



Florida CASE Newsletter

Winter 2022

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Lynne Mowatt

Happy New Year Colleagues,

As I reflect on this past year; It reminds me to be thankful for the last 365 days and excited for the 365 before us. I am so thankful for the opportunity to serve you and be of support. I think we would all agree that the last two and half years have been a learning process and inspite of the challenges we faced we rose to the occasion in support of our students and families. It is crystal clear to me that attitude, perseverance, motivation and beliefs are essential as we forge ahead.

May all the best things in life come your way this year. Wishing you nothing but the best in 2022; A year filled with happiness, peace, love and self-care. May every wish of yours get fulfilled in the upcoming year.

Warm Regards,
Dr. Rosalind Hall



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Self-compassion is simply giving the same kindness to ourselves that we would give to others.

~Christopher Germer

Membership Update – Kelly Downey

Florida CASE is committed to supporting leaders in special education around the state. Membership is key to our organization. The people that join Florida CASE are our colleagues. We work together, support our districts together, and strengthen our commitment to the students and families of Florida. Our strategic plan includes increasing membership by 10% this year. To obtain this goal we are seeking at least one member from every county. Representation is key to building a voice. That voice advocates for staff, students, and families.



During our recent conference in Orlando, AMM, we were able to connect and rekindle our passion for special education. Florida CASE held a board meeting and spoke to National CASE leadership about their membership drives. We are planning some new membership incentives including some short easily accessible professional development. While at AMM you may have seen our CASE membership table or received some fancy CASE highlighters. We also hosted a beautiful social event that brought members together. We will continue to monitor our membership reports and keep you informed as our professional organization grows. Stay tuned.

Legislative Chair Update – Lynne Mowatt

This year's legislative session is in full swing. In the next few months, the Education and Appropriations subcommittees will meet to look at changes to existing and new legislation. There are many bills that are proposed this year, and our voices matter. In order to prepare for our advocacy, we will again this year have a virtual Special Education Advocacy Legislative Summit, otherwise known as SEALS. The virtual sessions will take place February 15-17, from 6:30-7:30 pm. A flyer, with links, is provided with this newsletter. I encourage all members to participate in this year's SEALS and to be a voice for special education.

This year's SEALS will focus is on ESE Service Provider shortages and Mental Health. These two topics are having a significant impact in education on a national level. Here in Florida, districts and schools are feeling the impact of stressful working conditions, staff and student anxiety and as a result, we are finding our special education providers leave the field at monumental levels. We need to identify these conditions as a barrier to closing the achievement gap for students with disabilities. Now more than ever, the challenges of accelerating these gaps is of paramount importance.



Please make the time to join us on February 15-17, and in meetings with our legislators, so that we can make a difference this year.

A Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On January 17th we will celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through reflecting on our history and volunteering our time to help our communities. Google states "we see his enormous contributions and his impact on the fight for equality as reflected in Americans' search interests. He's the most-searched civil rights movement leader to date, and search interest for his "I Have a Dream" speech spikes in the U.S. every January, the month of his birthday."



This year, in honor of Dr. King, you are invited to visit "Still Dreaming," a miniature gallery created by Tammie Knight, designer and owner of Small Matters Miniatures, with photography from Google Arts & Culture archives curated by mixed-media artist Adrian Octavius Walker.

The gallery takes viewers on a journey through Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy. It features rare photos of him taken throughout his lifetime, and you can explore the gallery thanks to footage taken by Nathaniel King.

"Dr. King was determined to fulfill his dream of one day being treated as an equal. He continuously took action in service of that dream, even when the outcome was uncertain," Walker says. "These images capture his drive and passion that inspired others to dream of equality in the face of uncertainty, both then and now."

Since 2004, the most searched topic in the U.S. for quotations by Dr. King is "love," bringing to mind one of his most-remembered quotations, from his 1963 book, "Strength to Love:" "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

Go to [MLKDay.gov](#) to learn about the MLK Day of Service and to find volunteer opportunities in your area.

Life's most persistent and urgent question:
**What are YOU
doing for others?**

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Congratulations to the 2021 Dr Landis Stetler Scholarship Recipients!



Erin Carter attends Florida State University and is enrolled in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Masters' Program. She is expected to receive her Masters of Science in August of 2023 and is excited to continue to work with students with disabilities. Erin stepped in to help her school district by providing teletherapy as an SLPA during quarantines and school closures and has returned to providing face-to-face therapy on a part time basis while working towards completing her master's degree. In addition to working to complete her degree and serving part time as an SLPA in Bradford County Schools, Erin is also the mother to a beautiful baby girl. It is an honor to award the scholarship to Erin and we hope that this scholarship brings her even closer to her goals.

Sarah Hingson attends Nova Southeastern University and is working

towards a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology. Sarah is currently working as an SLPA in Columbia County School District with a focus on students with disabilities who are utilizing augmentative and alternative (AAC) devices along with many other students with various speech and language needs. Sarah is very passionate about communication and feels that it is one of the most important factors to maintain quality of life and she feels very proud to be in the field of speech-language pathology. Sarah has a heart for individuals with special needs that is evident to all of those who have the opportunity to meet her. We wish Sarah well and it is an honor to provide her with the scholarship to help her continue her passion of working with individuals with disabilities.



