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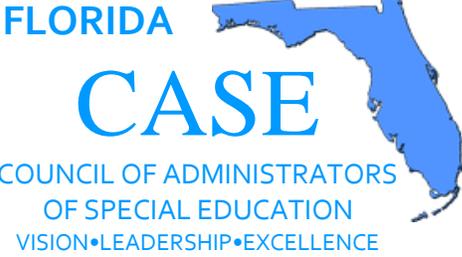
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Message from the desk of the President

I hope that the start of the new school year has been a smooth transition for everyone.

I would like to start our newsletter by giving a warm welcome to our new Florida CASE Board members. Please welcome aboard:

*Dr. Fraenda Satchel-Carter, as our new Secretary
Sandra Chambers-Collins, as our new Treasurer
Nickie Zenn, as our new Membership Chairperson
Barbara Johns, as our new Legislation and Bylaws Chairperson
Latonnja Key, as our new Member at large Chairperson.*

I look forward to working and seeing everyone and don't forget to:

- *Laugh often*
- *Cry when you need to*
 - *Have fun*
 - *Be inspired*
- *Make a positive difference*
- *Have a great year, and enjoy the ride.*

All the best,

*Cathy Dofka
Director of Exceptional Student Support Services
Hernando County Schools
President, Florida CASE*

2017 Florida CASE Summer Institute

On June 12-14, 2017 CASE participated in their annual Summer Institute. There were approximately 130 participants in attendance. Our great speakers this year provided a wealth of knowledge in their presentations. Guest speaker Toby Karten provided everyone on the first day with a wonderful present on Cultivating a Climate for Diversity, Integration and Inclusion for all Students. Our second day was packed full of information with guest speaker Dr. Lisa Dieker starting out the day speaking on Inclusive Education. Guest speaker Kevin Pendley followed Dr. Dieker by updating our participants on the current legal issues we are facing daily with our climate changing. Our second day ended with a great presentation on Dyslexia by Dr. Ann Slinger. Our last day provided us with a Legislative and BEESS update presented by guest speaker Dr. Monica Verra-Tirado. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend next year's event June 11-13, 2018.

If you have a topic and/or guest speaker suggestion for our CASE conference, send them via email to dofka_c@hcsb.k12.fl.us. Suggestions are not just limited to our meetings, feel free to contact me any time you have a concern or suggestion.

A special thank you to all our vendors that participated this year. They include Allied Instruction Services, Destination Knowledge, Kinems, Scientific Learning, and Teachtown.



CASE and CEC 2017 Legislative Education Summit

Our very own Rosalind Hall, Past President attended the CASE and CEC 2017 Legislative Education Summit this year. The following is a recount of the summit this year from Rosalind.



“Storming the Hill for Special Education!” This was National CASE 14th Annual Legislative Education Summit and the 2nd year that we have collaborated with National CEC to sponsor an informative and productive Summit! There were 43 states represented with over 275 educational professionals from Public Schools to Colleges and Universities. We had a very diverse group of colleagues all speaking the same language in support of Special and Gifted Education.

Members of Florida CASE, Judith Everett and myself along with Florida CEC members, Gayle Zavala, our CEC Children and Youth Action Network (CAN) Representative and Team Leader, Dr. Raul Escarpio, Dr. Jennifer Lesh, Jane Boritz, Jillian Schreffer, Rebecca Hopkins, Matt Taylor, Samantha Mrstik and Hannah Ehrli traveled to Washington, DC to attend the 2017 CASE and CEC Legislative Education Summit July 9-12. This summit provided strategies that are designed to assist the attendees in preparation for their visits with their respective Senators and U.S. congressmen. In addition, we had many presenters that provided in-depth information and a wealth of knowledge on the various topics of concerns. Both Myrna Mandlawitz, CASE Consultant, Governmental Relations and Deb Ziegler, CEC Policy and Advocacy stressed the importance of our voices being heard and our stories being shared with our policy makers in ensuring positive educational outcomes for our students.

While on Capitol Hill we met with Senators Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio Legislative Education Assistants and our respective congressmen across our beautiful state to convey our top priorities. They were as follows:

*Education Appropriations- We urges Congress to increase funding to IDEA Part B, Part C, Part D and the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act in the FY 2018 appropriations bills.

