



Save the Date: EARCOS/SENIA 2018: March 28-31, 2018

A Message From Ericson, SENIA Chairperson:

In its 15th year as a grassroots organization, SENIA's reach in Asia and other parts of the world has been immeasurable. Countless schools, organizations, professionals, parents and students are getting involved with SENIA's advocacy - monumental steps in the right direction as we work towards a more inclusive and accepting society. As we continue to grow, the natural questions to ask are, "How should we grow?" "What are our next steps?" "How or should SENIA transform?" However, before we delve into those questions, the more important ones to ask first begin with, "Why?" Why is it important that we raise awareness and advocate for individuals with special needs in our lives? The obvious answer to this latter question is, "It's the right and fair thing to do." As all of us who work in the trenches know, it's not that simple. These questions raise more complex ones, such as, "Is my school ready for inclusion?" "Are my colleagues ready to question their exclusive practices?" "As a society, are we ready to confront all the ways that we value and promote exclusion?" If you haven't already, I challenge you to take a risk - reflect upon these questions and then discuss them with your colleagues. Our dedication to our work can only go as far as we are willing to take risks.

SENIA Tip

Role-playing with students can be a powerful tool to practice social skills as well as learning to approach a teacher about an area of struggle or challenge.

Role playing helps students practice self-advocacy. Have the student pretend to be the teacher and the teacher acts as the student. **What can you help students learn through this practice?**

-Freddie Wagner, SENIA Board

SENIA Partners

Check out the PD Opportunities



<http://www.21c-learning.com/>

Local Chapter Feature

Chapter Name: SENIA Japan

Establish: April 2015

Website: <http://japan.senia.asia/>

Email: SENIAJapan@gmail.com

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/JapanSenia>

Facebook: [Click Here](#)

Upcoming Event: Annual conference April 2018

Current SENIA Chair: Srishti Vaswani.

From April 2017: Luci Willis and Joe Gorski

SENIA Highlight

The **SENIA 2017 Conference** took place this past February at Yokohama International School in Japan. Over 200 educators attended the event and enjoyed learning and networking throughout the weekend. **Is your school interested in hosting the SENIA conference in 2019?** Go to <http://senia.asia/> to view the application.