



KY Council for Exceptional Children for Exceptional Children

**You are invited to attend the
49th Annual Kentucky
Exceptional Children’s Conference
November 23-25, 2014**

Accelerating Learning to Close the Achievement Gap for Students with Disabilities

We encourage you to take advantage of this richly enhanced learning opportunity in your state! Come and gather the knowledge, skills and resources to take back to your local professional learning communities. The differentiated professional development offerings at this conference are designed to improve the effectiveness of education professionals in raising student achievement .

Register online at: http://kycec.org/cec_2014_Conference_Page.html



**TPGES FOR SPECIAL
EDUCATORS
WITH CHARLOTTE ARVIN**

During the 2013-14 school year, teachers across the state of Kentucky were piloting the Teacher Growth & Effectiveness System; this group included special educators. It seemed that we needed to gain a deeper understanding of effective teaching of special educators. Special educators served by the Central Kentucky Educational Cooperative joined together to form a cadre to take a closer look.

A visit to the Kentucky Department of Education website led the group to “The Council for Exceptional Children’s Position on Special Education Teacher Evaluation,” 2012. This insightful article provided guidance as to how the complex role and effectiveness of the special educator might be described using information in the CEC publication “What Every Special Educator Must Know,” 2009. Special educators in the cadre were pleased to find the CEC Initial Level Preparation Standards. (continued on pg. 5)

Special points of interest:

- > Kentucky Exceptional Children’s Conference
- > President’s message—page 2
- > TPGES for Special Educators
- > KYCEC Website: Keeps Getting Better www.kycec.org... Visit it today to stay updated.

**Don’t Forget to Join
KYCEC on Facebook
and Twitter!**

Inside this issue:

President’s Message	2
National News	3
KYSCEC News	4
TPGES	5
More about Conference	6
Yes I Can Winners	7
Board Members	8

Message From the KYCEC President, Barbara Washington



As president of KYCEC for the coming year, I am honored to welcome you to one of the greatest exceptional children's advocacy organizations in our field. There are exciting new items this year that gives even greater value to your membership.

In response to your concerns about maximum cost effectiveness from membership dollars, the Council for Exceptional Children has adopted a new membership structure that allows members to choose what benefits or options you desire from three levels of membership: basic, full and premier. We think you will like the new options. Please visit www.cec.sped.org for more information.

Your dues include membership at the Kentucky level as well as the national CEC level.

I want to emphasize the importance of participation in the national CEC organization. National CEC is a recognized lobbying and advocacy agency that proactively represents the case for special education in Washington D.C. and with other state legislative bodies. National CEC is our collective voice for special education. National membership gives us the numbers we need to impact change to special education policies. Finally, national CEC membership offers windows to information and postings on critical issues for national discussion boards -- engaging conversation across the nation and across CEC divisions and disciplines. For example, national offers position papers on restraint and seclusion, updating testing accommodations, results driven accountability initiatives, ideas on how to improve student outcomes, and news or information for member access.

At the national level, new three-year strategic goals are under development. You will hear these new developments at the Fall 2014 KY Exceptional Children's Conference and national CEC conference in San Diego, in April 2015. I assure you, based on early exposure to the above issues, the investment in CEC will produce good dividends in your special education programs.

Finally, a reminder about the awarding of the "*Yes I Can*" recipients in November at our Louisville conference. As you know, our awardees are eligible for national recognition at the April Conference in San Diego. Kentucky has represented at the previous three conferences.

Please remember KYCEC members are eligible to apply for a mini-grant to provide funding for programs in your classroom. Previous awards have included curriculum materials, specialized programs, technology, or other innovative ideas which can be used to support students with disabilities. Details for applying are on the KYCEC website.

There is much to be done this year. We need you aboard. New members are welcomed! I look forward to seeing you in Louisville. I also look forward to seeing you in San Diego. Thank you for all you do in support of our students and our programs!

Honor Someone you respect today with a nomination!

Five 2015 KYCEC Awards

- **Mary May Wyman Outstanding KYCEC Member of the Year Award**
The purpose of this award is to allow KYCEC to honor a member who has shown consistently unselfish service in promoting the education and welfare of exceptional children in Kentucky.
- **Carl Perkins Contributor to Special Education Award**
This award is given to individuals for their distinguished leadership and service in the interest of exceptional children.
- **Outstanding Special Education Administrator of the Year Award**
This award is to be given to a school administrator whose primary responsibility is special education. The award is for distinguished leadership and support for special education and/or gifted and talented programs in Kentucky.
- **Outstanding KY Student CEC Member of the Year Award**
This award is to be given to a student CEC member. It is the highest tribute KYCEC pays a student member. The student may be member of a KY student chapter or a regular chapter.
- **Certificates of Appreciation**
Each Kentucky CEC chapter or sub division may submit a name of ONE agency, organization, media network, etc., which has contributed to the advancement of education for exceptional children in the chapter or subdivision.