*Keep Public Funds in Public Education- We urges Congress to support efforts that maintain and enhance the use of public funds for public education and services offered through public school districts

*Medicaid in Schools- We urges Congress to oppose any bill that reduces Medicaid coverage for children's health services, especially those for children with disabilities and children in poverty and oppose any bill that establishes block grants and per capita caps or reduces federal Medicaid funding, that would result in shifting costs to states (please find attached a Medicaid Facts document).

In addition to our strategically planned visits "On the Hill" which we felt were quite powerful, the highlight of the Summit was the Keynote Speaker, Kimberly Richey, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) on our first day of meetings and our last visit with Ruth Ryder, Office of Special Education (OSEP) Acting Director! Both of these ladies truly have our students with disabilities best interest at heart. They listened to our concerns and took copious notes with the desire to maintain communication.

It is critical that we continue to let our "Voices be Heard" not only in Washington, DC but equally important in Tallahassee. We must work collectively with knowledge to advocate effectively as we shape policies and practices which impacts the quality of education for our children with disabilities.

A special thank you to our Florida team; your presence made a difference!

Best regards,

Dr. Rosalind Hall, Past President, Florida CASE



CASE and CEC 2017 Legislative Education Summit Group picture.



CASE and CEC 2017 Legislative Education Summit Group picture with Ruth Ryder, OSEP Acting Director.

Florida CASE Awards

At the Summer Institute we recognized two wonderful award recipients. The following are the recipients for the 2017 Outstanding ESE Administrator of the year and 2017 Life Time Achievement Award:

2017 Outstanding ESE Administrator of the Year!



“My ability to connect cultural lines continues to drive my intrinsic motivation as a servant, transformative leader. My servant leadership has given me opportunities to bridge cultural ability, economic, social and emotional gaps by being an active participant within and outside of my community.”

- Dr. LaSonya Moore is Special Education faculty member in the College of Education at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.
- Active member of CEC and CASE for more than 15 years
- Organized USFSP’s campus CEC chapter and initiated numerous activities to increase awareness regarding special education and services
- Recipient of USFSP Outstanding Senior Award, fall 2003
- Recipient of Outstanding Graduate Award in 2003
- Recipient of The USF Distinguished Alumni Under 35 in 2006
- Has served as a principal designee, assistant principal, a behavior specialist and a special education teacher
- Dr. Moore is a co-founder of the National Urban Special Education Leadership Network (NUSELNET), a national network of progressive educational leaders in the field of Special Education
- Dr. Moore has met with the UN Department of Public Information Outreach Division, Girl Rising, and UN Women to discuss international educational change policies
- She is a 2013 Harvard Summer Scholar
- She is an active member of the World Academy for the Future of Women (WAFW), Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), American Association of University Women (AAUW), & Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
- 2014 & 2016 CGIU (Clinton Global Initiative University) Commitment to Action.

Congratulations
Dr. LaSonya Moore!

2017 Lifetime Achievement Award



- Currently the Director of the Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership Studies and Professor of Education at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg (USFSP)
- Served as Dean of the College of Education at USFSP (2012-2016)
- CEO and Dean of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus from 1992 to 2002.
- Served as a member of the Florida House of Representatives (2006 - 2010)
- Former department chair, superintendent of a psychiatric hospital, a federal program specialist in the former Office of Education, and a special education teacher
- Serves on a number of local non-profit boards including Family Resources, Hospice Institute, St. Petersburg Preservation, Tampa Bay Watch, and the Bon Secours St. Petersburg Health System Board of Directors
- He is an Honorary Life Member of the Great Explorations Children's Museum Board of Directors, and a Emeritus Board member of the Mahaffey Theater Foundation
- Dr. Heller is a veteran of the U.S. Army having served as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division
- A member of the Council for Exceptional Children for 50 years and was Chair of its Professional Standards Committee responsible for writing and securing approval by the delegate assembly of the first ever Council's Code of Ethics, Professional Program Standards, Standards for the Preparation of Professional Personnel
- Served as President of the Teacher Education Division and the Pioneers Divisions at the national level along with many roles at the state level.
- A historic event he cherishes is that he was a member of the panel appointed at the federal level to develop the first ever definition of learning disabilities

*Congratulations
Dr. William (Bill) Heller*

Florida CASE Award Nominations

This is your opportunity to recognize one of your colleagues for the excellent job they are doing. The Florida CASE Executive Board announces three awards available for ESE administrators in our state. These nominations take place in the spring. The following are the awards and some information to help you with nominations in the spring of 2018.

