



The LARAEC Insider

Week of February 12, 2023

Vol 1 Issue 13

Thursday's Lunch with LARAEC



Practical Strategies for Creating Equitable Schools

Thursday, February 16, 2023

12:30 - 1:30 PM FREE!

On ZOOM

Sudie Whelan

American Institutes of Research (AIR)

Need a midweek positivity pick-me-up? Then grab your lunch and join Justin and Michele for Lunch with LARAEC on Thursday, February 16th at 12:30pm as they welcome Sudie Whelan of the American Institutes for Research. She'll be discussing Practical Strategies for Creating Equitable Classrooms. She'll share pragmatic and effective ideas to bring change to our schools that create more equitable environments for students and staff. She'll also discuss small moves that personnel can make to get started to make DEI a part of what we do and not just something we check off. Don't miss this episode of Lunch with LARAEC with one of our favorite AIR trainers!

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

Next week's Lunch with LARAEC...

Incorporating Blended Learning Instructional Strategies

Thursday, February 23, 2023

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

Presenter: Karyn Ruiz

CALPRO Facilitator, Visalia USD adult education, and National Senior Academic Specialist, Aztec



This session will review different blended learning best practices and how their addition to programs will assist instructors in meeting their students' needs, increase their persistence, and actively engage them in their learning activities.

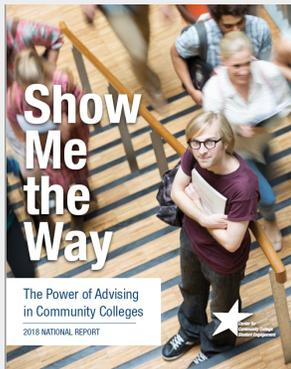
All Lunch with LARAEC sessions are recorded and are available for viewing at [Lunch with LARAEC](https://laraec.org/lunchwithlaraec/) go to <https://laraec.org/lunchwithlaraec/>

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 can Intrusive Advising help Adult Education?



In a survey of over 6,000 LARAEC students (spring 2022), **16% of our students reported that they met with a school counselor that year to discuss their goals** and 14% said that they had received an education plan. A 2018 National Report from the Center for Community College Student Engagement, outlines **the importance and value of student advising** in helping students set and attain goals, feel part of the campus community, and stay the course.

Quality advising programs can help with:

- Raising aspirations and setting goals – Helping students make a plan for the future and showing them pathways they might not have considered.
- Developing academic plans and registering for courses – Developing academic plans that work for student’s unique circumstances and helping them keep on track each semester.
- Helping students help themselves – Connecting students with needed services and opportunities that will help them be successful.
- Focusing on the big picture – Using information obtained from working with students to create school programs that help students persist and achieve outcomes.

The report suggests that advising needs to be more intrusive, equitable and holistic. Advisors need to:

- Have in-depth conversations with students
- Be intentional about avoiding bias by addressing each student’s challenges

Schools should consider if additional training and new processes need to be developed to allow for expanded advising. This report recognizes that it is **challenging to find the time to conduct these types of meetings** and that **advisors often have large caseloads**, but the **benefits of holistic advising impact enrollment, persistence, completion, and transition rates**. This report provides evidence of the **connection between higher engagement and participation in advising**.

The full report offers examples of advising programs utilized in many community colleges. **Although this study focuses on the community college population, there are many elements that can support counseling programs in adult education settings.** Both venues serve a growing number of non-traditional students that need more support to be successful.

Content condensed from:

Center for Community College Student Engagement (2018). *Show me the Way: The Power of Advising in Community Colleges 2018 National Report*. University of Texas at Austin, College of Education.

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.