Shelby Bruno attends University of West Florida and is pursuing certification as a Elementary Education and Exceptional Student Education teacher. Shelby is currently working as an instructional paraprofessional and is excited have the opportunity to work with students in the classroom while she is working towards her teaching certification and is proud of what she does. Shelby is very hardworking and dependable and her colleagues truly enjoy her positive, team-player attitude and her ability to foster positive discussions that bring out the best in those around her. Congratulations Shelby and it truly is an honor to award the scholarship to such a dedicated and hard-working individual.

Education is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom.
~ Oprah Winfrey



ICYMI In Case You Missed It!

The 6 Critical Practices for Leading a Team ~ Franklin Covey

<https://www.franklincovey.com/solutions/6-critical-practices/>

School-University Partnerships Influencing advocacy and Engaging Rural Special educators "Project SPIDERS."

The purpose of this grant is to prepare scholars to be leaders in special education in rural schools and districts. University of North Florida (UNF) can fund six special education doctoral scholars over the next four years to study starting in fall 2022.



The application deadline is March 1, 2022.

More details can be found by visiting the [website](#) dedicated to the Project SPIDERS.



FLORIDA CASE
SUMMER
LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE

SAVE THE DATE



JUNE 6-8, 2022
@ HYATT REGENCY
COCONUT POINT
RESORT AND SPA

Save the Date

January 16-19, 2022

CEC Convention & Expo

Orlando

February 9-11, 2022

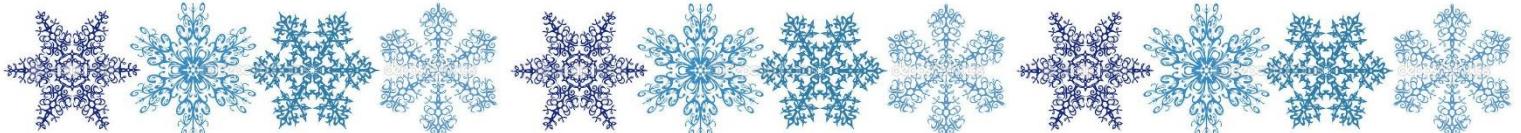
CASE 2022 Virtual Winter Workshop

Register Here!

June 6-8, 2022

Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute

Bonita Springs



CASE 2022 Virtual Winter Workshop

February 9, 2022 - February 11, 2022

Virtual Event Only

Sponsored by:



\$250 CASE Members

\$350 NON-CASE Members

The CASE 2022 Virtual Workshop will be held on February 9-11, 2022.

We will kick off the workshop on February 9, 2022 with a "Sponsor Showcase."

February 10, 2022 will feature Keynote Speaker Dr. Adam Sáenz, CEO of Applied EQ Group.

February 11, 2022 will feature a keynote presentation by Miriam Kurtzig Freedman, JD, MA, Attorney with Stoneman, Chandler & Miller LLP, and a keynote presentation by Erin Maguire, Director of Equity & Inclusion with Essex Westford School District and CASE President, Myrna Mandlawitz, CASE Legislative Consultant, and Dr. Kevin Rubenstein, CASE Policy & Legislative Chair.

You may pay by credit card today upon completion of your registration. If you prefer to pay by check, please remit payment to:

Council of Administrators of Special Education
1675 E. Seminole Street
Suite L1
Springfield MO 65804

PLEASE NOTE: Cancellations must be emailed to office@casecec.org no later than Friday, January 28, 2022 in order for a refund (less 25% administrative cost) to be issued. Cancellation requests received after January 28, 2022, will not be honored.

For questions, please email office@casecec.org or call 417-427-7720.



100 Years
of Leading Special Education



2022 Virtual Winter Workshop

February 9-11, 2022

February 9, 2022

9:30am-4:00pm (CST)

Sponsor Showcases



Dr. Adam Sáenz

CEO, Applied EQ Group

February 10, 2022

Beyond the Pandemic: Adult SEL as a Roadmap to Wholeness

9:30am - The Power of a Teacher

11:00am - Loving Myself Well (Wholistic Self-Care)

1:00pm - Understanding Stress through the Lens of a Hero's Journey

2:30pm - Relationship-Based Behavioral De-escalation



(see special video message below)



Miriam Kurtzig Freedman, JD, MA
Attorney, Stoneman, Chandler & Miller LLP

February 11, 2022

9:30am

Build TRUST -Small Step, Big Impact!

sponsored by:
 PresenceLearning

Erin Maguire, Director of Equity & Inclusion, Essex Westford School District, Vermont & CASE President, Dr. Kevin Rubenstein, Assistant Superintendent, Elmhurst Schools, Illinois & CASE Policy and Legislative Chair, and Myrna Mandlawitz, MRM Associates & CASE Legislative Consultant

February 11, 2022

11:30am

FAPE, Endrew F., Compensatory Services and the Impact of COVID-19: Navigating the Law and Guidance!