Visit www.kycec.org under **Nominations for Awards**

IDEA Part D National Activities ▪ Fiscal Year 2015

CEC calls on Congress to give IDEA funding the high priority it requires. An appropriation of \$12.906 billion for FY 2015 would represent an important reaffirmation of the federal commitment to IDEA. Congress should fulfill its 39-year old promise: IDEA funding should be available and mandatory.

Read: [The Federal Outlook](#)



CELEBRATE ★ ★ ★
EXCEPTIONAL

CEC is offering tiered membership levels to
fit any budget!

Visit: <http://celebrateexceptional.org/>



KYSCEC News: State Student Chapters are off to a great start!

Murray Chapter News

Did you Know?

KYSCEC has a FACEBOOK Page!!

Join us at:

Kentucky Student Council For Exceptional Children



The Murray State SCEC chapter is pleased to start the semester off with a higher number of active members than we've had in a long time! We are honored to have recently learned of being chosen as one of thirteen groups for the CEC Mentor-



ship program. This program will pair our SCEC members with an experienced CEC teacher. We look forward to these experiences and know we will learn from these experienced teachers.

The Murray SCEC chapter anticipates a busy semester starting with an outreach event. We joined other campus organizations at the campus student picnic, where we set up a display and met with other potential members. We are currently preparing for the Buddy Walk for Down Syndrome awareness, as well as the Murray State's Polar Plunge hosted by Alpha Sigma Alpha and Alpha Gamma Rho.

2014-2015 KYSCEC Officers

Crysta Hicks, President
Cain Alvey, Vice President
Ashlee Florer, Secretary

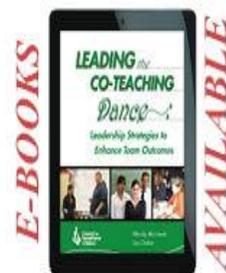
Are you interested in starting your own student chapter? We would certainly love to have you!

If your university does not have a student chapter, and you are interested in starting one, please contact Crysta Hicks (President) at Crysta.hicks543@topper.wku.edu

or Dr. Sarah Hawkins-Lear (advisor) at s.hawkins@moreheadstate.edu!

Silent Auction

The Kentucky Student Council for Exceptional Children will be hosting their annual Silent Auction at the Fall Conference in the Exhibit Hall. There will be items ranging from gift cards to handmade crafts, so come and start your holiday shopping! All proceeds raised by each University will be utilized for community projects for students with disabilities.



Three of CEC's best-selling publications are now available as e-books. Now enjoy CEC products digitally! Shop now at: <http://www.cec.sped.org>

Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness System



CHARLOTTE ARVIN

**Instructional Coach
Central Kentucky
Educational Cooperative**

During three meetings, that included many hours of professional discussion and reflection of the previously mentioned documents, the cadre members realized they agreed with CEC’s position; special educators should use the same system as general educators. The group strived for a deeper understanding of Kentucky’s Framework for Teaching (FFT). The discussion always ended up the same: members had no problem identifying with the more general Domains and Components. The differences occurred in the Elements and Performance Indicators of the FFT. The description in the FFT didn’t focus on the development and implementation of IEP’s. The group also agreed that the CEC Initial Level Standards did a great job defining the expectations of the professional special educator. Thus, the idea of a Crosswalk with Instruction Connections was conceived.

During the pilot year, leaders at the Kentucky Department of Education respectfully accepted concerns and ideas for the TPGES for special educators from the CKEC Cadre, as well as many others across our state. It was obvious that they intended for Kentucky educators to be a part of developing this system. When Johnny Collett, Kentucky Director of Special Education, and Dr. Amanda Ellis, Kentucky Associate Commissioner, learned more about the idea of the Crosswalk, consultants from Educational Cooperatives across our state were asked to join together to complete what the cadre hadn’t been able to in their few short meetings together.

