here's why they're not

MEMBER DISTRICTS

LOCATION CORRECTION

For the Record - October 27, 2017

Prince George's County Public Schools is located in Prince George's County, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772.

To learn more about Prince George's County Public Schools, please visit the [website](#).

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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