



# Florida CASE Newsletter

Summer 2022

## Florida CASE Board of Directors

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Anna Jensen

## Greetings CASE Members,

I trust you had a wonderful, relaxing, and rejuvenating summer and ready to “Kick- off” a new school year! I hope that the opening of school has been a smooth transition for you!

I value and applaud your positive energy, passion, and dedication to excellence in education as we support our students. I am so excited as to what the new school year will bring to our students! The education of our children is a fundamental value of our great nation. This new school year is filled with promise and opportunities for our students with disabilities. We wish you a successful school year!

## Congratulations To Our New CASE Board Members!

**President- Elect, Barbara Johns- Director of ESE and Student Services, Bradford County School District**

**Membership Chair/Secretary, Kelly Downey, Coordinator, Hernando School District**

**Legislative Chair- Anna Jensen, ESE Director, Hernando School District**

**I look forward to working collaboratively with our Board as we support our mission and be of service to you!**

### Quote of the Month

**Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.**

*~Mattie Stepanek*

**Warm regards,  
Dr. Rosalind A. Hall President,  
Florida CASE**



# Welcome

## **PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING OUR NEW ESE DIRECTORS**

**Shirrie Barany, Mater Academy**

**Kesandra Brown, Gadsden County District Schools**

**Rhonda Boils, Glades County District Schools**

**Dr. Ross Van Boven, P.K.Yonge Developmental Research School**

**Dr. Kathryn Cooley, San Jose Charter**

**Kimberly Halliday, Flagler County**

**Allyn Howard, Jefferson County District Schools**

**Jennifer Leach (Interim) Franklin County District Schools**

## **SPECIAL MESSAGE**

### **To Our New Administrators...**

Welcome to your new position! As an administrator, whether it is school based or district, you play a critical role in improving the learning environment and charged with the responsibilities of shaping a vision of equity, academic and behavioral success for all students. But as a new ESE Student Services and/or ESE and Student Services administrator, how do you survive? These recommendations are also recognized by former educators Peggy Romshek and Jenny Piening.

- A. Find out what is expected of you; do not assume as every district is different:**
- 1. What staff are you responsible for?**
  - 2. What areas are you responsible for; such as MTSS, Section 504, Mental Health, Psychologists, Nurses, Staffing etc...**

**3. Meet with Superintendent, former Director/Supervisor and inquire further**

**B. Establish rapport:**

- 1. With other administrators that you will be working with (Schools and District Staff)**
- 2. With ESE Teachers and Paraprofessionals**
- 3. With General Education Teachers**
- 4. With parents**

**C. Organization: Find a system that works for you! (This area is so important)**

- 1. Start a list of contacts**
- 2. Find a filing system that works for you**
- 3. Get a calendar system (District and School meetings, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), Professional Organizations and other essential appointments**
- 4. Be punctual on all reports**

**\*You cannot do it all. Delegate what you can but consider the skill set of the person in which you are delegating the task to. It is important to network with new and veteran administrators and know where to find the information that you are seeking\***

**Have a great school year and remember, “Ability is what you’re capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it.”**

**~Lou Holtz**



## **Words of Encouragement...**

**Remember to take time for yourself and**

**v Laugh often**

**v Cry when you need to**

**v Have fun**

**v Be inspired**

**v Make a positive difference**

**Have a great year and enjoy the ride.**

**Cathy Dofka, Past President**

# Florida CASE "IGNITE SUCCESS"



## 2022 CASE Summer Leadership Institute

On June 6-8, 2022, at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa, Bonita Springs, Florida CASE “kicked off” our annual Summer Institute with over 150 participants. We were blessed with amazing speakers who ignited our passion and love for why we do what we do in the land of education. Our Keynote Speaker, Amy Gluck open the institute with an amazing presentation that included best practices of instruction, assessment, and intervention, followed by Dr. Timothy King on Tuesday, with an engaging presentation on Restorative Practices and cultivating a school environment that provide support to our students and the positive affect it brings. The day continued to be meaningful as our colleagues were able to collaborate, problem solve and have open dialogue with size alike districts. The Finale! On Wednesday, we were dazzle with David Hodgins, Esq who provided current ESE Legal Issues that we are facing in our daily work. Also, our FDOE Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) lead by our very own Bureau Chief, Mrs. Victoria Gaitanis and Mr. Andrew Weatherill, Director of Student Services with Legislative and BEESS updates.



## Membership Update

What an exciting time to be in the field of education. We are empowering our youth to tackle the future with resilience and kindness. As a Florida CASE member you are also part of a larger network serving communities around the globe. Our collective voice is a powerful tool in making the difference in a child's life. Last year we saw our Florida CASE membership double as teachers and administrators sought out fellowship in our community of special educators. Our membership includes 198 members from over 47 school districts and 8 state universities. Welcome everyone and we look forward to meeting with you throughout the year.

