

Welcome to CollabNews

August 2018

Volume 21, Issue 8



URBANCOLLABORATIVE

Leading Equitable & Inclusive Education

Time to Register for the Fall 2018 Meeting!

Register for the Member Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

Hosted by Broward
County Public
Schools

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2018
WESTIN BEACH RESORT
FORT LAUDERDALE

URBAN
COLLABORATIVE

The Urban Collaborative and Broward County Public Schools are getting excited to see you in November!

Come meet with your colleagues and hear our keynote, filmmaker Dan Habib, speak on our theme *Inclusive Practices Belonging, Embracing, Sharing, and Celebrating!*

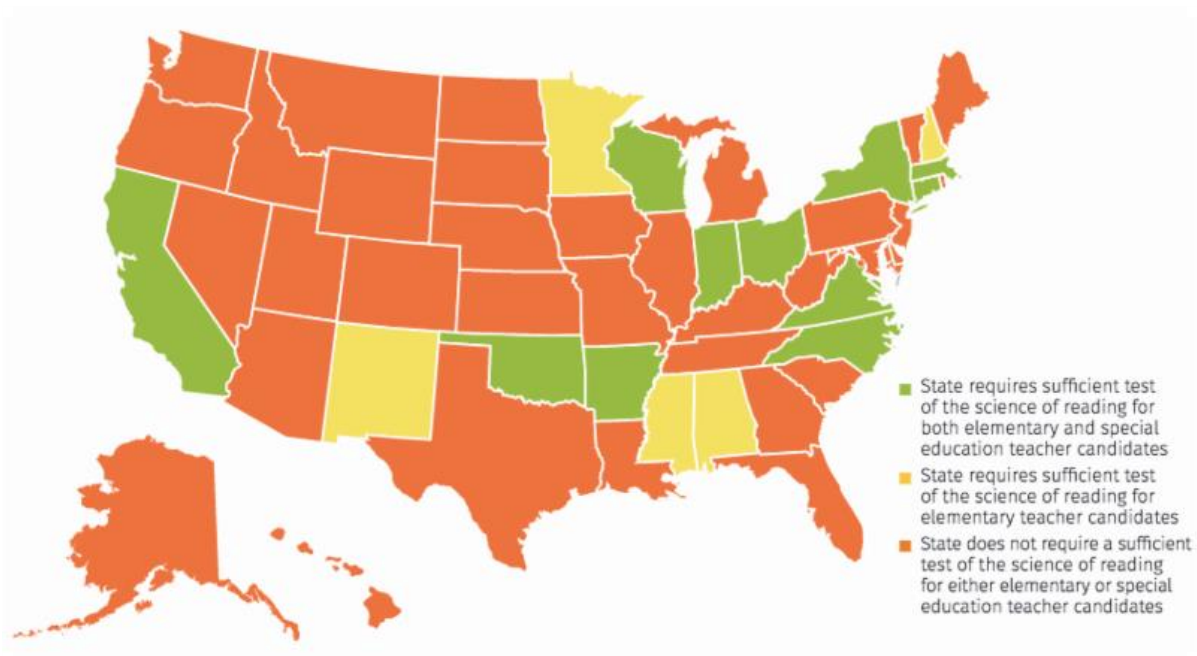
Learn more at the [Urban Collaborative Event Page](#).

Call for Presentations

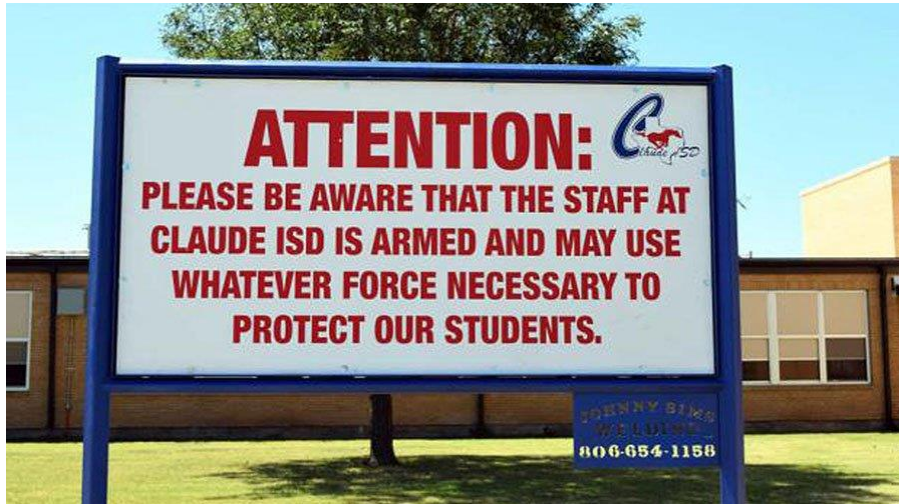
Are Special Educators Trained on Reading Skills?

