



Greetings to our CASE Members
February is the month of love
"REACH OUT AND ATTRACT LOVE BY GIVING LOVE"

*Please Join Me in Welcoming our New National CEC/CASE
Member:
Lewis Weber, Behavior Care, Inc. Sarasota, Florida*

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



Leveraging Federal Funds

Many State educational agencies are moving forward with next generation differentiated recognition that recognize student growth and school progress, as well as aligning accountability determinations with support and capacity building efforts. To support these reforms it will be necessary for LEAs and schools to leverage non-Federal and Federal funds as efficiently as possible. As a result, the U.S. Department of Education staff (Office of Special Education Programs, Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, School Accountability Programs etc..) recently held a conference call with educators across the nation and shared information for the gap analysis and provided a toolkit published by the Council of Chief State officers and the Federal Education Group and guides were also created by the U.S. department of Education on using Federal funds. Our task was to review the documents provided and respond to specific questions. In the near future, the participants will receive a compilation of all responses and "next steps" will be discussed. I am sharing some of the documents for your perusal, please see attachments for additional information.

Students with Disabilities Education Pathway Task Force

The purpose of the task force was to make recommendations on a rigorous K-12 academic pathway that will enable students with disabilities (SWD) to earn a diploma that will matriculate into postsecondary education college credit programs and options for expanding access to SWD to a traditional postsecondary academic experience. Recommendations were made in December to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Executive office of the Governor. I encourage you to take some time and review the attached document so that you are knowledgeable about what may be coming down the pike! We will also keep you abreast as things unfold.



In the News!

The state has renamed the academic benchmarks used to measure student learning gains, teacher performance and school grades the "Florida Standards." Education Commissioner Pam Stewart Tuesday called the decision appropriate.



CASE 2014 Summer Leadership Institute
Save the Date and Make Your Hotel
Reservations!

17th Annual Florida Council of Administration of Special Education (CASE) Summer Leadership Institute will be held June 9–11, 2014. This year's theme "Leadership in the 21st Century: Results Driven Accountability." The Institute will be held at the Embassy Suites Deerfield Beach-Resort & Spa. We are planning an exciting Institute for you! A "Draft" agenda will be forthcoming.

A block of rooms has been set aside for this conference at the rate of \$135.00/Standard/Single or Double Room, \$150.00/Standard Triple, \$179.00/Ocean view,

Single or Double, \$204.00 Ocean view Triple and \$229.00 Ocean View/Quad. plus tax (Tax exempt card will be honored) and a \$5.00 per day parking charge. When making reservations, please refer to the group name and code below. Reservations at the group rate must be made by **May 18, 2014** or until the room block has been reserved, whichever comes first.

Name: Group 2014 FLORIDA FL CASE SUMMER LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE
Group Code: FLO

Hotel Name: [Embassy Suites Deerfield Beach - Resort & Spa](#)
Hotel Address: 950 South Ocean Drive
Deerfield Beach, Florida
Zip code - 33441
Phone Number: 1-954-426-0478

** You may make reservations 3 days prior to the Institute and 3 days following at the discounted rate**

CASE National Third Annual Winter Hybrid Conference February 24-26, 2014- Orlando, Florida

Topics will include:

- Focus on Measuring and Evaluating Teacher/Staff Effectiveness
- Impact of Common Core, Essential Elements and New Assessments
- Public Education: How Will It Survive
- **Attend in person or link up for a virtual conference from your location**
- **Price is per site so invite as many others to join you as you wish for the same price**
- **Purchase the CD-ROM and it is for your use as often as you wish**
- **Practical Help & Resources provided to all Virtual Sites**
- **Special Communication Links between Virtual Sites and On Site participants/speakers**

The following presenters have been confirmed: Dr. Mary Brownell, CEEDAR Center, University of Florida; Dr. Stevan Kukic, NCLD; Dr. Rick Melmer, CCSSO/SDBOR/MCEC; Audra Ahumada, Alternate Assessment Director, AZ DOE; Dr. Lynn Holdheide, CEEDAR/AIR; Dr. Joanne Cashman, Director IDEA Partnership; Lindsay Jones, NCLD; Matt Clifford, AIR; Katie Hornung, AIR ; Others to be added as confirmed.

Conference Hotel:
Rosen Plaza, 9700 International Drive
Orlando, Florida 32819
Group Rate- \$119

To register go to www.casecec.org or <http://casecec.peachnewmedia.com/>. During the checkout process, please enter the coupon code FLCASE2014 (a special rate for only Florida attendees) and you will receive a 15% discount on the registration cost. See attachment for additional information and please consider participating and showing Florida CASE unity and support!

In closing..."Love may not make the world go round, but I must admit that it makes the ride worthwhile." *Sean Connery.*



Happy Valentine's Day!

Best regards,

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