The first task was to align the CEC Initial Preparation Standards for the general special educators (LBD certification) to the four domains of the Framework for Teaching. This proved to be a challenging task. The group realized that the standards corresponded to more than one FFT Component. In the end, the decision was made to choose only one FFT Component per standard. The final choice was made based on what the group perceived as a Source of Evidence for each of the CEC Standards. After many hours of rich, professional discussion the Crosswalk was complete. See the excerpt to right:

2E	ISCI 2 S16	ICC 5 S16	Use universal precautions
3C	IGC2 S1	IGC5 S1	Provide instruction in community-based settings
2E	IGC2 S2	IGC5 S2	Use and maintain assistive technologies
1	IGC2 S3	IGC5 S3	Plan instruction in a variety of educational settings
3	IGC2 S4	IGC5 S4	Teach individuals with exceptionalities to give and receive meaningful feedback from peers and adults
4E	IGC2 S5	IGC5 S5	Use skills in problem-solving and conflict resolution
2C	IGC2 S6	IGC5 S6	Establish a consistent classroom routine for individuals with exceptionalities

The group of consultants, district directors of special education and others joined for additional days to further develop the Instruction Connections for general special educators. The group used a variety of print resources from the Danielson Group, ASCD, to further define the Elements and Performance Indicators for Special Educators using the language from the CEC Standards.

See sample below:

FFT Domain: Component	CEC Standards
Domain 2E: Organizing Physical Space Resources C.H.A.M.P.S. KYCID Universal Design for Learning Keywords: Preferential seating Environmental lighting Sensory needs Cool down areas Seating arrangements	IGC2 K1 Barriers to accessibility and acceptance of individuals with exceptionalities IGC2 K2 Adaptations of the physical environment to provide optimal learning opportunities for individuals with exceptionalities IGC2 S16 Use universal precautions IGC2 S2 Use and maintain assistive technologies IGC5 S7 Incorporate and implement instructional and assistive technology into the educational program IGC2K1 Barriers to accessibility and acceptance of individuals with exceptionalities.
Ineffective Physical resources and environment show no evidence of planning for individual student needs.	Developing Physical, cognitive, social, and emotional needs of students are intentionally taken into consideration when arranging work areas and classroom spaces.
Accomplished Classroom is designed in a way that it can be easily adapted to accommodate physical, social, emotional, and cognitive needs of individual students as documented in their I.E.P.	Exemplary Students self-advocate and provide input into classroom design and make decisions about re-arranging physical space as needed.

Special educators, administrators and others have welcomed the draft of this tool. It seems to clarify the role of the special educator in such a way that administrators with limited experience with special education can lead intentional discussions about effective teaching. Teachers plan to use the tool for self-reflection and self-advocacy.

This entire tool will be shared during the Ky CEC Conference in Louisville on Sunday, November 23rd at 1:00. We hope to see you there!!

The theme this year is "Accelerating Learning to Close the Achievement Gap for Students with Disabilities." We will be learning how to do this through evidence based practices, college/career readiness, professional growth and effectiveness system, and legal/compliance issues framed around student outcomes.

Participate in the many rich opportunities to learn and engage in dialogue about the field's most important topics, including:

- ◆ Teacher effectiveness
- ◆ Universal design for learning
- ◆ Positive Behavior Supports
- ◆ College and Career Readiness and Transition
- ◆ Response to intervention
- ◆ Evidence-based instructional strategies
- ◆ Common core state standards
- ◆ Expanded core curriculum
- ◆ Assistive and Instructional Technology
- ◆ And much more!

HIGHLIGHTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

Teacher of the Year Award and Keynote Session

Grand Hall Foyer: Art Exhibit

CEC Annual Membership Meeting

Making the Case to Your Supervisor

Many professional development budgets have been considerably reduced. Regardless of the merits of the Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference (and we think there are many!), you may need to justify it to your supervisor(s).

Who Should Attend:

- ◆ Special educators and early interventionists
- ◆ General educators
- ◆ Administrators and supervisors
- ◆ Teacher educators
- ◆ Researchers
- ◆ Related service professionals
- ◆ University students
- ◆ Parents, paraprofessionals, and others with an interest in

Here are some things you will want to consider:

- ◆ Focus on what you will specifically bring back to your school, school district, college/university, or organization.
- ◆ Offer to prepare and deliver a short presentation and Q&A to your colleagues to share what you learned and the resources you have discovered so that others will get the benefits of your attendance, too!
- ◆ Share your plans as to how things will be taken care of while you are away.
- ◆ Offer to share a hotel room to reduce expenses.



