

Welcome to CollabNews

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URBANCOLLABORATIVE

Leading Equitable & Inclusive Education

Time to register for the Meeting!

Register for the Member Meeting



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](#).

Submit your proposal

Presentation proposals are due this Sunday, September 30!

The Trump Administration is 'Rethinking' Special Education

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) has decided to 'rethink' special education, specifically, "OSERS will rethink anything and everything to ensure that we are in the best position to achieve our mission." What is your response to this? Let's talk about it at our November meeting. Read these articles to learn more.

- OSERS: [Rethink Framework](#)
- Disability Scoop: [Trump Administration 'Rethinking' Special Ed](#)
- EdWeek: [Special Education Needs Rethinking, Says Top Education Department Official](#)

The graphic features the OSERS logo at the top, followed by a mission statement. Below this is a dark blue bar with the word 'RETHINK' in white. Underneath, a paragraph states OSERS' goal to rethink everything. A list of five key areas for rethinking follows, each starting with a red arrowhead. At the bottom, a dark blue bar contains the full name of the office and the U.S. Department of Education.

OSERS

To improve early childhood, educational, and employment outcomes and raise expectations for all people with disabilities, their families, their communities, and the nation.

RETHINK

OSERS will rethink anything and everything to ensure that we are in the best position to achieve our mission.

- ▶ **Address** deeply embedded and complex issues
- ▶ **Question** systems that do not facilitate the kind of improvement we know is necessary
- ▶ **Confront** structures that limit opportunities for individuals with disabilities
- ▶ **Change** policies and practices that put the needs of a system over the needs of the individual
- ▶ **Challenge** mindsets that appear intent on preserving the status quo

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Georgia's Separate and Unequal Special-Education System

Read this powerful and timely New Yorker article on disproportionality and segregation of students with disabilities in Georgia. This is a perfect piece to use for a group read.

[Georgia's Separate and Unequal Special-Education System: A statewide network of schools for disabled students has trapped black children in neglect and isolation.](#)



Keynote Dan Habib releases new film, *Intelligent Lives*



Read Disability Scoop's review of Dan Habib's film, *Intelligent Lives*. We look forward to hearing from Dan in Ft. Lauderdale!

Disability Scoop: [New Documentary Questions IQ As A Measure Of Intelligence](#)

Neurodiversity in the Workplace

Dr. Hallowell explains ADHD using race cars! Share this video with students and families to help explain ADHD.



Computer Science for All

A leading group supporting the "computer science for all" push in U.S. schools wants everyone from vendors to investors to school districts to publicly commit to supporting improved accessibility for students with disabilities. Checkout the [CSforALL Consortium](#) and this article explaining their work

EdWeek: [A Push to Make 'Computer Science for All' Accessible to Students With Disabilities](#)



Is the Opioid Epidemic Creating More Disability?

A new study finds that infants who have had to withdraw from opioids have higher rates of disability diagnoses than those who have not had such a history. Read these articles for more information.

- EdWeek: [*Opioid Epidemic Raising Special Education Concerns*](#)
- Herchinger Report: [*Addiction counselors embed in schools dealing with the opioid crisis*](#)



New Member Districts

Camas School District is located in Camas, WA, and serves approximately **7,000** students. We welcome Allan Fleck, Director of Special Services, as our lead member. To learn more about Camas School District, [please visit their website here](#).



Federal Way Public Schools is located in Federal Way, WA, and serves over **23000** students. We welcome Ms. Catherine Reesman, Executive Director of Student Support Services, as our lead member and joining her is Dr. Jennifer Westover, Director of PreK/Elementary Special Education. To learn more about Federal Way Public Schools, [please visit their website here](#).



Mercer Island School District is located in Mercer Island, WA, and serves approximately **4,700** students. We welcome Holly Bailey, Director of Special Services, as our lead member. To learn more about Mercer Island School District, [please visit their website here](#).



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