The National Center for Systemic Improvement (NCSI) supports states to transform their systems to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. Through a series of events in 2022, NCSI commits to supporting state education agencies (SEAs) and their allies in expanding understanding about the intersection of language, culture, and disability in K–12 education and identifying next steps to enact system improvements that focus on elevating equity in both opportunity and achievement for students who are English Learners with disabilities.

NCSI is pleased to announce the launch of a new Thought Leader Conversation (TLC) Series: “Pursuing Equity at the Intersection of Language, Culture, and Disability.”

What is this TLC Series?

- This free webinar series will focus on elevating equity in opportunity and achievement for students with disabilities or who may have disabilities and who are English Learners.
- The series is aimed at SEA staff (within special education and beyond). NCSI also welcomes all interested parties, including other state agency staff, representatives of parent and family organizations, LEA staff, state-level or national technical assistance or professional development providers, representatives from institutions of higher education, and other education allies.
- Conversations are organized around NCSI’s four systems elements: data literacy, stakeholder and family engagement, research-informed practice, and systems coherence.

When will this TLC Series take place?

- **Foundational Session**, June 7, 2022, 2:00–3:30 p.m. ET
- **Data Literacy**, July 27, 2022, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET
- **Stakeholder & Family Engagement**, September 7, 2022, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET
- **Research-Informed Practice**, October 19, 2022, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET
- **Systems Coherence**, November 30, 2022, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET
What is the purpose of this TLC Series?

This TLC Series will explore the following:

- how historical and current beliefs about language, culture, and disability affect policies and practices that can empower or inhibit the success of students, families, and communities
- how equity-informed science can be used to explore family, community, and educator perspectives for improving services and outcomes for English Learners with disabilities
- ways coordination and collaboration—including family and community voice, knowledge, and wisdom—across general education, special education, and ESOL/ESL departments can benefit students, families, and communities
- ways that qualitative and quantitative data can be used meaningfully to understand issues and promote improvement and multilingual access for English Learners with disabilities
- how research can inform and be informed by practice that supports culturally and linguistically responsive planning by building on the entirety of students’ cultural and linguistic repertoires for instruction, assessment, and other services for students who are English Learners with disabilities

Who are the Thought Leaders who will be a part of this TLC Series?

**Supreet Anand**, Office of English Language Acquisition, *U.S. Department of Education*

**Dr. Alfredo Artiles**, Graduate School of Education, *Stanford University*

**Dr. Julie Esparza Brown**, Special Education, *Portland State University*

**Dr. María Cioè-Peña**, Teaching and Learning, *Montclair State University*

**Deborah Clark**, Special Education Division, *New Mexico Public Education Department*

**Dr. Christina Santamaria Graff**, Student Support and Diversity, *Indiana University and Purdue University*

**Dr. John Hoover**, Equity, Bilingualism, & Literacy, *University of Colorado, Boulder*

**Ximena Hurtado**, Lee County School District

**Jennifer Kane**, Inclusive Education, *State of Nevada Department of Education*

**Dr. Sara Kangas**, Special Education, *Lehigh University*

**Mireika Kobayashi**, Cincinnati Public Schools

**Kirsi Laine**, Language and Culture Division, *New Mexico Public Education Department*

**Kim Miller**, Oregon Department of Education

**Cerelle Morrow**, Quality Schools and Districts, *WestEd*


**Dr. Cara Richards-Tutor**, Advanced Studies in Education and Counseling, *California State University, Long Beach*

**Dr. Claudia Rinaldi**, Education Programs, *Lasell University*

**Dr. Jonathan Rosa**, Graduate School of Education, Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity, *Stanford University*

**Dr. Kathleen King Thorius**, Special Education and Urban Education Studies, *Great Lakes Equity Center*

**Timothy Tipton**, San Diego Unified School District

**Dr. Perry Williams**, Office of Special Education Programs, *U.S. Department of Education*

**Supreet Anand**, Office of English Language Acquisition, *U.S. Department of Education*

**Dr. Alfredo Artiles**, Graduate School of Education, *Stanford University*

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Stay tuned for additional details!

We will post updates and registration information to the NCSI website:

https://ncsi.wested.org/

You may also contact us via email with any questions:

ncsi@wested.org