

Quarterly Newsletter

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# North Carolina CAN

**CAN Coordinator: Luann Pavlu**

My name is Luann Pavlu and I am your North Carolina CAN Coordinator. Feel free to message or email me with any questions, or for more information.

As a leading advocate for students with disabilities and gifts and talents, as your North Carolina CAN Coordinator, my position will play an integral role in advancing policy in federal agencies and federal/state governments.

As your CAN Coordinator, I will represent North Carolina CEC members from our state, and will be responsible for effectively communicating CEC's policy initiatives and building a strong grassroots network.

CEC relies on CAN coordinators to build and sustain a strong network to ensure that members are well informed of the policy issues concerning students with disabilities and gifts and talents. An effective CAN network is pivotal to making progress on Capitol Hill, in federal agencies, and in state governments.

As North Carolinas CAN Coordinator, I will provide CEC with input from our affiliates and our NC divisions, and I will send policy information to CEC members through this CAN network.

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*Children and Youth Action Network;*

*A Division of the North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children*

Submitted by Luann L. Pavlu, North Carolina CAN Coordinator  
**Special Edition: 2014 National CEC Convention & Expo**

## Action ALERTS Current Legislation

### **[U.S. Department of Education Releases Race to the Top State Progress Reports](#)**

On March 19th, the year three [Race to the Top](#) state [progress reports](#) for the District of Columbia and the 11 states that received grants in the first two rounds of the program: Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island and Tennessee were released by the [U.S. Department of Education](#). They reflect reporting done for the school year of 2012/2013. The [reports](#) show the progress that each state has made against their original plan they set forth at the beginning of the program.

### **[Do Your Members of Congress Support IDEA/Gifted Funding? Now's the Time to Ask!](#)**

It's that time of year again. Yes, it's spring and flowers are beginning to bloom but in Washington, March/April is when the Appropriations - federal funding - process kicks into high gear. Between federal, state, and local budget cuts, education budgets have been squeezed thin across the nation.

### **[Experts Unveil Resources to Address Discipline Disparities; Research Shows Students with Disabilities Suspended at Higher Rates than Peers](#)**

Last week, a group of 26 nationally recognized experts from the social science, education and legal fields -- known as the Discipline Disparities Research-to-Practice Collaborative - unveiled a [collection of resources](#) that call for changes to discipline policies.

### **[Access Board Unanimously Elects Michael K. Yudin as New Chair](#)**

CEC Congratulates [Michael Yudin](#) of the U.S. Department of Education who was elected as the new Chair to the [Access Board](#) on March 12, 2014. As Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Yudin serves as the Secretary of Education's principal adviser on special education, vocational rehabilitation, and disability and rehabilitation research.

### **[U.S. Department of Ed Prioritizes Students with Disabilities in New Investing in Innovation Grant Competition](#)**

The U.S. Department of Education announced the start of the \$134 million 2014 Investing in Innovation (i3) grant competition for pre-applications for the i3 "Development" grants (up to \$3,000,000 each), which funds grantees with promising but relatively untested ideas.

This year's priorities for the Development grant category are: Improving Academic Outcomes for Students with Disabilities, Effective Use of Technology, Improving Academic Outcomes for English Learners (ELs), Improving the Effectiveness of Teachers or Principals, Improving Low-Performing Schools, and Serving Rural Communities.

**Find ALL this information and more on your NC CEC CAN Facebook Page!!**

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthCarolinaCAN>

**CarolinaCAN**

Find us on  **facebook.**



## Key Bills in Congress

**H.R. 3683** - 'To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish the Teacher Incentive Fund Program, and for other purposes.'

**H.R. 3578** - 'To amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.'

**H.R. 2597** - 'To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and schools to increase implementation of school-wide positive behavior supports.'



### Take Action!

- [Urge your Senators & Representative to Increase IDEA Funding](#)  
Deadline: April 3rd!
- [Urge your Senators to Support Funding for the Javits Gifted & Talented Students Act](#)  
Deadline: April 1st!
- [Urge Your Member of Congress to Support IDEA Full Funding](#)
- [Ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#)
- [Tell Congress to Invest in Programs for Children with Exceptionalities](#)
- [Urge Your Congressional Delegation to Co-Sponsor the TALENT Act](#)  
CEC/NAGC Endorsed Legislation Charts New Course for Gifted, High-Ability Students

**(Click on the links above and make your voice heard!)**



Visit CECs  
Legislation  
Action  
Center  
(Click an icon!)



### USEFUL Website Resources:

<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/statutes/StatutesTOC.pl?Chapter=0115C>

<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/parents/laws/>

<http://www.disabilityrightsn.org/education-self-advocacy-resources>

[http://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/ByArticle/Chapter\\_115C/Article\\_9.html](http://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/ByArticle/Chapter_115C/Article_9.html)

<http://www.ncchild.org/child-advocates>

<http://www.nccase.org/>

Laws Affecting Children With Disabilities:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) – 20 U.S.C. 1400 through 20 U.S.C 1409: Federal law governing the education of children with disabilities.

