Welcome to CollabNews
April 2019
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2019 Spring Member Meeting
May 1-3

Keynote

We are excited to welcome our keynote speaker, Melissa Schlinger, Vice President of Practice and Programs at CASEL, the organization responsible for developing SEL standards, driving research, informing policy, and convening networks of practitioners and policymakers.

Town Hall

Johnny Collett, Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, will join us for our Town Hall to hear from members their thoughts and questions on OSERS Rethinking Special Education Framework.

Collaboration

Build partnerships with colleagues and learn how members are addressing social and emotional learning in their districts. Get to know Pittsburgh Public Schools by visiting classes and collaborating with district staff on their dilemmas.

Reception

Join us at our meeting reception at the Andy Warhol Museum to experience the tactile art installations and audio guide Out Loud, designed to include museum visitors across abilities.
Mural

Artist Kyle Holbrook will engage participants in creating a mural in the spirit of the power of social and emotional learning. Learn more about his community mural project, Moving the Lives of Kids.

5 Things to Know About Implementing Social-Emotional Learning

Read this advice from Ross Wiener, vice president at Aspen and a commissioner of the Aspen Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development on implementing social-emotional learning including how “developing students’ social-emotional and cognitive abilities rests on a three-legged stool” that includes “explicit instruction”; “opportunit[ies] embedded in academic instruction”; and “positive school climate as the context in which healthy social-emotional development can take root.”

Punitive Discipline Makes School Feel Like a Prison, Not a Community

Read this Hechinger Report opinion piece from a staff developer at Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility, describing how restorative practices are more effective than punitive discipline that doesn’t focus on helping either the person who caused the harm or the person who was harmed and undermines social and emotional learning.

Research on the Wide Disparities in Special Education Enrollment

According to the GAO report Varied State Criteria May Contribute to Differences in Percentages of Children Served and the Disability Scoop article Wide Disparities Found In Special Ed Enrollment, differences in states’ eligibility criteria and the difficulty of identifying and evaluating children suspected of having disabilities may contribute to differences in the percentages of children receiving special education services across states.
**Principal Recovery Network**

A group of principals and former principals who have led schools during or after a shooting are now part of a support network to help school leaders and their communities in the aftermath. Read Principals of Schools with Shootings Create Network for Mutual Support, Outreach, and Advocacy from the The National Association of Secondary School Principals and EdWeek’s 20 Years After Columbine, Principals Form Network to Cope With Shootings for more information.

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**What's it Like to Have Down Syndrome?**

Read Melissa Riggio’s first-hand account of having Down Syndrome. In this National Geographic Kids article, Melissa says, “I just want to be like everyone else, so sometimes I wish I could give back the extra chromosome. But having Down syndrome is what makes me “me.” And I’m proud of who I am. I’m a hard worker, a good person, and I care about my friends. You can also learn more about Melissa and her family on the podcast Born Fabulous.

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**9 Awesome Apps For Kids On The Autism Spectrum**

Add these apps to your list of those that help students on the Autism Spectrum build communication, organization, and social skills.
Save the date for our Fall 2019 Member Meeting featuring keynote speaker Dr. Pedro Noguera, UCLA Distinguished Professor and Director of the Center for the Transformation of Schools. Read his latest article in The Nation: It's Time to Develop a Progressive Education Agenda.