



SPRING IS IN THE AIR!



**PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING
OUR NEW NATIONAL CASE MEMBER:**

Heidi D. Ambrosio- Pinellas County Schools

Please visit our website at www.flocase.org where you will find a wealth
of information 😊

CASE 2015 WINTER HYBRID CONFERENCE

CASE Winter Hybrid Conference held in Phoenix, Arizona, February 19 and 20th was very informative and enlightening and addressed topics of importance to administrators of Special Education. It included (but not limited to) Legal Update with Julie Weatherly, Esq, LRE, Transition, Dispute Resolution, Reauthorization and Reinvent Special Education, and National conversation Results- Driven Accountability. The conference was designed to provide on-site "Live" presentations/ Town Hall discussions coupled with colleagues across the country participating virtually.



A special thank you to the following colleagues who hosted a virtual site in their respective areas paid for by Florida CASE. In addition we purchased the DVD of the two (2) day conference which can be checked out to colleagues across the state who were unable to participate. Florida CASE is thrilled to be able to provide this level of support and service to you! We had over 100 participants across the state; this is awesome for our very first participation.

FDLRS Heartland- Debra Giacolone: Glades, Hendry, Desoto, Highlands, Hardee and Okeechobee

FDLRS Region 5- Marsha Kufel, Gwen Lipscomb and Delsey Yancoskie: Collier, Lee, Broward, Palm Beach, Dade and Monroe

FDLRS Region 2- Jim Husted: Levy, Citrus, Marion, Alachua, Dixie, and Gilchrist

FDLRS PAEC- Faye Yongue: Washington, Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Walton

Pasco- Melissa Musselwhite: Hernando participated with Pasco

FDLRS Region 4- Dr. Poinsetta Tillman: Hillsborough, Pinellas, Highlands, Sarasota and Hardee



CASE COLLABORATES WITH FOIL, FASSA AND FASA

On Friday, February 27th Florida CASE, FOILS, FASSA and FASA provided a venue in which discussion surrounding Senate Bill 850, Early Warning Systems and Multi-Tiered System of

Supports; how to Logistically Meet the Needs of Students with Disabilities was discussed. We had 226 attendees! And would have had more if we are able to accommodate all that attempted to register; but unfortunately we had met our capacity. We had presentations from our Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) Dr. Monica Verra-Tirado, Sam Forrester, Deputy Chancellor of Student Achievement and School Improvement, Dr. Amber Brundage, PK-12 Alignment Coordinator, Florida PS/RTI Project, Beth Hardcastle, Regional Coordinator, Florida PS/RTI Project, Examples of Early Warning System Implementation – Pasco County, Carrie Morris; & Volusia County, Ms Mary Alice Myers, and Beth Hardcastle, Regional Coordinator, Florida PS/RTI Project. Colleagues had time in the afternoon to develop an Action Plan moving forward to ensure that they meet the intent of the statute and continue to provide the necessary support and services to our students.

Poinsetta received feedback such as “Thank you. You’re awesome...people at my table have commended the organization of the conference. Kudos to you!

“Thank you for the materials and the exceptional information prepared for this joint collaborative meeting. This is my first CASE meeting and it has certainly assisted in affirming our purpose as leaders and the reminder of keeping our focus on students--in spite of perceived barriers that may attempt to interfere with the journey!!

A special thank you to Dr. Poinsetta Tillman, CASE Professional Development Chair, for her dedication and tireless efforts in preparing for this endeavor.



COALITION OF EDUCATION OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS- CEES UPDATE

Members of the Florida CASE Board of Directors will represent you in supporting the CEES 2015 Legislative Platform at the Capitol in Tallahassee during the Spring 2015 Legislative Session, March 16 and 17th .

CEES is a coalition of parent and professional organizations who share a common concern for improving educational opportunities for exceptional students in the State of Florida. Florida CASE is a very active member of this coalition.

Please see attached the CEES 2015 Legislative Platform. This document will guide our presentations during meetings with State Legislators. Areas of focus will include: Funding, Accountability, Personnel, Safe Learning Environment, Access and Assessment.



A special thank you to **Catie McRae**, CASE Secretary for leading and coordinating this year's Coalition meeting along with **Diane Johnson**, our Florida Council for Exceptional Children (FCEC) Liaison. These ladies have volunteered numerous hours in preparing for our visit at the Capitol. **Catie and Diane**, you are appreciated for all of your efforts and dedication.



VSA Florida is pleased to announce the winners of their Eighth Annual 2015 VSA Florida Young Soloist Competition who will be representing the State of Florida in the VSA International Competition in Washington, D.C. later this year.

Congratulations to 19 year old lyric soprano, [Lyudmilla Fuentes](#) from Polk County, 17 year old pianist [James Williams](#) from Pasco County and [Outta Sight](#), the musical performing group from the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind in St. Johns County. The three artists/groups were selected through a strict adjudication process facilitated by Tampa Bay professors of music at the University of South Florida and HCC Ybor and will now represent Florida in their quest for the international title.

Congratulations to our talented young adults!

We are so very proud of you!



**FLORIDA CASE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL
SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! GO TO

www.flocase.org

**THEME: "RE-INVENTING SPECIAL EDUCATION:
SHARE THE VISION"**

June 8-10, 2015

Embassy Suites Resort and Spa Deerfield, Florida.

Hotel Reservations:

A block of rooms has been set aside for this conference at the rate of \$137.00/ Standard/Single or Double Room, \$152.00/Standard Triple, \$181.00/Ocean view, Single or Double, \$206.00 Ocean view Triple and \$231.00 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 "Florida CASE" AND ask for "Reservations." Otherwise the call may be transferred to the 1-800 desk and they are not managing our event.

Reservations at the group rate must be made by Friday, May 15, 2015 or until the room block has been reserved, whichever comes first.

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

**Embassy Suites Resort and Spa
950 South Ocean Drive, Deerfield, Fl. (954) 426-0478
Embassysuites3.hilton.com**

***Please share our CASE Conference with your colleagues.**



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“LEADERSHIP IS NOT ABOUT TITLES, POSITIONS, OR FLOW CHARTS. IT IS ABOUT ONE LIFE INFLUENCING ANOTHER.”

~JOHN C. MAXWELL

**Your Board wishes you a safe, fun-filled and relaxing Spring Break!
It is important that we rejuvenate and recharge our battery☺**

Best regards,

DR. ROSALIND A. HALL, PRESIDENT FLORIDA CASE AND BOARD