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

Come meet with your colleagues, hear our keynote, filmmaker Dan Habib, speak on our theme *Inclusive Practices Belonging, Embracing, Sharing, and Celebrating* and see the amazing new film *Intelligent Lives*.

Learn more at the Urban Collaborative Event Page.
Screen Keynote Dan Habib's Film Intelligent Lives in Your District

Need an idea for celebrating Inclusive Schools Week (December 3-7, 2018)? Host a screening of the new film INTELLIGENT LIVES, by our upcoming keynote speaker Dan Habib! The documentary stars three pioneering young American adults with intellectual disabilities—Micah, Naieer, and Naomie—who challenge perceptions of intelligence as they navigate high school, college, and the workforce. Utilize the INTELLIGENT LIVES "Host a Screening ToolKit" with great tips for how to plan for your screening, get the word out and have the greatest impact! To learn more about the ways to host a screening: click here. To access the kit: click here.

Learn About the new Director for the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)

Laurie VanderPloeg, current president of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) has been appointed as the new OSEP Director.

- Read the announcement from OSERS here: The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
- Read the EdWeek article here: Michigan Administrator Tapped to Oversee Federal Special Education Programs
The Importance of Principals

According to this article, principals who effectively manage special education services are "one part lawyer, one part counselor – and a little nit fearless." Read The Important Role Principals Play in Special Education for more information.

Addressing Disproportionality

The federal DOE has posted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking indicating that they will be working to address the disproportionality regulations that the Department decided to put on hold for two years. Read this EdWeek article for more information: Ed. Dept. Signals New Attempt to Address Racial Bias in Special Education

The Benefits of Moving Away from Restraint and Seclusion

Read about the benefits of using a trauma informed approach in place of restraint and seclusion in the study Evaluation of a Program Model for Minimizing Restraint and Seclusion and in Abandoning Restraint And Seclusion Has Unexpected Benefits, Study Finds, a Disability Scoop article describing the study.
Taking Care of Educators

Educators who work with students experiencing trauma may experience secondary traumatic stress. Read to find ways to look out for symptoms and take care of staff members who are taking care of students in this article: Secondary Traumatic Stress for Educators: Understanding and Mitigating the Effects

Do State ESSA Plans Sufficiently Address Special Education?

According to the National Center on Learning Disabilities (NCLD), the answer is no. For example, 33 states do not require disaggregating performance rates by disability and only 18 states have the same long-term academic goals for student with and without disabilities. Read NCLD’s report, Assessing ESSA: Missed Opportunities for Students with Disabilities and the EdWeek article State ESSA Plans A 'Missed Opportunity' for Special Education, Says Advocacy Group

Disrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline

Read this Huffington Post Piece He's 12. He Has ADHD. And His Family Is Fighting To Keep Him Out Of The Juvenile Court System for a story describing the complications of disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline for culturally and linguistically diverse students classified with disabilities.
Resources

- The Alternate English Language Learner Assessment (ALTELLA) provides research and resources focused on English learners with cognitive disabilities. Check out resources that include Individualized Education Programs for English learners with significant cognitive disabilities.
- Understood provides resources to parents to empower them to advocate for their children. Their latest resources examines Assistive Technology for Students With Dyslexia and Dysgraphia.

New Member Districts

Albuquerque Public Schools is located in Albuquerque, NM, and serves approximately 82179 students. We welcome Lucinda Sanchez, Associate Superintendent, as our lead member and joining her are Claudia Gutierrez, Executive Director, Student Achievement and Cindy Soo Hoo, Executive Director of Compliance. To learn more about Albuquerque Public Schools, please visit their website here.

Frisco ISD is located in Frisco, TX, and serves approximately 58860 students. We welcome Marcia Shannon, Director of Special Services, as our lead member and joining her are Garrett Jackson and Kasey Maas, Assistant Directors of Special Education. To learn more about Frisco ISD, please visit their website here.

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Princeton City Schools is located in Cincinnati, OH, and serves approximately 6100 students. We welcome Dr. Kevin Jamison, Director of Student Services, as our lead member. To learn more about Princeton City Schools, please visit their website here.

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