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Special Education Today
News, resources, and tools for educators like you.

Relationships Matter



You already know relationships are critical to student success. But, did you know the same thing applies to special educators?

That's why we're excited to announce that the CEC Mentoring Program is officially open for the 2019-2020 school year!

Whether you're new to the field or at the top of your career, the CEC Mentoring Program is the perfect opportunity to find your tribe, build meaningful relationships, and get the support you need. Applications close in December, but act now to make the most of your whole school year!

Learn more and sign up today!

DIGITAL RE-CAP: #TakeoverTuesday With Harrison Barnes



For #TakeoverTuesday, Harrison Barnes – one of our 2019 [Yes I Can Award](#) recipients, an inaugural recipient of the Billie Jean King Leadership ESPY Award, and founder of [GearUp](#) - took over our Instagram and Facebook accounts for the day to share his experiences from when he was sent to the ESPN Summer XGames to help mentor and coach the Special Olympics athletes who competed last week.

Check it out on Facebook!

Take me to Instagram!

3 Back-to-School Resources for Setting Up Your Classroom

It's back-to-school season, which means that, for many of you, the new year is officially upon us.

We know you've been busy planning goals, gathering materials, and scouring over your students' IEPs, which is why we wanted to share these three resources to help guide you as you finish preparing your rooms!



QUICK READ

1. [3 Tips for Classroom Set-Up on a Budget](#)

- Check out this CEC blog post from special education teacher Kelsey as she shares her top three tips for making the most out of a small budget.

COFFEE BREAK

2. [Changing Behaviors by Changing the Classroom Environment](#)

- Read the article from our journal, *TEACHING Exceptional Children*, about setting up classroom environments to promote student engagement and behavior goals.

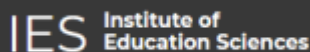
DEEP DIVE

3. [IRIS | Early Childhood Environments: Designing Effective Classrooms](#)

- Officially endorsed by CEC's Division for Early Childhood (DEC), this free module from The IRIS Center offers information on how to set up effective and inclusive early childhood classroom environments.

Policy Highlights

IES Awards \$164 Million in Grants for Education and Special Education Research



The Institute of Education Sciences has awarded 105 grants for research that will increase the evidence base across a wide array of topics, with investment totaling more than \$164 million. [Read more.](#)

Upcoming Events

MAASE Summer Institute 2019

Acme, MI | August 11-14, 2019

Data-Based Behavior Plans: What Do They Look Like?

CEC Webinar | September 11, 2019

42nd Annual MO-CASE Special Education Administrators' Conference

Osage Beach, MO | September 22-24, 2019

Nebraska CEC State Conference

Lincoln, NE | September 26-27, 2019

News

National Study Shows How a Simple 'Growth Mindset' Exercise Lifted Students' GPAs:

According to a new study, giving students even a brief opportunity to understand and reflect on their mindsets for learning can make them likelier to challenge themselves and improve.

High school graduation rates for one important group are starting to get better:

Here's how an ambitious plan to help Hispanics get ready for college is making early inroads.

Can Virtual Simulations Teach a Human Skill Like Empathy?:

Some educators say that technology can help teachers and others work on interpersonal skills, such as

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cognitive empathy, by allowing users role-play difficult conversations on topics like bullying and mental health in a safe, low-stakes environment.

Half of Teachers Say They've

Considered Quitting: More than half of the country's teachers say they'd go on strike for better pay if they had the chance, and half say they've seriously considered leaving the profession in the last few years, according to a poll released Monday.

How Digital Art Classes Are Blazing

New Trails: Through novel creative applications such as Adobe Creative Cloud, students develop crucial soft skills employers value.

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