

# KY Council for Exceptional Children

## Fall Conference 2013: Prepared Kentucky Teachers for Success

### KYCEC Announces 2013

#### Kentucky Special Education Teacher of the Year

##### Ms. Candace Stolt, Franklin Elementary School, Simpson County Schools

Amanda and Billy Wemyss, parents of one of “Ms. Candy’s” former students, describe the joy they feel today and say that they still feel, “Without adequate words to say how special she is.” This is despite the fact that Ms. Candy had their son in preschool and he has gone on to graduate from Franklin Simpson High School and receive a scholarship to University of Kentucky for Civil Engineering. Candace has been teaching for 29 years, is a National Board Certified specialist, and has received numerous awards for her efforts and her classroom. Still, she cites her greatest source of pride to being called “Ms. Candy” by her students and parents. She makes it her goal that every pre-school and kindergarten student, as well as their parents, feel welcome and experience positive transitions and instructional experiences suited to their needs. She says her motto is, “Greet every family with a smile on your face and a song of hope in your voice.” The Kentucky Department of Education and the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children would like to congratulate Ms. Candace Stolt on being selected for the KYCEC 2013 Special Education Teacher of the Year.



#### Special points of interest:

- > KYCEC Teacher of the Year and “Yes I Can!” winners
- > President’s message—page 2
- > 2014 KYCEC Nominations are due by March 15th
- > KYCEC Website: Keeps Getting Better [www.kycec.org](http://www.kycec.org)... Visit it today to stay updated.

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

### Yes We Did...

#### Congratulations to our Winners!!!



Kentucky’s 2013 Yes I Can! Winners were celebrated at the November Exceptional Children’s Conference. Seven awardees, chosen from the twenty-nine nominations received throughout the state, were recognized for their exceptional talents. Winners and their families were honored with a dessert reception and luncheon awards ceremony at the Galt House. Additionally, all were featured at a session in which their individual stories were highlighted.

The Yes I Can! Awards are supported by KYCEC, KYCASE, and the Pioneers. The winners were all submitted for the National CEC awards, which will be given in Philadelphia, PA in April. KYCEC President-Elect Barbara Washington was the 2013 Kentucky Yes I Can! coordinator. A brief summary of the winners can be found on pages 7-8.

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## Message From the KYCEC President, Pam Matlock

**Kentucky's 2013 Exceptional Children's Conference, "Implementing for Success: Putting the Plans Into Action,"** was truly exceptional. There are countless reasons to be very proud of our Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children (KYCEC), but this annual conference is a major source of pride for us all. It definitely merits a "Top Ten Reasons to Be Proud" list.

**#10** Over 850 individuals gathered at the Galt House in Louisville for this comprehensive professional development event dedicated to special education! There were ongoing opportunities to network with colleagues and discuss the latest research and most promising instructional strategies, as well as the opportunity to catch up with our peers whom we haven't seen since last year's conference! It was a fun spirited group of professionals, who gathered to learn, dialogue, and rekindle our relationships and advocacy for special education.

**#9** The sessions featured the most important topics and most recent research from our field. The planning

committee is to be applauded for the variety of topics, which included 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, assistive and instructional technology, and the list goes on and on. We frequently heard "We have 2 or 3 sessions we want to attend during this time slot!" What a wonderful problem to have!

**#8** The myriad of individuals and groups working in our profession are evident by their many working sessions at conference. Kentucky's Advisory Group met in public forums, Kentucky Department of Education's Division of Learning Services personnel shared updates on new initiatives, the KYCEC Executive and General Board members held a joint meeting, KYCEC Student Program and KYCEC both held their annual meetings for all members, KYCEC divisions such as the Teacher Education Division, Council for Children with Behavior Disorders, and Division of Early Childhood held informational and planning meetings. The dedication of all these professionals who gather at this venue to reflect and make plans to move forward our collaborative goals in special education is mind boggling.

**#7** The conference is a money maker, and every precious dollar is accounted for through services which are returned to our field and our

students. Profits are shared by the partners, who all collaborate to offer the conference. Monies are used to assist each organization in their missions to support special education throughout our state. Partners sharing in the profits, include KYCEC, ...It is obvious that this allows our dollars to do double duty by providing outstanding professional development and then returning dollars to the organizations in our field who provide additional services. We think this is a wonderful return on our dollars.

**#6** Observing the diversity in ages and expertise of our attendees reminds us of the power in the passage of time to the next generation. Several universities send their teacher candidates to present, learn and network. These young people witnessed the recognition of our 25 year veterans, who continue to provide dedicated service to our children, and they networked with our professionals from across the state. And then there is the Pioneer group, which consists of the "Old Guard" who provided the foundation for us all and continue to share their wisdom and stories. The collective power of all these factions means special education in Kentucky is well served.