Read this EdWeek article and the National Council on Teacher Quality study describing how only 37 percent of teacher preparation programs are providing special and elementary education teachers with the skills they need to teach students to read.

- EdWeek: [Special Educators Missing Vital Training on Reading Skills, Says New Report](#)
- National Council on Teacher Quality: [Strengthening Reading Instruction through Better Preparation of Elementary and Special Education Teachers](#) and [List of University/College Programs in Each State](#)



Federal Funds Used to Purchase Firearms???



The response to the potential practice of using federal funds to purchase firearms is quite extensive. We have gathered a number of the articles here for you to read. What do you think about this practice?

- CEC: [CEC Denounces the Use of Federal Funds to Purchase Guns to Arm Teachers](#)
- The Atlantic: [A Loophole That Could Let States Buy Teachers Guns With Federal Funds](#)
- NY Times: [Betsy DeVos Eyes Federal Education Grants to Put Guns in Schools](#)
- The 74: [Democrats Move to Block Reported DeVos Proposal to Spend Federal Dollars on Guns for Schools, Education Department Calls It a 'Hypothetical Scenario](#)
- AFT: [AFT President Randi Weingarten Sends Letter to Trump on Guns and School Safety, Requests Meeting](#)
- EdWeek (8.23): [Here's What DeVos and Trump Have Said About Giving Guns to Teachers](#)
- EdWeek (8.23): [Should Teachers Carry Guns? The Debate, Explained](#)
- EdWeek (8.24): [Firestorm Erupts as Betsy DeVos Weighs If Districts Can Buy Guns With Federal Money](#)
- EdWeek (8.28): [Arming School Staff Is 'Incredibly Dangerous,' Advocates Tell School Safety Commission](#)

ACT Lawsuit: Test-Maker Providing Information on Students' Disabilities

ACT is being sued over allegation of illegally disclosing students' profiles that include their disability status. Read these articles to understand this lawsuit and know how to help secure students' privacy.

- Disability Scoop: [Test-Maker Sued Over Divulging Students' Disabilities](#)
- EdWeek: [Suit Targets ACT on Student Privacy](#)



Neurodiversity in the Workplace

How can you have conversations about disability at work? Do you know if a workplace is disability-friendly? Read these articles to answer these questions and to read a great story on a school that employs people with disabilities.

- Forbes: [How To Have A Meaningful Conversation About Disability At Work](#)
- Forbes: [How Disability-Friendly Is Your Workplace? 4 Ways To Put Your Business To The Test](#)
- ABC News: [Primary school embraces staff with autism, Down syndrome, with benefits to staff, students](#)



Sensory Designed Schools

Read about these school buildings that are designed to take into account the sensory needs of students and the potential for sensory-friendly environments to de-escalate challenging behaviors. Might this be an answer to isolation rooms?

- The 74: [When Higher Functioning Follows Form: Special-Needs Students Flourish in Sensory Designed Schools](#)



Resource: Differences and Similarities between IEPs and 504 Plans

Here is a [chart](#) and a [video](#) resource created by [Understood](#) describing the difference between IEPs and 504 Plans. Perhaps you can use this in your practice.



For Your Enjoyment! Temple Grandin: What it Feels Like to be Autistic



DISES Conference Call for Presentations



Proposal Guidelines and Application

New Member Districts

Mount Healthy City Schools is located in Cincinnati, OH, and serves approximately **3,300** students. We welcome Dr. Apollos Harris, Executive Director of Student Services, as our lead member. To learn more about Mount Healthy City Schools, [please visit their website here.](#)



North College Hill City Schools is located in Cincinnati, OH, and serves approximately **1,600** students. We welcome Dr. Gregory Roberson, Assistant Superintendent, as our lead member. To learn more about North College Hill City Schools, [please visit their website here.](#)



Rialto Unified School District is located in Rialto, CA, and serves approximately **24,970** students. We welcome Bridgette Ealy, Lead Special Service Agent of Special Education, as our lead member and joining her is Paola Lopez, Special Education Coordinator. To learn more about Rialto USD, [please visit their website here.](#)





Phone: 617-618-2447 **Fax:** 617-332-4318
Email: urbancollaborative@edc.org **Website:** www.urbancollaborative.org