

GREETINGS CASE MEMBERS!

As we prepare for another exciting school year,
the words of Nelson Mandela come to mind.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which
you can use to change the world."



PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING
OUR NEW CASE MEMBERS:

Kevin McCormick-National CEC/CASE,

Jan Hutingger- National CEC/CASE

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

Please visit our website at www.flocase.org



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW CASE BOARD MEMBERS!

Please join me in welcoming our President- Elect, Cathy Dofka- Director of ESE, Hernando School District; Professional Development, Dr. Poinsetta Tillman, FDLRS Manager Sunrise; and Member- at Large, Dr. Jean Prickett, Director of Florida School for the Deaf and Blind. Valerie Scott, prior Board position will move to Legislative and Bylaws Chairperson as her volunteer duties falls under this role. We are delighted to have our colleagues join our Board!



CASE 12TH ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

Your Board members Valerie Scott, Will Gordillo and I, had the opportunity to recently attend the Educational Legislative Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C. There were twenty-two (22) states represented and approximately seventy-five (75) attendees. CASE organization certainly prepared us for our visits with an array of information and "Talking Points." Once again, a special thank you to Dr. Luann Purnell, Executive Director of CASE Inc. and her staff for a job well done! Our Congressional visits were absolutely timely and we had the pleasure of meeting with Senator Marco Rubio, Senator Bill Nelson, Representative Frederica Wilson Legislative Assistants and Representative Ted Yoho and his legislative staff to discuss IDEA funding and Reauthorization of IDEA.

CASE 2014 Legislative Recommendations are as follows:

IDEA Funding: Recommends Congress maintains or increase investments in services and supports for students with disabilities providing adequate funding. Full funding Act (H.R. 4136) to fully fund special education in ten (10) years and increase support for early childhood programs.

Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA): Careful alignment of the goals and provisions of the ESEA and the IDEA to promote success of all students. In addition, CASE believes these two significant laws must convey consistent messages related to academic, expectations,

assessment and accountability measures of students' growth and administrator and teacher effectiveness.

~ Full Funding of the ESEA at authorized levels.

~ Incorporate research- based frameworks of MTSS into ESEA.

~ Include the principles of Universal Design for learning (UDL) as part of instructional frameworks and assessments required by ESEA.

~ Support for pre-service and professional development and require collaboration between institutions of higher education and State and local education agencies.

~ Evaluation of special educators using measures that reflect their research-based practice and multiple measures to assess student learning outcomes conducted by evaluators with expertise specific to the position being evaluated.

~ Charter schools that are part of a local district ensure students with disabilities are served in the same manner as those served in other schools of the LEA, including the provision of specialized instructional support services.

~ Reauthorization of IDEA:

~ CASE recommends Congress consider the “Reinvention of Special Education.” CASE urges Congress to review the intent

of IDEA, the current regulations, and compliance requirements that are unfunded yet mandated and burdensome, without diminishing the rights of students with disabilities and their families.

We also spent some time as a group discussing the topic “**Reinvention of Special Education.**” The results of a survey that CASE conducted revealed that only 29% indicated that their state was working on this and approximately 17% stated that some work was being conducted at the district level. Florida CASE is very much interested in this topic and will be making plans to involve you in such discussion; this will be exciting as we prepare for the reauthorization of IDEA which will align with Results-Driven Accountability; stay tuned!



NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP

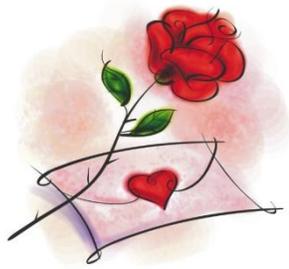
CHAIR!

We have exciting news to share! Our membership in our professional organization has increased by 18% to over 100 members for National CASE membership; we now have 108 national members. We also have 32 Florida CASE members. This is in large part to your efforts to share with your colleagues the benefits of your CASE membership. We want our numbers to increase. We need you to promote CASE within your respective districts. From now till AMM, any “new” National CASE Memberships will be eligible to enter our drawing to receive the National CASE membership paid (reimbursed). The drawing will take place at our annual membership meeting at AMM. Please encourage your colleagues and new ESE Directors to join and become active in their professional organization. Together we can do more and be the voice for legislative and systematic change.

Please be aware that sometimes it takes National CASE a month or two to update their membership database and for that information to trickle down. Please inform your colleagues who wish to join National CASE and be entered into the drawing to email their paid invoice to me at: Sandra.chambers-collins@fdlrsaction.org or Sandra.chambers-collins@ocps.net.

To become a national member of CASE, or to renew your membership simple log onto CEC website: www.cec.sped.org, and check CASE as one the divisions under the membership tab. To join Florida CASE or renew your membership, log onto www.flocase.org. It is a pleasure serving as your membership chair. If you have any ideas you would like to share with us to improve your membership experience, please do

not hesitate to contact me. We want to hear from our members, and we value your input! Here's wishing you all a wonderful start to the school year, and a successful and productive 2014-15 school year!



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

~John Quincy Adams

Best Regards,

DR. ROSALIND A. HALL, PRESIDENT FLORIDA CASE

DIRECTOR OF ESE AND STUDENT SERVICES, LEVY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT