



The LARAEC Insider

Week of February 5, 2023

Vol 1 Issue 12

Thursday's Lunch with LARAEC



Transform your Classroom with Collaborative Writing Tasks

Thursday, February 9, 2023

12:30 - 1:30 PM FREE!

On ZOOM

Kristi Reyes

Mira Costa College, CALPRO facilitator, OTAN SME

Grab your lunch and join Justin and Michele for Lunch with LARAEC for *Transform Your Classroom with Collaborative Writing Tasks*. They'll be welcoming presenter extraordinaire Kristi Reyes as she discusses ways to create community, build confidence and foster student agency with this challenging skill. Participants will have an opportunity to view and take part in activities that incorporate technology and have been successfully vetted online. Whether you're teaching remotely or in person, If you're looking for ways to incorporate writing in your classroom, don't miss this episode of Lunch with LARAEC!

For registration and zoom link, go to to <https://laraec.org/lunchwithLARAEC/>

Next week's Lunch with LARAEC...

Practical Strategies for Creating Equitable Schools

Thursday, February 16, 2023

12:30 PM-1:30pm FREE! On ZOOM

Presenter: Sudie Whelan

American Institutes of Research (AIR)



We have all received some kind of training on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), but how do we begin to bring about change to our campus and create more equitable environments for our students and staff? What are those small moves that we and our colleagues can take to get started? Let's talk about some ideas, share concerns, and find ways to make DEI part of what we do and not just something we check off. At this Lunch with LARAEC, let's learn some practical strategies from one of LARAEC's favorite AIR trainers.

Grab your lunch and join Justin and Michele for another Lunch with LARAEC zoomcast.

For registration and the zoom link go to <https://laraec.org/lunchwithlaraec/>

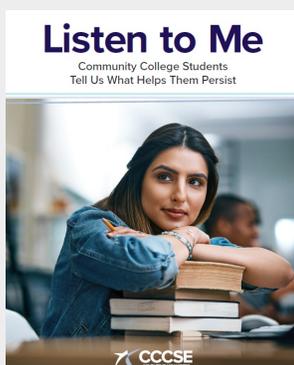
All Lunch with LARAEC sessions are recorded and are available for viewing at [Lunch with LARAEC](https://laraec.org/lunchwithlaraec/) go to <https://laraec.org/lunchwithlaraec/>

Research Shorts

Connecting you with some educational articles and studies to see how they might connect to our programs. Try on some of these *Research Shorts*, keep what fits, and return the rest.



How is Your Adult Education Class Going?



The Department of Educational Leadership and Policy at the University of Texas conducted focus group study of community college student persistence, *Listen to Me*. This study provided the first-hand experience of first-time community college students in the hopes of understanding why roughly 40% of college students drop out in the first year. Although this study focuses on college students, there are many conversations that may sound very familiar from our students and it may help your school begin to look at your school's experience

from a student perspective.

Some of the emerging conversations in the research were:

- **The First Day** – Students come in with nervousness, fear, excitement, concerns, and hope. How do we welcome them? How do we connect them with others? How do we engage students, validate their state of being, and keep them coming back? How many students do we lose before they get started?
- **Before Classes Begin** – Are students prepared for learning? What registration processes do students have to get through? What orientation do we offer? Does the orientation set students up for success or just tell them information? Do our teachers reach out before classes start? Are students ready?
- **Academic Plan** – Are students clear about their goals and have a plan at your school? Do they have a timeline and an idea of where they are headed? Do they have a why and a path? Does your school ensure all students receive academic planning?
- **Academic Support** – What strategies does your school have in place when students need help academically? Is there a student success course that includes study skills and time management?
- **Ongoing, Intrusive Advising** - Does your school have regular check-ins with students? What happens when a student gets off track? Is your counseling strategy hit-or-miss or does it only focus on students who ask for help?
- **Systems to Track Progress** – Does your school have a system to track progress? What intervention happens when?

This study provides a first-hand look at students' experiences with many of these items. Additionally it includes conversations about *high-impact teaching, motivation and confidence, widening the safety net* and other questions for consideration.

It is a good read as it puts a face and stories to our processes and practices. It just might start a conversation at your site on where we can start to better meet the needs of our students.

To read the full report, go to our [Research Shorts page here.](#)

Preparing Students for What's Next...

LARAEC Edge: When You are Ready for What's Next!

Mark Your Calendar! The LARAEC Edge: When You're Ready for What's Next coming Wednesday, March 8th and Thursday, March 9th FREE and on ZOOM!