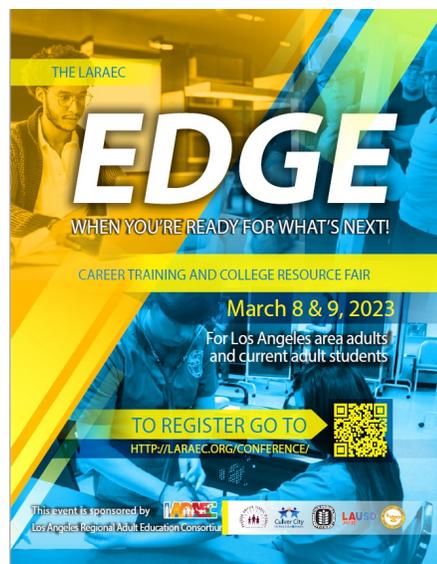
Visit the conference website at <https://laraec.org/conference/>

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

Teacher Help Video with Justin and Michele

LARAEC Edge Student Commercial

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



Resource Spotlight

Reduce Stress and Add Fun to Your Classroom with Collaborative Writing

Both students and teachers may feel challenged when it comes to incorporating writing in an ESL class. Students often feel anxiety around writing because of insecurity connected to understanding of English grammar and their feeling that they can't write their ideas "correctly." Teachers can share those same feelings of anxiety. They may feel they lack time, knowledge, or the proper resources to help their students.



If you find yourself hesitating to incorporate writing into your everyday classroom activities, then check out the ESL Collaborative Writing Spotlight on the teacher resource page to find a plethora of collaborative writing activities to boost your and your students' confidence in writing.

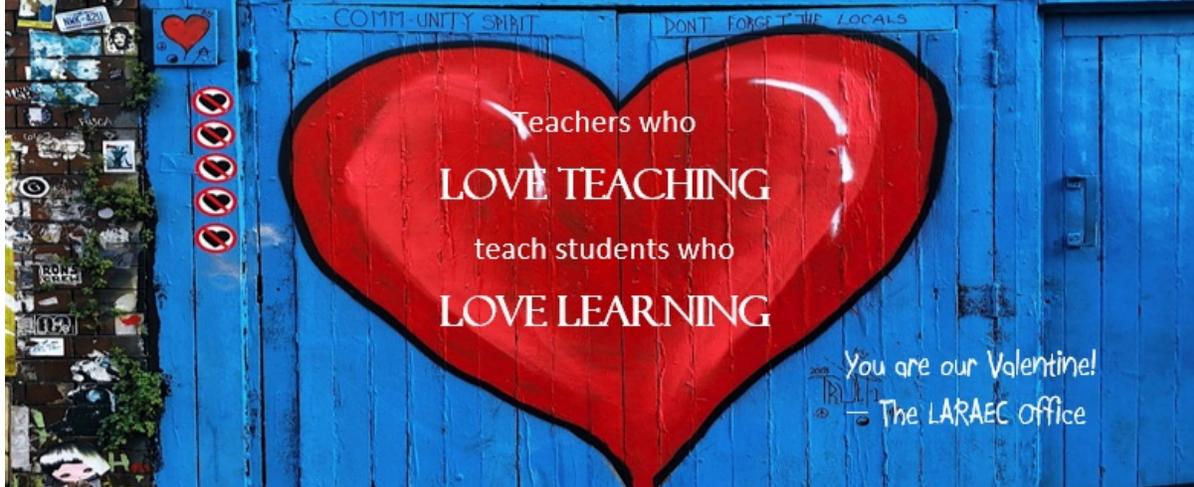
Why collaborative writing? Collaborative writing activities have a number of benefits. Research shows that planning strategies may be very important to low level writers for overcoming and compensating for lack of prior knowledge and vocabulary. The process of collaboration allows students to help each other in filling gaps in knowledge and allows for peer instruction and modeling.

Other benefits include:

- Collaborative learning may result in higher quality products
- Increased volume of writing has a positive correlation to improved writing skills, reading, and writing fluency
- Active learning helps boost the benefit and effectiveness of grammar instruction
- The writing process becomes less isolating and intimidating for students
- Interaction with classmates helps foster a supportive learning community in the classroom

The spotlight resource contains practical strategies and activities to make implementation seamless. They include activities that target descriptive writing, narrative and summary writing, and pro-con and informational/expository writing. All the activities contain a step-by-step guide to make them easy to understand and utilize in the classroom.

Check out the [ESL Collaborative Writing Spotlight here](#).



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!

[Get The LARAEC Insider](#)



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

Profundus Collaboratus

LARAEC | LARAEC.org
For information and questions email michele.stiehl@lausd.net or jmg05591@lausd.net

