The Department of Education is Considering Delaying the Implementation of the New Regulations on Disproportionality!

There are reports that the Education Department is considering delaying a rule aimed at improving educational equity for culturally and linguistically diverse student populations in special education. Keep an eye out for a Federal Register notice seeking public comment and read Christina Samuel's On Special Education blog in EdWeek: Ed. Dept. Scrutinizing Rule on Minority Representation in Special Education

IDEA Guidance Documents Removed from Office for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

On October 20, the federal Office for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) removed 63 guidance documents from their website in an effort to comply with the Trump administration’s executive order to search for and eliminate regulations in order to “alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens.” Many of the rescinded document were old and no longer relevant, however, multiple disability advocacy groups are still examining the rescinded guidance documents to assess possible impact. It is important to understand that removing a guidance document does not mean that a regulation is removed. According to Rep. Robert C. “Bobby” Scott, D-Va., "Notwithstanding the actions taken by the Department today, the regulations still remained enforced; however they lack the clarification the guidance provided." Scott also called these eliminations "the latest in a series of disturbing actions taken by the Trump
Administration to undermine civil rights for vulnerable Americans.” After public outcry from special education advocates and calls for more transparency, the Department added to this list of rescinded documents explanations for why they targeted.

- EdWeek: Ed. Dept. Sweeps Away Old Special Education Guidance and Regulations
- EdWeek: Ed. Dept. Explains Special Education Guidance Cutbacks After Outcry

**Tech Finder Tool!**

Understood has a terrific Tech Finder Tool to help families and educators locate technological tools and apps to support various issues, such as reading, attention, listening comprehension, and motor skills.

**Gates’ Initiative Includes a Focus on Special Education Services in Charter Schools!**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is planning to spend $1.7 billion on K-12 education over the next five years and 15% supporting charter schools and their efforts to better serve students with disabilities.

- EdWeek: Gates Foundation Announces New $1.7B for K-12
NY Times OpEd: You are Special! Now Stop Being Different

Jonathan Mooney, Co-Founder of Eye-to-Eye Writes About His Experience in School in this NY Times OpEd: You are Special! Now Stop Being Different.

Welcome Our New Member Districts

Des Moines Public Schools
Des Moines Public Schools is located in Des Moines, IA and serves approximately 32,979 students. We welcome Ms. Shelly Bosovich, Executive Director, as our lead member. To learn more about Des Moines Public Schools, please visit the [website](#).

Richland School District
Richland School District is located in Richland, WA and serves approximately 13,957 students. We welcome Ms. Mandy Cathey, Executive Director, as our lead member. To learn more about Richland School District, please visit the [website](#).

Prince George's County Public Schools
Prince George's County Public Schools is located in Upper Marlboro, MD and serves approximately 130,000 students. We welcome Ms. Trinell Bowman, Executive Director, as our lead member and joining her are Karen Andrews and Gwendolyn Mason. 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 members 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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