

Welcome to CollabNews

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URBANCOLLABORATIVE

Leading Equitable & Inclusive Education

[Register Now for the Spring 2019 Member Meeting!](#)

REGISTER NOW

SPRING 2019 - Member Meeting
May 1-3, 2019

The Power of Social and Emotional Learning:
*"A Good Head and a Good Heart are Always
a Formidable Combination"* (Nelson Mandela)

www.urbancollaborative.org

The Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA

URBANCOLLABORATIVE 25 YEARS 1994-2019

Call for Proposals!

The Power of Social and Emotional Learning: "A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination"- Nelson Mandela



**SOCIAL
EMOTIONAL
LEARNING**

This call for presentations invites a variety of potential presenters (leaders, teaching and learning staff, professional learning communities, families & communities) to focus on social and emotional learning, including what has worked and existing barriers. We need to learn from each other's successes and challenges, so please do not think that your district needs to have everything figured out to present! Engage your colleagues in finding solutions by [submitting your presentation here](#). **Proposals are due March 18th.**

Keynote Melissa Schlinger

We are excited to announce that our keynote speaker will be **Melissa Schlinger** Vice President of Practice and Programs for the Collaborative, better known as [CASEL](#), the organization responsible for developing SEL standards, driving research, informing policy, and convening networks of practitioners and policymakers. Melissa leads CASEL's Collaborating Districts Initiative (CDI), advancing the systemic implementation of evidence-based social and emotional learning in school districts across the nation. Eight of the eighteen districts in CDI are members of the Urban Collaborative. Visit CASEL's website to learn more about the SEL work and this [biography](#) of Melissa Schlinger. [Check out a video that highlights the work of CDI here!](#)



Johnny Collett, Assistant Secretary in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)



Johnny Collett will be joining us for our **Town Hall** to hear from members their thoughts and questions on OSERS Rethinking Special Education Framework, a model to "improve early childhood, educational, and employment outcomes and raise expectations for all people with disabilities, their families, their communities, and the nation," by "rethink[ing] anything and everything to ensure that we are in the best position to achieve our mission. Please look at the [framework](#) and the Assistant Secretary's [blog](#), and come to the meeting with your questions.

Grant Opportunity to Build School- and District-Level SEL Programs

[\\$1.35 Million Available for Teachers and Districts for Social and Emotional Learning Programs](#). [Education First](#) and the [NoVo Foundation](#) have opened the application process for their 2019 Social Emotional Learning Innovation Fund. The program will award \$5,000 grants to up to 100 individual teacher-led projects and \$25,000 grants to up to 35 district-level projects.



Inclusive Practices on the Rise!



The [40th Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#) shows that more students with disabilities are being educated alongside their peers without disabilities. Read the report and [Inclusion Increasingly The Norm For Students With Disabilities](#) for more information.

With Mom's Green Card On The Line, Family Forgoes ASD Services For Citizen Child



[Read this story](#) about a family so concerned with their immigration status that they do not avail themselves of services that Medicaid could support.

Supporting Principal's Knowledge of Special Education

The Council of Chief State School Officers and CEEDAR are working with five states to improve principals' knowledge of supporting students with disabilities. Read this EdWeek article for more information: [Five-State Initiative to Boost Principals' Knowledge of Special Education](#)

Higher Ed is Becoming More Inclusive



[Think College](#) is a national organization dedicated to developing college opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities. There are now 260 participating colleges across the country. According to a recent Think College report, students are spending more time in inclusive college classes and have higher rates of paid employment after they complete the program. Read this [ThinkCollege report](#), as well as Disability Scoop's article [Postsecondary Programs More Inclusive, Report Finds](#) and Forbes' article [More Colleges Opening Doors to People with Developmental Disabilities](#).

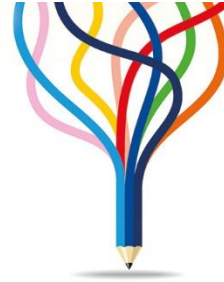
Dr. Thomas Hehir Retiring



The Urban Collaborative wishes our friend Dr. Thomas Hehir well as he retires from Harvard Graduate School of Education, where he championed inclusive education and eliminating ableism for the last 19 years. You can read this [tribute](#) from Harvard. If anyone would like to send him well wishes, you can send to UrbanCollaborative@edc.org and we will make sure he receives.

What does it take to make inclusion work well?

Dr. William Henderson, former principal and namesake of the Dr. William W. Henderson K-12 Inclusion School starts to answer this question by saying, "In order for it to work, the staff, parents, and students have to become a problem-solving community where you're committed to collaborate together to figure it out." Read the rest of this interview in [Boston Public Schools pioneer Bill Henderson explains how to make inclusion benefit \(almost\) all students.](#)



UDL in 15 Minutes



Check out the podcast [UDL in 15 Minutes](#), "where educators share their implementation of Universal Design for Learning with host Loui Lord Nelson."



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