**Kelly Downey, Membership Chair**



Effective July 1, 2022, there were several changes in legislation: Amendment to s.1003.572, F.S., enables individuals with a nationally recognized paraprofessional certification in behavior analysis to provide applied behavior analysis services as private instructional personnel. It also allows registered behavioral technicians to assist in providing applied behavior analysis services when practicing under the supervision of an authorized professional. Amendment to s.1003.01(3)(a) and s.1003.21(2)(e), F.S., extends Developmental Delay (DD) eligibility for children who were identified as DD from birth through 9 years or through the student's completion of grade 2, whichever occurs first. Amendment to s.1003.573, F.S., prohibits school personnel from using mechanical restraint and removing related language. Allows school resource officers, school safety officers, school guardians, or school security guards to use mechanical restraint in the exercise of their powers and duties to restrict students in grades 6 through 12. Specifies that physical restraint must discontinue as soon as the threat has dissipated. Ensures physical restraint may be used only to protect the safety of students, school personnel or others. Voting season is upon us! Be sure to do your research and vote accordingly.



**Ann Jensen, Legislative Chair**



As the President Elect, I would like to say how honored I am to be in this board of dedicated educators. I am looking forward to working closely with the FLCASE board to bring quality training and advocacy to all the Florida Educators that we serve. I have been on the board for five years in varying positions. This is a dedicated board that will continue to seek legislative changes, support up and coming educators, and celebrate dedicated professionals in our field.

Barbara Johns ED.S., President Elect



As the CASE Professional Development Chair, it is my role to bring to the CASE Board to consider topics and presenters that can offer a program of learning and making connections, share and learn about tools, and strategies to understand and implement effective professional learning in the classroom, schools, and district. The Summer CASE Learning experience brings a lens of what is trending in our profession so we can continue leading with expertise in the educational field when working with students with disabilities.

**Sonia Figaredo, Professional Development Chair**

# ICYMI

## In Case You Missed It!

New guidance released today from the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) helps public elementary and secondary schools fulfill their responsibilities to meet the needs of students with disabilities and avoid the discriminatory use of student discipline.

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/new-guidance-helps-schools-support-students-disabilities-and-avoid-discriminatory-use-discipline>

### **The new resources include:**

- [Supporting Students with Disabilities and Avoiding the Discriminatory Use of Student Discipline under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and an accompanying Fact Sheet.](#)
- [Questions and Answers Addressing the Needs of Children with Disabilities and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act's \(IDEA's\) Discipline Provisions.](#)
- [Positive, Proactive Approaches to Supporting the Needs of Children with Disabilities: A Guide for Stakeholders.](#)
- A [letter](#) from Secretary Cardona to our nation's educators, school leaders, parents, and students about the importance of supporting the needs of students with disabilities.

\*See attached [QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND IDEA'S DISCIPLINE PROVISIONS OSEP Q&A 22-02 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES JULY 19, 2022\\*](#)

## Florida Department of Education

School District Actions as a Result of Legislation Enacted in 2022 The department has compiled the attached chart outlining district actions as a result of legislation enacted in 2022. If you have additional questions, you can find bill summaries, links to the legislation and related memos at <https://www.fldoe.org/policy/edu-lawslegislation/governmental-relations/pubs.stml>.



Your Board would like to recognize our members for their accomplishments throughout the year. If you receive an award, promotion, special recognition etc...Please send me the information along with a picture so that we can highlight you in the upcoming newsletter. We take great pleasure in honoring you!

## Did you know...

Florida CASE supports many statewide and national initiatives such as:

- ✓ Florida Institute for Teacher Educators
- ✓ Florida CEC state conference
- ✓ Dr. Landis Stetler Scholarships
- ✓ BEESS State Advisory Meetings
- ✓ FDLRS Annual Institute Meeting
- ✓ Administrators Management Meeting (AMM)
- ✓ Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT)
- ✓ Florida Legislative Training
- ✓ BEESS new Director's Academy
- ✓ ISRD Summer Institute
- ✓ Partners for Progress- Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) is the only national membership organization to focus exclusively on inclusive employment and career advancement opportunities for individuals with disabilities.
- ✓ National CASE, Gold Sponsor
- ✓ Florida Committee for Educators of Exceptional Students (CEES)
- ✓ Healthy Minds/Healthy Futures Conference



## Save the Dates



October 20-22, 2022

[Click Here for more information](#)

<https://florida.exceptionalchildren.org/events/fcec-conference>



**Administrators Management Meeting (AMM)**

**December 15-17, 2022 at Caribe Royale Resort, Orlando Fl.**

**Additional Information Forthcoming**



Registration Open...

[Click here for more information](#)

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#inbox/WhctKKXgjHGzkVZqHvZXsnThTKfqzBQPgnGHGWRXhfmSbzKBMexJmmCDHLtIQZIkWpKgpG>



## Florida Annual Visions Conference

April 12-14, 2003

South Bank Hotel  
Jacksonville, Fl.