The Yes I Can! Awards honor children and youth with disabilities who excel. KYCEC will once again recognize the winners of the 2014 Yes I Can! Awards at the Fall conference in November. The nominations were received from across the state in seven categories: Academics, Arts, Athletics, School and Community Activities, Self-Advocacy, Technology, and Transition. *Yes I Can!* Coordinator, Rhonda Simpson, reported twenty-five nominations were received from many districts and recognized students from all ages and categories of disabilities.

The Kentucky winners are:

Academics - Kanna Smith – Russell County Schools

Arts – Graham Maupin – Jefferson County Schools

Athletics – Morgan Reed Magness- Taylor County Schools

School & Community Activities – Mason Rucker – Scott County Schools

Self-Advocacy – Layla Rabbeth - Green County Schools

Technology – A’Marria Johaua Linton – Washington County Schools

These deserving students will be recognized with their guests at a ceremony during the conference.

Additionally, the winners will be invited to share their talents and stories at a conference session prior to the awards ceremony. All are invited to come and celebrate the accomplishments of this stellar group of individuals at the *Yes I Can!* session. The Kentucky winners will be forwarded to the National CEC *Yes I Can!* Committee for consideration at the national level.



**Meet the Yes I Can! Winners
at the Fall Conference!**

Monday, November 24 3:15-4:45 pm

Session #M44

Awards Ceremony and Reception 5:00-7:00 pm

ATTN: KYCEC MEMBERS

To learn more about how your chapter or division can receive a **mini-grant**, please access the mini-grant application from the website. www.kycec.org

Or contact Debbie Samples at debbie.samples@graves.kyschools.us.

Share good news
or
Spotlight Exceptional Children
and Educators in your district

Contact the
Newsletter Chairperson:
Kathy Maciel
Kathy.maciel@grrec.ky.gov

KYCEC Executive Board 2014-2015

Barbara Washington, President
3201 Alexander Hall
Murray State University
Murray, KY 42071
bwashington@murraystate.edu

Dr. Rhonda Simpson, President Elect
402 E. Hodgenville Avenue
Greensburg, KY 42743
rhonda.simpson@green.kyschools.us

Pam Matlock, Past-President
890 Steamboat Road
Gilbertsville, KY 42044
pmatlock@murraystate.edu

Kathy Maciel, Vice President
230 Technology Way
Bowling Green, KY 42101
kathy.maciel@grrec.ky.gov

Carrie Bearden, Executive Secretary, Conference Chair
657 S. Hurstbourne Pky. Ste. 229
Louisville, KY 40222
carriebbearden@gmail.com

Merissa Waddey, Secretary
2772 Amsterdam Road
Villa Hills, KY 41017
859-341-5260
merissa.waddey@kenton.kyschools.us

Arden Goodman, Conference Treasurer
116 Green Lane
Georgetown, KY 40342
502-542-0582
arden.goodman@scott.kyschools.us

Cindy Dawson, Treasurer
1287 Hayes Court
Bowling Green, KY 42103
specialccd@yahoo.com

Erica Cutright, CAN Coordinator
905 Ridgecrest Way
Bowling Green, KY 42104
e.c.cutright@gmail.com

Crysta Hicks, KYSCCEC President
1575 Normal Street
Bowling Green, KY 42104
Crysta.hicks543@topper.wku.edu

Debbie Samples, Member at Large & Mini-Grants
149 Overby Drive
Mayfield, KY 42066
debbie.samples@graves.kyschools.us

Sarah Hawkins-Lear, KYSCCEC Advisor
1775 Lawrence Road
Kailua, HI 96734
s.hawkins@morehead.edu

Beckie Brown, Parliamentarian
100 Bay Hill Court
Georgetown, KY 40324
Beckie.brown@scott.kyschools.us

Jenny Miller-Horn, Membership Chair
Kenton School District
1055 Eaton Drive
Ft. Wright, KY 41017
jenny.miller-horn@kenton.kyschools.us

Miranda Reed, Member at Large
100 Crabapple Cove
Paducah, KY 42001
270-559-0542
miranda.reed@graves.kyschools.us

KYCEC Divisions:

CASE: Kathy Dykes
Kathy.dykes@fayette.kyschools.us

DEC: Elizabeth McLaren
e.mclaren@moreheadstate.edu

TED: Steve Crites
critesstl@nku.edu

CCBD: Patty Whitney
patty.whitney@att.net

Pioneers: Bill Porter
bill.porter@simpson.kyschools.us

KYSCCEC:

President: Crysta Hicks
Crysta.hicks543@topper.wku.edu

Thanks to all KYCEC members for their dedication to meeting the needs of individuals with disabilities!