



Good Morning Florida CASE Members!

It is our hope that you are enjoying this cool fall weather in preparation for an exceptional Thanksgiving holiday celebration!



Please join me in welcoming our new CASE Members:

Leigh Austin- Orange County Schools-
National CEC/CASE

Rachel Furlong- National CEC/CASE

Cassandra Jean-Concordia University-
National CEC/CASE

Maggie Neidhardt- Hillsborough County
Public Schools-

National CEC/CASE

Angela Passero-University of South Florida-
National CEC/CASE

We are so delighted that you have joined your professional organization!



2013 Landis M. Stetler Scholarship Recipients

In honor of Dr. Landis M. Stetler a pioneer and great leader in exceptional student education in the state of Florida for over sixty (60) years, an educational scholarship was established in 1989 to recognize undergraduate and graduate students who are pursuing a degree in special education and/or leadership.

The following students were recognized and received a scholarship for their academic performance and commitment to working in the field of exceptional student education; The award is presented annually by the President of Florida CASE at the Florida CEC conference. This year three (3) scholarships were awarded; two (2) to an undergraduate with a declared major in exceptional education in the amount of \$1,000.00 and one (1) scholarship to a graduate student in exceptional education in the amount of \$2,000.00. The undergraduate recipients are Linda Hurst and Danielle Johnson. Linda is a student at Southeastern University and Danielle a student at Florida State University. Our graduate recipient is Lisa Jester; Lisa is a student at the University of Central Florida.



Coalition of Education of Exceptional Students (CEES)

The 2014 CEES Platform Development Meeting was held on Thursday, October 17, 2013, in conjunction with the Florida CEC conference at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront. Catie McRae, Valerie Scott and I represented CASE. Some of the input we shared included:

- School vouchers for SWD are inappropriate
- All SWD should be included in the assessment and accountability system

- Adequate funding is needed to truly provide the required and necessary support to SWD

Once the CEES platform is finalized and approved by all stakeholders, the document will be shared and posted on our website. A special thank you to our members that provided input. The Legislative Session will be held on March 16-18, 2014 in Tallahassee. Please make preparation to participate. Additional information will be forthcoming.



"What Every Special Educator Must Know: Ethics, Standards, and Guidelines for Special Education" Referred to as the
the
"The Red Book"

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) wrote the book on special education; Which many of us have purchased a copy. This edition of the "red book" includes the CEC ethics, standards, and guidelines for special education preparation and practice. What Every Special Educator Must Know is an invaluable resource for faculty developing curriculum and seeking CEC national recognition, state policymakers evaluating state licensure requirements, and special educators planning their professional growth. Includes the CEC Code of Ethics; Professional Practice Standards; Mentoring Standards. Additionally, standards relevant for administrators, educational diagnosticians, transition specialists, and Para educators.

Currently there are six (6) standards and a 7th standard is being proposed but on hold until they are approved by CEC's Professional Standards Committee. Attached are the cross walked administrator of special education standards along with up-dated literature reviews for your perusal.

Membership

Thank to your efforts, we are slowly but surely increasing our membership. We have 25 Florida CASE members and 95 National Members. Our goal is to increase our membership by 10%. At the beginning of the school year, we had 89 members, and were looking to recruit just 10 more. So far we have added 6 more national members. With your help and word of mouth, we can reach our goal and have at least 100 national members on board. Simply share information about our organization to your ESE colleagues in your district. When you get information regarding new legislation from CASE, forward it to them, and let your co-workers know that they can join Florida CASE or CEC and pick CASE as one of the divisions. Refer them to the website www.cec.sped.org where they can join CEC and become a part of CASE nationally and automatically be a part of Florida CASE. If they wish to join Florida CASE for only \$25.00, they are able to do so by logging onto www.flocase.org. **This is Our Organization and Our Voice!** Let's make it count! Sandy Chambers-Collins, Membership Chair.

National CASE Winter Hybrid Conference

Please mark your calendar for the third (3rd) annual National CASE Winter Conference, February 24-26, 2014 in Orlando, Florida. The planning team is in high gear and looking forward to an exciting three (3) days with distinguish colleagues from all across the country as well as colleagues from our very own state! Please see attachment for additional information. This year's topics will include but not limited to:

- > **Focus on Measuring and Evaluating Teacher/Staff Effectiveness**
- > **Impact of Core Standards, Essential Elements and New Assessments**
- > **Challenges Facing Public Education**

We are holding conference calls frequently and working diligently. I will keep you posted as we move forward!



Florida CASE 2014 Seventeenth Annual Summer Leadership Institute

Please mark your calendar for June 9-11th at Embassy Suites Resort and Spa Deerfield, Florida. More information will be forthcoming!



We wish you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,

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