Rookie ESE Administrator of the year: This individual should be an administrator of special education programs that has worked in this position for three years or less. This person should demonstrate vision and leadership skills that have supported children with disabilities and their families. The winner of this award will receive a plaque, paid registration for the Florida CASE Summer Institute (Florida CEC registration would be an alternative option) as well as the recognition of their peers at the Florida CASE Summer Institute. Individuals nominated for this award do not need to be a member of CASE but must be a member of CEC.

Outstanding ESE Administrator of the year: This individual should be an administrator of special education programs that has worked in this position for five to 20 years, demonstrate consistent and outstanding vision and leadership for children with disabilities and their families and be recognized for the contributions they have made not only to their district but to their community and state. Individuals nominated for this award must be a current member of National CASE. Winner of this award will also receive a plaque, paid registration for the Florida CASE Summer Institute, a beautiful gift basket and recognition at the CASE Summer Institute. This individual may also be submitted as a nominee for the National CASE award.

Life Time Achievement Award; This individual should be an administrator of special education programs for twenty years or more and has demonstrated consistent and outstanding vision and leadership for children with disabilities and their families and be recognized for the contributions they have made not only to their district but to their community and state. The nominee for this award must be a current and longtime member of CASE. Winner of this award will receive a plaque, paid registration to the Florida CASE Summer Institute, National CASE or National CEC Conference and recognition at the Florida CASE Summer Institute. This individual may also be submitted as a nominee for the National CASE award. **SELECTED by FLO-CASE Board of Directors**

Thank you BEESS and FASSA for your support of CASE and all your efforts to make AMM such a success!



The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) is pleased to announce that AMM has been scheduled for September 12-14, 2017. AMM will be held at The Vinoy Renaissance St. Petersburg Resort & Golf Club, and will be co-sponsored by the Florida Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) and the Florida Association of Student Services Administrators (FASSA). AMM is designed for administrators of district exceptional student education (ESE) and student services programs, representatives of college and university training programs, discretionary project personnel and state agency programs.

Exceptional education and student services administrators are strongly encouraged to attend to obtain current and timely information on federal and state initiatives. Attendees should make their travel plans to ensure participation for the entire meeting. AMM will feature a Florida Department of Education and BEESS update, keynote speakers, topical and concurrent sessions, and district size-alike discussions on relevant issues.

Our annual business meeting will be held, Tuesday, September 12, 2017 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM, I hope all of you can attend.

Please make plans to attend the CASE/FASSA Reception during the AMM meeting.

We will be having a gift basket silent auction to help support the Landis M. Stetler Scholarship Fund. So please bring a creative crafter gift basket to benefit the Landis M. Stetler Scholarship Fund.



- What: Gift Basket Silent Auction.
Every School District, Organization & Vendor bring a gift basket of your own creation to auction off
- Where: Florida Administrative Management Meeting (AMM),
Vinoy Renaissance Hotel, St. Petersburg, FL
- When: Wednesday, September 13, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
- Who: Every School District, Organization & Vendor
- Why: To help raise funds to support the
Landis M. Stetler Scholarship Fund

We appreciate your participation in this event. A Florida CASE representative will be available at the registration table to accept your basket on the first day of the AMM Meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Alice Schmitges at (386)329-3824 or schmitgesa@nefec.org.

DR. LANDIS M. STETLER ESE LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS

The Florida Council of Administrators of Special Education (FLCASE), a subdivision of The Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE), a Division of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) has established a scholarship program to award a financial scholarship in the name of Dr. Landis M. Stetler, a pioneer and great leader in exceptional student education (ESE) in the state of Florida and the nation. The scholarship is presented at the annual Florida Council for Exceptional Children (FCEC) Conference.