[http://law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode20/usc\\_sup\\_01\\_20\\_10\\_33\\_20\\_1.html](http://law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode20/usc_sup_01_20_10_33_20_1.html)

Federal Regulations implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act:

[http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=%2Fecfrbrowse%2FTitle34%2F34cfr300\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=%2Fecfrbrowse%2FTitle34%2F34cfr300_main_02.tpl)

Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities – 34 CFR Part 303

[http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx\\_02/34cfr303\\_02.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_02/34cfr303_02.html)

North Carolina Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities

<http://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/policies/nc-policies-governing-services-for-children-with-disabilities>

North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 115C: State law governing the education of children with disabilities

[http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/ByArticle/Chapter\\_115C/Article\\_9.html](http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/ByArticle/Chapter_115C/Article_9.html)

CEC has long advocated for Congress to fulfill its original pledge and fully fund IDEA. Currently, there are two bills we need your help! Congress has tough choices to make about what it should fund, and we want it to choose education. CEC has been working with Congress and the U.S. Department of Education to increase funding for gifted and talented programs and to increase funding for IDEA. Education funding is only 2% of the entire federal budget – this is why your voice can add so much.

YOU can help right now!

Encourage your senators and representatives to co-sponsor the IDEA full funding legislation (S. 1652 and H.R. 3578)

<http://capwiz.com/cek/home/>



The CEC 2014 Convention & Expo, is *the* global event for special and gifted education, April 9-12 in Philadelphia.

Thousands of special education teachers, administrators, researchers, professors and students from around the world will discuss pressing issues and share information in areas such as Common Core State Standards, administration, autism, co-teaching and collaboration, emotional and behavior disorders, instructional strategies for math, reading, and science, policy, technology and response to intervention.

The CEC Convention & Expo offers hundreds of educational sessions conducted by leading experts and endless opportunities to network with others working with children and youth with exceptionalities and their families. Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn about new and pending legislation and explore cutting-edge products and services in the exhibit hall.

We look forward to seeing you in **Philadelphia!**

**Pennsylvania Convention Center**  
1101 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

### Where will your **NC CEC CAN Coordinator** be during the CEC Convention? **Children and Youth Action Network (CAN) and the Legislative Action Center (LAC)**

*All day, every day!*

Come by the LAC in CEC Central to learn how you can get involved in CEC's advocacy efforts. Learn more about the 113th Congress and its members, send letters to your members of Congress on key issues, and find out more about how you can become part of CEC's advocacy team. Stop by make your voice heard on behalf of children and youth with exceptionalities, their families and the professionals who work with them. [Preconvention Workshop: What Every Educator Needs to Know About the Coming Changes to Special Education Policy](#)

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – noon**

CEC's Policy and Advocacy team will analyze education policies currently under discussion in Washington, review the recent changes to education policy and examine its impact on children and youth with disabilities and/or gifts and talents. [OSERS Priorities: High Expectations for Children with Disabilities](#)

**Thursday, April 10, 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.**

OSERS Acting Assistant Secretary Michael Yudin will discuss access to college and career ready standards and assessments, secondary transition and disproportionality. [OESE/OSEP Collaboration. IDEA and Title I Collaboration at the Federal Level: What It Means for You!](#)

**Thursday, April 10, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.**

There are many programs at the U.S. Department of Education that support states, school districts and schools in improving results for struggling learners. Over the last year there have been unprecedented efforts to collaborate across programs such as Title I, IDEA, School Improvement Grants and programs for English Language Learners. This session will describe those efforts, the impact on State Educational Agencies and potential impact on districts and schools. [CAN Meeting](#)

**Thursday, April 10, 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.**

This one-hour CAN meeting is an informal gathering of the CAN Coordinators to give everyone the opportunity to exchange ideas with each other, receive a brief policy update, and hear about the CAN Meeting in June from CEC Policy Staff. [What's Happening in Washington?](#)

**Friday, April 11, 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

Session I – Improving Results for Children with Disabilities: Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We're Going  
Session II – From the U.S. Capitol to Main Street: Education Reforms  
Session III – Education Reforms & their Impact on Special/Gifted Education  
[Overview of the National Center for Special Education Research \(NCSEER\)](#)

**Friday, April 11, 2:45 – 3:45 p.m.**

In this session, Joan McLaughlin, Commissioner at the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSEER) within the Institute of Education Science (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education, will provide an overview of NCSEER's mission, goals, and funding patterns. She will review the Center's accomplishments and provide thoughts on future directions for research. NCSEER sponsors research that focuses on the needs of infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities, or who are at risk for developing disabilities, as well as their teachers and parents. NCSEER is one of four Centers within IES, the primary research arm of the Department of Education.

[Rewriting the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act: CEC's Town Hall Discussion](#)

**Saturday, April 12, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

This is your opportunity to help shape the future of IDEA! Join in a lively discussion about what is working well for children and your programs and what implementation challenges you face.