

Welcome to CollabNews

February 2018

Volume 21, Issue 2



URBAN COLLABORATIVE

Leading Equitable & Inclusive Education

Have You Registered for the Spring 2018 Member Meeting?

Shared Decision Making and Its Impact on Inclusive Practices

May 2-4, 2017
The Hyatt Regency Riverwalk
San Antonio, Texas

It is time to register! Book your flights and hotel. See you at the Spring Member Meeting!



[Click Here to Register](#)



Share Your District's Work at the Spring Member Meeting!

District presentations for this meeting will focus on shared decision making, including what has worked and what are the barriers. Engage your colleagues in finding solutions.

Submissions due by Thursday, March 15, 2018

[Submit Your Proposal](#)

Department of Education Proposes Rolling Back Special Education Racial-Disparity Rule

IDEA requires states to determine whether their districts are disproportionately classifying linguistically and culturally diverse students with a disability, placing them in restrictive settings, or overly disciplining them. The new rule requires states to take a standardized approach in looking at the issue and allow districts to use their coordinated early intervening services (CEIS) monies to address disproportionality for students receiving special education services. The rule was finalized and meant to take effect at the end of this school year. The DOE is now proposing that implementation be delayed for two years to review issues that have been raised. According to comments made by the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDE), "Postponing implementation not only stops work already in motion, but it suggests that the identification and redress of significant disproportionality can be put on hold... NASDSE does not believe that addressing equity should ever be put on hold." Make your voice heard! Comments will be accepted until May 14th.



- Comments can be made here:
 - [Federal Register: Assistance to States for the Education of Children With Disabilities; Preschool Grants for Children With Disabilities](#)
- Read these articles for more information:
 - [Education Department Officially Proposes Delay of Special Education Bias Rule](#)
 - [Special Education Chiefs to DeVos: Don't Roll Back Minority Disparity Rule](#)
 - [Government Seeks Delay of Obama Rule on Race in Special Ed](#)

Understanding How to Make Special Education More Effective



The authors of [Four Ways Schools Fail Special Education Students](#) suggest that the significant gaps between special education policy and implementation in determining disability, protecting of students' rights, placement in a least restrictive environment, and the implementation of related services help understand why special education continues to produce limited results.

Increases in Racial Harassment and Disability Discrimination

The U.S. Department of Education's civil rights division reports an increase in racial harassment and disability discrimination. Read [Schools See Major Uptick In Racial Harassment, New Data Suggests](#) and [Ed Department Logs Sharp Rise In Disability Complaints](#) for descriptions. You can also view all pending cases under investigation in the searchable database: [Pending Cases Currently Under Investigation at Elementary-Secondary and Post-Secondary Schools as of February 2, 2018](#).



ADA Under Attack!



On February 15, the House passed H.R. 620, legislation that would significantly weaken accessibility protections under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anita Cameron, an organizer with [ADAPT](#) who was a part of the Capitol Crawl protest in 1990 that led to the ADA's passage has said, "Businesses have had over 27 years to comply with the ADA. The civil and human rights of disabled people are being trampled upon. We demand access to public spaces to live our lives just like

everyone else."

Read more about the proposed changes in ADA in this CNN piece, [The Rights of Disabled Americans are Under Attack](#).

Read more about the recent growth of ADAPT and the disability rights movement in this Time magazine's article ['Our Lives Are at Stake.' How Donald Trump Inadvertently Sparked a New Disability Rights Movement](#).

Read the proposed bill, [H.R. 602](#) to keep track of its progress.



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