

NC CEC NEWSLETTER

North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children

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Letter from the President



Dear NC-CEC Members and Friends,

Welcome to our August Newsletter! In this edition I would like to share with you the work that the Board has been doing toward reaching our goals of: connecting with other organizations in the state that have a mission similar to

ours and working toward a collaborative partnership through idea sharing and supporting each other's efforts to provide the best supports, education and quality of life to individuals with diverse abilities and their families. As stated in my last message, we recognize that there is strength in numbers and by connecting and working together, we believe that we can create a stronger advocacy community!

Over the past few months we have connected with three other state advocacy organizations; these include NC-TASH, NC-DADD, and NC-TED. NC-TASH (President, Kelly Kelley), is a state division of an international leader in disability advocacy. TASH's goals are to ensure equity, opportunity, and inclusion for people with significant disabilities. NC-DADD (Co-Presidents: Chris Riviera and Melissa Hudson) is a division of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) whose acronym stands for the "Division of Autism and Developmental Disabilities". This division focuses on serving individuals with intellectual disabilities, intellectual challenges, and developmental disabilities and promoting for them, secondary outcomes, inclusive education, community living, while building a grassroots movement to create an advocacy position for parents and teachers. Additionally, NC-DADD representatives collaborate with teachers by traveling to their sites to share webinars that are useful to teachers, while

promoting DADD in NC. DADD works with ARC, as a resource, to make the services provided by DADD accessible. NC-TED (President, Bree Jimenez) is a state division of the national CEC division of Teacher Education. NC-TED's goals are focused on the professional development of quality teachers in special education and related services fields.

Our collaborative relationships first began when we contacted Kelly Kelley (NC-TASH). This contact led to an invitation to join one of the NC-TASH board meetings. I represented NC-CEC. We all introduced ourselves and discussed our thoughts on developing a more collaborative relationship. All of us were for the idea - as we could see the benefits. Kelly invited any of us who could to attend an upcoming Parent Retreat that TASH was to hold in at Western Carolina University. While none of our NC-CEC board members were able to fit the event into our end-of-semester schedules, we were happy to spread the word as best we could. Bree Jimenez of NC-TED also attended the NC-TASH Board meeting and another connection was made. Later, we invited in NC-CHADD and all three organizations attended our recent Aug. 2nd meeting to further discuss ways that we can work together. Our plans include, creating a space on our websites where we can share newsletters; including NC-TASH, NC-DADD, and NC-TED in our state conference next January 2015 (Jessica Wery, NC-CEC's president-elect, has worked with the three organizations to plan conference strands specific to each organization's goals); announcing events that could be of interest to each group's members; supporting Action Alerts when they relate to our goals and the goals of these other organizations, and planning a collaborative planning meeting at the NC-DPI Conference in Greensboro this fall. Other ideas are being discussed too... so, the "collaboration ball" is rolling!

We are excited about our new connections and appreciate the willingness of all to work together. We won't stop with three connections; we plan to expand our collaborative network! This is our "pilot test" - from these ideas, more will grow!

Best to all in the beginning of a new school year! Don't forget to connect with others to strengthen your efforts!

Sincerely,

Rose Marie Matuszny

Rose Marie Matuszny

NC-CEC President

SAVE THE DATE

Please plan to attend the

3rd Annual NC-CEC, NW Region Mini Drive-In Conference

9:00 - 4:00 on Saturday, Oct. 25th, 2014

Reich College of Education Building

Appalachian State University

151 College Street, Boone, NC

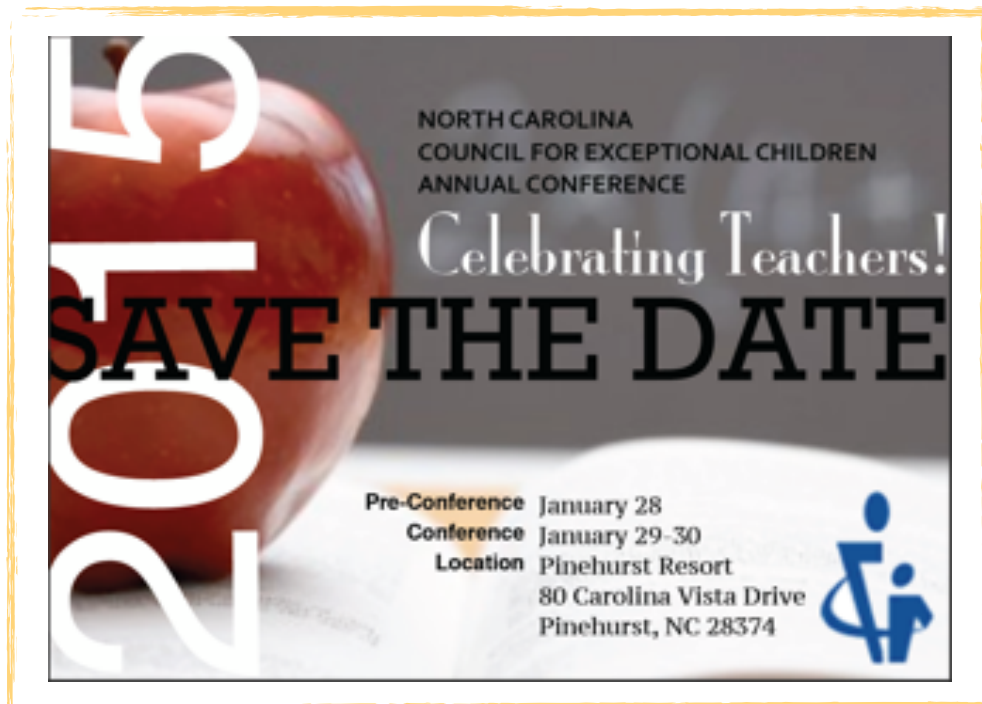
For information about hotels, directions, etc.,

Please contact:

Rose Matuszny

matusznyrm@appstate.edu

In subject line - please write: **MINI CONFERENCE 2014**



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Deadline: Saturday, September 7th, 2014

North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children is now seeking proposals for its 3rd Annual Northwest Region Mini Drive-In Conference

The 2014 conference will be held on Saturday, October 25th, 2014

9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Reich College of Education, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC

For the 2014 conference we anticipate a rich mix of conversation, networking opportunities, hands-on workshops, and engagement with professionals from a diverse variety of backgrounds in special education.

We seek to facilitate dialogue supporting students with diverse abilities among a broad constituency, including divisions of higher education, academic researchers, educators, community leaders, administrators, pre-service teachers, parents and other advocates of students with diverse abilities - this event is open to members and non-members of NC-CEC.

What We Are Looking For

We are particularly hoping to receive proposals that are informative and relevant to the field of special education, supported by theory and research, and that demonstrate ideas that are applicable to the conference theme- *gathering, sharing, and learning to support students with disabilities, birth through adulthood*.

We are interested in presentations based in the following fields: Special and General Education, Higher Education, Related and/or Community Services, and the Arts. With this in mind, we seek proposals that accomplish any of the following:

- Builds on the knowledge base of those new to the field of special education
- Demonstrates the effectiveness of existing programs.
- Proposes a methodology or evaluation model for supporting students with disabilities - or families of students with disabilities.
- Suggests new ideas and best practices for successful transition, collaborative relationships and/or transition.

- Proposals that include participants of different nationalities, different levels of experience, and from different institutional and organization types.

Please Provide a 3-5 Page Proposal:

- Include- Name of lead and co presenters;
- Contact information (email address and phone contact)
- Title of proposed presentation
- Type of session (mini workshop, lecture, interactive mix, other - explain please)
- Audience (general education teachers, special education teachers, pre-service teachers, service providers, administrators, parents, etc.)
- Description of the presentation - ½ - 2 pages
- Equipment needed? (Overhead, Projector for Power point, DVD or VHS player) due to high rental fees at the conference site, it is best to bring your own equipment (we may have a few projectors for some rooms - or to loan to those who need them).
- Let us know if you would consider doing a poster session if there is no room for a lecture presentation format. This is a new piece to our conference, but we will use this if we have a very large number of accepted presentations.

PRESENTER REQUIREMENTS

Presenters in the 2014 conference will be required to meet the following requirements:

- **50-Minute Sessions:** Each presenter will have a 50-minute time slot to present (30-35 minutes for presentation, 10-15 minutes for Q&A, & 5 min for session evaluations), during the concurrent presentations at the conference. **(PROPOSALS FOR LONGER WORKSHOP SESSIONS - up to 3-hours long - will be considered)**
- **Abstract of Presentation** - please submit an abstract *for the conference program* (250 words or less)
- **Optional Poster Submission:** If you are only submitting a poster, you will need to submit a 1-2 page paper describing your poster.

SUBMISSION PROCESS & DEADLINES

The deadline to submit proposal and presentation abstracts is Saturday, September 7, 2014. Abstracts must not exceed 250 words and should be submitted online, (to Rose Matuszny at matusznyrm@appstate.edu).

Proposals and abstracts will be reviewed and selected authors will receive a notification of acceptance by September 30, 2014.

TEACHER TIPS

First Week of School Ideas!

Recipe for Success!





Trail-mix ingredients to correspond with each ingredient on the recipe for success. Each child then mixed up his/her own bag of success to take home and share with his/her parents. For more directions visit:



<http://travelingtogether.wordpress.com/2010/08/26/teachers-talk-first-day-of-school/>



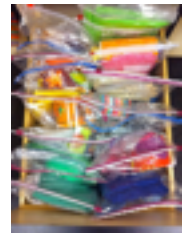
Tips for the Beginner and Veteran Teachers

-  Speak to every student as the walk into class
-  Have something for students to do when they get to class
-  Plan every minute for the first few day
-  Begin the year by developing a positive relationship with your students' parents, as they will help you understand your students better and will, hopefully, be a good resource.



Organization Tips and Tricks

- Organize Bulletin Board Sets in Bags.
- Velcro your dry-erase markers to the board and point the tips downward for a longer-lasting markers!