**#5** As we dialogue with professionals across the country, we realize how blessed we are in Kentucky to have the collaboration of so many. Other states are in awe that our Department of Educa-

tion provides both financial and personnel support for this conference. They can't believe that our professional divisions work with us to ensure our conference has something for everyone. Where else would you find the Director of Special Education meeting with members of the Advisory Council, sharing ideas with the KYCEC Board, listening to the concerns of our practicing teachers, and then providing words of encouragement to our teacher preparation students...all under one roof. And, where else would you find the skills of Carrie Bearden, our KYCEC Executive Secretary? Carrie deserves the accolades for making this THE amazing conference that it is. Pulling this conference together is no easy feat and is only made possible with the teamwork, spearheaded by Carrie. For this collaboration, and for Carrie Bearden, we are very thankful.

**#4** Participants leave with new strategies that are presented by experts in the field from across our state and representing many disciplines. When you look at the list of presenters, you see our practicing teachers, who are fine tuning these skills and strategies every day in the schools. You'll find individuals in higher education, who have researched the latest evidence based strategies.

(continued on page 8)

## Honor Someone you respect today with a nomination!

### Five 2014 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](http://www.kycec.org) under Nominations for Awards

**Nominations Due: March 15, 2014**

### KYCEC Executive Board Nominations

The Nominations and Awards Committee of KYCEC is seeking nominations for the office of the Vice President for the 2014-2015 term. The nomination process is online at [www.kycec.org](http://www.kycec.org). The deadline is February 28, 2014.

### Mini-Grant Opportunities & Winners

**ATTN:  
KYCEC MEMBERS**  
To learn more about  
how your chapter or di-  
vision can receive a **mini**  
**-grant**, please access the  
mini-grant application  
from the website or con-  
tact Debbie Samples at  
[debbie.samples@graves.kyschools.us](mailto:debbie.samples@graves.kyschools.us).

KY CEC is pleased to award three mini-grants to the following recipients. Two grants are in the amount of \$650. The third grant is for \$400.00. Megan Brady, will receive \$650 to use for the development & implementation of a model program in an FMD unit at Scott County High School. Approximately 20 students will have an opportunity to create personal artwork and participate in an art show that will be held in conjunction with the annual Ice Cream Concert.

Emily Kennedy proposes to use the \$650 from the mini grant to purchase two mini i Pad's and an iTunes card. She states that the students in her classroom have multiple disabilities, which greatly restrict their ability to use the technology available in their classroom. The mini i Pads would allow the students to hold the devices and use simple touch to access technology. The i Pads will also provide an outlet for students to communicate wants, needs, likes, dislikes, and feelings.

Christina Delk is awarded a partial grant in the amount of \$400 to offset the cost of starting a Regional Spelling Bee for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in Jefferson County and within the Ohio Valley Educational Co-op. The grant money will be used to purchase supplies such as white boards, markers, and erasers. These materials are needed by the students to allow them to write words as they are presented by a moderator.

After the awarding of these mini-grants, there are three grants remaining in the amount of \$650 each and a partial grant for \$250. KY CEC members are invited to submit grant proposals. Grant applications may be found on the KY CEC website.

## KYSCEC News: State Student Chapters are having a busy year!

### Did you Know?

**KYSCEC has a  
FACEBOOK  
Page!!**

**Join us at:**

**Kentucky  
Student Council  
For Exceptional  
Children**



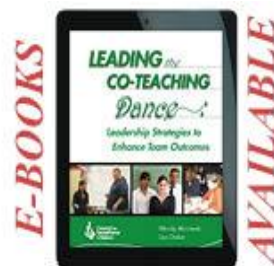
### Morehead Chapter News

#### Happenings at Morehead State University

Morehead State University's (MSU) Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC) Chapter has been participating in the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) through the various levels as well as providing service to their region. This past November, several students presented at the Fall 2013 KYCEC conference. In addition, they assisted with the silent auction and attended the annual SCEC meeting. To serve the Eastern Kentucky region, the student chapter partnered with

classmates taking the course, "Transition to Adult Life," and hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Transition Fair at Morehead State University. The Transition Fair included approximately 20 agencies from across the state, 10 school districts from the region, and over 250 students with disabilities. Morehead State University's SCEC is now busy planning community activities as well as fundraisers for the spring semester. MSU's SCEC chapter would like to thank KYCEC for their continued support. Without the support of KYCEC, the chapter would not be able to participate in the state KYCEC conference, or provide service to the Eastern

Kentucky region. Thank you KYCEC!!



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>

### KYSCEC Chapter News

A HUGE thank you to everyone who came out to the Kentucky Student CEC Silent Auction at the state conference this year! We raised over \$1,000 this year to support Morehead State University, Murray State University, and Western Kentucky University's student chapters. The student programs are going strong because of your support!

Congratulations to our student officers elected to the 2014-2015 year: Crysta Hicks, President, Cain Alvey, