Meeting the Collaboration Challenge

Today on the blog, special education teacher and CEC member Richard Williams discusses the challenges that come with collaboration and some of the ways his school helps foster teamwork, sharing, and communication.

Check it out!

Meet the Candidates

We need your help electing five Members-at-Large to the 2020 CEC Board of Directors! Meet the amazing candidates and then send in your vote before **3pm ET, Oct. 16**, to make your voice heard.

Get your vote on!

Let’s Talk Teacher to Teacher

Calling all special education teachers - we are delighted to invite you to submit a Teacher2Teacher session proposal for...
Collaboration beyond the classroom, meet the candidates, and more

Submit your proposal ASAP!

Get Involved with a CEC Committee

If you’re a dedicated member looking to get more involved, we’re looking for you to help fill spots on four of CEC’s committees. This is a great opportunity to share your knowledge and skills to help fulfill our mission of advancing the success of children and youth with exceptionalities.

No matter what your background is or where your professional interests lie, there's a CEC committee that will benefit from your experience and unique perspective. The deadline for application is 3:00 pm ET, Nov. 6.

Learn more and apply today!

Policy Highlights

DEC Launches Campaign for Early Childhood Funding Bill

Last week, CEC's Division for Early Childhood successfully launched an online campaign in support of the Funding Early Childhood is the Right IDEA Act (H.R. 4107), a bill to restore full funding for young children with disabilities. Read more.

OSEP Responds to Questions About IDEA

The Office of Special Education (OSEP) within the U.S. Department of Education recently posted three letters in

https://cec.informz.net/informzdataservice/onlineversion/ind/bWFpbGluc3RhbmNlWkVQcWQ9ODg3ODI4NCZzdWJzYWJsZWQ9MTEzMjA4NTE3...
response to inquiries that fall within the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Here’s an overview of each letter. Read more.

**Upcoming Events**

**California CEC State Conference**  
Burlingame, CA | October 11-12, 2019

**Florida CEC Conference**  
Daytona Beach, FL | October 13-15 201

**Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education Fall Conference**  
Tinley Park, IL | October 16-18, 2019

**News**

**Money over merit? New study says gifted programs favor students from wealthier families:** According to a new study, elementary school students from higher-income families are far more likely to land in gifted programs than their lower-income classmates, even if those students go to the same school and show similar levels of achievement in math and reading.

**Report: States 'retreat' from including student test results in principal, teacher evaluations:** Since 2015, 30 states have walked back one or more of their teacher-evaluation reforms, according to a new report by the National Council on Teacher Quality.

**Your Guide to ESSA's New School-by-School Spending Mandate:** As of September, 17 states have reported their school-level spending numbers under ESSA. This year is the deadline for states to comply with the law, and this article details how the process affects school leaders, teachers, parents and policymakers.
New Report Explores How State Policy Impacts Access to Higher Education: States can improve access to higher education and student outcomes if they align three funding policies - appropriations, tuition and financial aid - according to a new report by Ithaka S+R.

Students Learn More From Inquiry-Based Teaching, International Study Finds: A massive experiment involving 17,000 students in four countries finds gains for inquiry-, or problem-based teaching, over traditional approaches.

Questioning their fairness, a record number of colleges stop requiring the SAT and ACT: Submitting SAT or ACT scores for admissions is now optional at more than 1,000 accredited bachelor's-degree-granting colleges and universities and more are becoming test-optional every year in a bid to increase diversity.

Who's Teaching Students After School Lets Out?: Faced with a push for academic programming, after-school providers are deploying new strategies to train and recruit effective educators.