NC CEC MEMBERS ADVOCATE ON CAPITOL HILL

Dr. Pam Williamson, the Teacher Education Division CAN Coordinator (professor at UNC-Greensboro); Dr. Jessica Wery, President Elect of NC CEC (Adjunct Professor at Meredith College); and Amy Daniels, Exceptional Children Teacher at Franklin Academy represented North Carolina at this year's CEC National Legislative Conference held June 7-10, 2014.

The weekend began with an intensive review of national special education issues, legislative updates, as well as how to advocate for special education and take CEC's Message to Capitol Hill.

"Hill Day", June 10th, kicked off with a recognition ceremony for CEC's IDEA Full Funding Champions in Congress – Representative Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.), Representative Jared Huffman (D-Calif.), Representative Tim Walz (D-Minn.), Representative Chris Gibson (R-N.Y.), and Representative Dave Reichert (D-Wash.) CEC also honored Rep. George Miller with the CEC Outstanding Public Service Award for 40 years of leadership and dedication to improving the lives of individuals with disabilities and his support for CEC. Miller, who will retire at the end of his current term, received a standing ovation from CEC's grateful advocates. After breakfast, the advocates headed to their respective Hill visits for conversations with their elected officials. More than 80 advocates representing 25 states made approximately 250 visits to discuss more than a dozen issues on behalf of students with disabilities. Each one spoke eloquently about the importance of providing educators with the resources and funding they need to provide the services our students need and made a commitment to continue to lead the effort to fully fund IDEA.

After which, Dr. Wery and Dr. Williamson headed to the offices of North Carolina's representatives. We met with Representative Howard Coble's (R-NC 6th District) Education Legislative Assistant, Emily Finch; Representative Renee Ellmers' (R-NC 2nd District) Education Legislative Assistant, Adam Wood; Senator Kay Hagan's (D-NC) Education Legislative Assistant, Ashley Eden; and Senator Richard Burr's (R-NC) Education Legislative Assistant, Christopher Toppings. We discussed special education topics related to teacher preparation, and research funding.

Read more at <http://www.cec.sped.org/NLC>

Make your voice heard. Contact your representative and let them know how they can support special education. It is easy and takes only a few minutes. Follow this link to <http://capwiz.com/cek/home>

REMINDERS

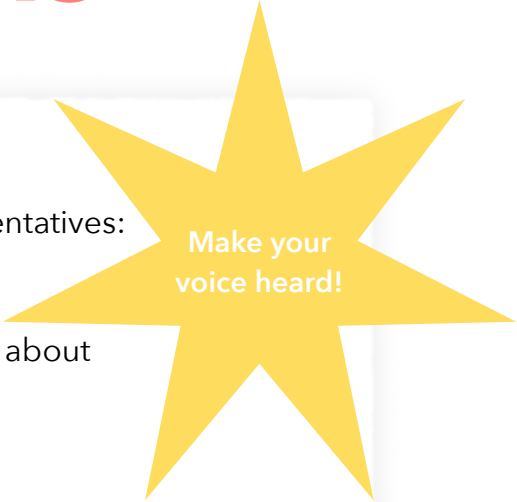
How to use CEC's CAPWIZ website

How to quickly and easily contact your senators and representatives:

1. Go to <http://capwiz.com/cek/dbq/officials/>
2. Enter your zip code
3. Click on the Bill you want to contact your legislator about
4. Type in your name and address
5. Click SEND Message!

It's that easy!!

You can modify the message prior to sending if you would like to; you can personalize it and increase the chances of it gaining greater attention.



Make your
voice heard!

CEC Conference Student Raffle

At our annual state conference in Pinehurst, North Carolina on January 29-30, 2015 we will be continuing our tradition of the student scholarship raffle. As you come to the conference please remember to bring raffle items. Past raffle items have included: gift baskets, wine, accessories, gift cards, jewelry, electronics, and etc. All proceeds from the raffle go towards student scholarships. Last year, our raffle was very successful and we hope to have even better results for 2015!



Please contact Amber Marlowe at almarlowe1@catamount.wcu.edu if you have any questions regarding raffle items.

STUDENT COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN



NC CEC STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

The 2015 Student Scholarship will be available online soon! The deadline for the application is November 14, 2015. If you have questions regarding the application please contact Dr. Lynn Knight, Student Coordinator, at lynnknight@email.wcu.edu. Best of luck to all applicants!

East Carolina University SCEC News

As far as this year goes we have been working hard all summer getting ready. We met once a week this summer with officers to formulate a plan. We also went to the freshmen orientation major interest sessions to talk about the club to try to increase membership. We are starting a point system and hoping to give rewards to the most active members to increase retention of members. We are having an applebee's flapjack fundraiser and a MacAlisters percentage night to raise money for the two conferences. We do plan to attend both the NC and the national CEC conferences. Hopefully we will have a large group for the NC conference and many of us will volunteer. For the National conference we are going to ask SGA to help fund the trip and send as many people as possible. We are also planning volunteer days in the Pitt county schools. Fall Fun days will be days we go into the EC classes and do fun fall activities like pumpkin painting and crafts with the students. The loft social will also take place this fall. —Brianna Rinaldi, Co-President



East Carolina University students at the 2014 annual NC CEC conference in Pinehurst,