



“Our partnership thrived on a foundation of shared values and mutual respect, allowing us to seamlessly combine our strengths and expertise to meet the client’s needs with unparalleled precision and care.”

– Shelley Taylor,
Executive Director of CEC

ALIGNING RESOURCES

The Regional Office of Education #4 (ROE4) is a trusted partner in the Northern Illinois education community, providing comprehensive support and resources to schools, districts, and communities within its region. With a proven track record of successful program delivery and a commitment to collaborative problem-solving, the Regional Office is a vital hub for educational excellence.

ROE4 recognizes that in order to meet their goal of providing the highest quality support, it is in their interest to partner with leading agencies and organizations to bridge the gap between national education experts and the districts they serve.

This case study outlines how ROE4 and Catalyst for Educational Change (CEC) aligned resources and streamlined processes to provide clients with seamless and efficient program delivery.

INCREASING AGENCY CAPACITY

With nationally vetted strategies and tools, CEC staff partnered with the ROE4 staff to increase dual-agency capacity and school impact through various shared program models. CEC came alongside the Regional Office to offer efficient program delivery, reduced design time, broader reach, and cost-effective results for the agencies and districts in developing and delivering specialized support tailored to each school’s need.



Better Together

Collaborating to Develop a Comprehensive Full-Year Special Education / Teaching Learning Network

CHALLENGES FOR ROE4 & CEC

- 1 Schools and districts are struggling to effectively re-tool and skill-up their special education staff & inclusion programs.
- 2 There is growing need for collaborative efforts to overcome resource constraints.
- 3 Smaller educational agencies are becoming stretched thin; providing the required technical assistance can be burdensome.
- 4 Staffing all around is an issue; many areas of expertise is required to support systems.

THE SOLUTION

By collaboratively developing a comprehensive, full-year program that combined ROE4 & CEC's expertise and resources to deliver transformative results, the full-year Special Education / Co-Teaching Learning Network has allowed both agencies to effectively meet six (6) different district's needs in the most effective and efficient manner. The program included shared delivery:

- Leadership Training Session
- Co-Teaching Pairs Training
- Unique Co-Teaching Pairs Coaching
- Skill-Building Just-in-Time PD Sessions
- IEP Goal Writing/ Progress Monitoring Session



“There’s a difference between process and product. CEC delivers a process that is based on what schools and districts need. They have the knowledge, resources, and materials to make a difference. Their empathetic approach allows them to truly understand the problems we are trying to solve, driven by the outcomes and needs.”

– Chris Collins, Director of Networks and Partnerships, ROE4



Better Together

Partnering on School and District Transformation Efforts

PARTNERING ON SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Flinn Middle School chose to work with ROE4 and CEC as a partner. As a result, while other Rockford Public Schools middle schools fell in designation, Flinn improved from a Comprehensive School to a Targeted School on the Illinois School Report card.

Among the achievements last year, the data shows that middle school and ninth grade students performed on track with all Illinois schools, and graduation rate rose to nearly 70 percent.

ATTENDANCE RATE



ACADEMICS ON TRACK



CEC is partnering with educational support centers across the country to elevate educational impact.

- 1 Extending Expertise with a Small Staff**
 - Leveraging a collective pool of knowledge from multiple agencies.
 - Enhancing the capabilities of staff with diverse expertise to address transformation.
- 2 Offering Faster, Better Program Delivery**
 - Streamlining processes for quicker and more efficient program implementation.
 - Utilizing best practices from each agency to ensure year-long support and accountability.
- 3 Delivering Ready-Made Tools, Zero Design Time**
 - Accessing a repository of ready-made tools and resources.
 - Eliminating the need for time-consuming design processes.
- 4 Reaching More Districts**
 - Expanding the reach of educational programs to a wider audience.
 - Making a significant impact at a scale otherwise unattainable.
- 5 Bundling Costs, Reducing Fees**
 - Offering cost-effective solutions by sharing resources and expenses.
 - Reducing the overall financial burden on schools and districts.

Interested in transforming education together?

Join us in collectively guiding systems change work in educational environments while intentionally enhancing each other's mission and vision for long-term sustainability.

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