Want your students to know all the options available to them as they strive to reach their goals? Want to be better equipped to support your students as they look at options for their future? Then the LARAEC Edge career training and college resource fair is for you. **This virtual event showcases the programs, pathways, and resources available to adults throughout the Los Angeles basin.** The conference will include

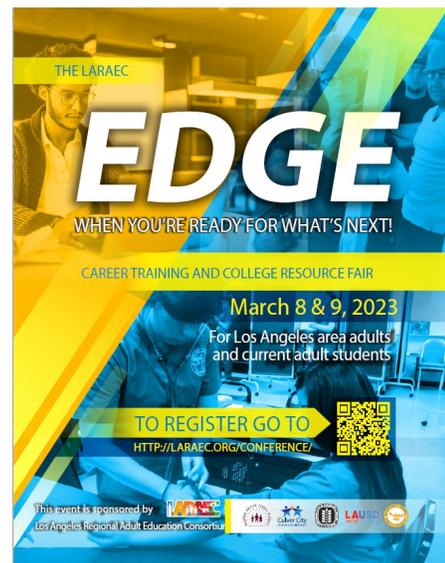
sessions on registering and paying for college, job readiness skills, and important free support services. Teach at night? **Register and bring your class** on Wednesday, March 8th from 6:00-9:00pm. Teach in the morning? No problem! Register and bring your class on Thursday, March 9th from 9:00am-1:00pm. Have students who work independently? Great! Have them register individually!

We know that students take our classes because they want to make their lives better. Let's support them in this journey.

Visit the conference website at <https://laraec.org/conference/>

Teacher Toolkit with lesson plans and worksheets <https://laraec.org/conference/>

Register your class today at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-laraec-edge-2023-tickets-523840209167>



Resource Spotlight

Navigating the FAFSA World, The Financial Aid Toolkit for Counselors

To apply for federal student aid, such

as federal grants, work-study, and loans, students need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). The FAFSA determines financial aid from the government and most colleges. It collects personal and financial information from students and parents and applies a formula to determine Expected Family Contribution. The financial aid world, however, is much broader and more complex.

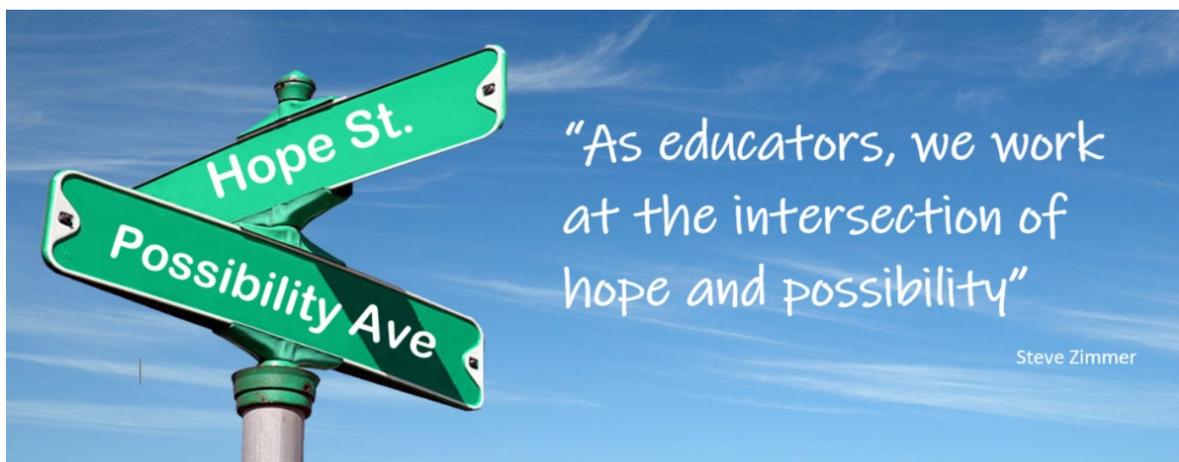


To help provide counselors, college access professionals, and advisors with detailed information and outreach tools around financial aid, The Federal Student Aid office has created an online resource called the *Federal Aid Toolkit for Counselors*. The toolkit contains information and materials designed to:

- **Conduct outreach:** get tips on hosting events; sample PowerPoint presentations; and suggested messages for social media, email, and newsletters
- **Provide training:** find training opportunities and curriculum materials for counselor's professional development
- **Connect with a variety of tools and resources** search the resource library by content, audience, and topic
- **Teach about financial aid:** learn the basics of federal student aid, the FAFSA process, and loan repayment

Access the toolkit here: <https://laraec.org/teacher-resources-ct/#FAFSA>
The Federal Aid Toolkit also contains a FAFSA demonstration site. The **demo site is available** for counseling professionals to increase their understanding of the FAFSA and allows them to **show the form to students before an application is started**. At the FAFSA demo site, counseling personnel and students can complete a sample FAFSA form, make corrections, or check the status of the form. There are also PowerPoint Slides which include **snapshots of all questions**.

Access the toolkit here: <https://laraec.org/teacher-resources-ct/#FAFSA>



If you got this newsletter as a forward and would like to have it sent to your email directly, you can register by clicking the button below!

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If no one has told you today, thank you for what you do to improve the lives of adults in Los Angeles

Profundus Collaboratus

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