1. **The Florida CASE Board will determine annually:** the number and amount of scholarships to be awarded; if graduate and/or undergraduate students are eligible; due date to receive applications; and determining if recipients may reapply in subsequent years while completing their degree program to renew the scholarship.
2. **Criteria:** The successful applicant must meet all of the following criteria, as determined by the selection committee:
 - a. Be a Florida resident and currently enrolled in an under-graduate or graduate program leading to certification in ESE and/ or major in exceptional student education. (A focus on administration of exceptional student education will be given special consideration.)
 - b. Sign an affidavit that the applicant intends to teach or work in a district position in ESE in the state of Florida.
 - c. Provide two letters of recommendation, one of which is from the university or college major professor.
 - d. Complete the application form online. A major part of the application is the narrative providing the rationale for why the applicant is seeking the scholarship.
 - e. Be a current CEC member in good standing.
3. **Procedures for application:** Applications are coordinated by Florida CASE. Application packets and announcements are posted on the Florida CASE website. Announcements of the application will also be included in FLCASE publications, distributed to appropriate district and university/college personnel, and noted in FL Department of Education information sharing, and other appropriate sources; Instructions on completing the application, timelines, and where to send the application will be contained in the application packet.
4. **Procedures for review/selection:** A Scholarship Selection Committee will be established by Florida CASE with at least three CASE members representing the district administrators in the state. Applications will be reviewed and scored by the committee either in person, via mail, or electronically, and Scholarship Selection Committee Chair will provide the results to the FL CASE President.
5. **Procedures for notification:** The FLCASE President or designee will notify all applicants of the results of the review process. Names of the recipient(s) will be shared with the FCEC President and FCEC Awards Chair.

6. **Coordination of the presentation:** The scholarship presentation will be done at the FCEC Annual Conference. The FCEC Awards Chair and the FLCASE President or designee will ensure that all appropriate arrangements are made and communicated to the recipient(s) The registration for the FCEC Conference should be completed for the recipient(s) and should also list the guest attending with the recipient. The tradition is one guest per recipient. If others plan to attend to support the recipient, tickets may be purchased if there is a meal function as part of the awards presentation.
7. **Amount of award:** The amount of the award is determined by Florida CASE. Adjustments in the number and amounts of the scholarship can be adjusted at the discretion of the FLCASE Board on an annual basis.
8. **Recognition:** A plaque is maintained in the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) at the Florida Department of Education in Tallahassee, and the name of the recipient(s) should be added each year by the FLCASE President or designee.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF NOTE:

2018 CEC Special Education Convention & Expo

It is never too early to start planning for the next CEC Convention.

Register now for the CEC 2018 Convention & Expo,

Feb. 7–10 in Tampa, Fla.

www.ceconvention.org

2018 CASE Summer Leadership Institute



If you have a topic and/or guest speaker suggestion for our CASE conference, send them via email to dofka_c@hcsb.k12.fl.us. Suggestions are not just limited to our meetings, feel free to contact me any time you have a concern or suggestion.

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES

CASE has proven to be an effective influential organization which provides powerful support to its membership. The mission of The Council of Administrators of Special Education, Inc. is to provide leadership and support to members by shaping policies and practices which impact the quality of education.

Now, more than ever, your membership in the CASE organization can assist you as you grow professionally and develop services at the state, province and local level for students with disabilities. It is our hope that CASE can assist in being your springboard to excellence.

To be a CASE member you do have to pay for membership in CEC and CASE. Depending on which level you choose, that could be as little as \$125 for the Basic plus CASE or as much as \$265 for the Premier plus CASE. No matter which level you choose, your CEC membership will provide you with information to broaden your knowledge and keep you current, open discourse to stimulate your thinking in the CECCommunity, connections to expand your relationships through Special Interest Divisions and state/provincial unit membership, and paths to advance your career and practice.

To renew or join your membership please go to the following website for the Council of Exceptional Children (CEC):

<https://www.cec.sped.org/>

Click on Membership and join CEC

Add CASE on as a division

Please note there are district memberships which can offer discounts if you have 5 or more district staff that wish to join their professional organization.

Contact customer service at 1-888-232-7733 or service@cec.sped.org for help or additional questions

Contact Nickie Zenn, Membership Chair for additional information regarding your membership in Florida CASE: nzenn@usfsp.edu



Did you know?

Florida CASE supports many statewide and national initiatives including:

- Your Membership Dollars are Working Hard to Represent You!
 - Florida CEC state conference
 - Landis Stetler Scholarships
 - DOE state advisory meetings
 - FDLRS annual institute meeting
 - Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute
 - Administrators Management Meeting (AMM)
- Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT)
 - CASE/FOIL/FASSA Collaborative meeting
 - Florida Legislative Training
 - BEESS new director academy
 - ISRD summer meeting
 - Partners for Progress- APSE conference



Did you also know?

Your Florida Board will represent our Florida administrators:

- Florida Legislative session
 - Florida CEC conference
 - National CEC
- National CASE hybrid conference
 - National CASE/NASDE
- CASE Legislative summer training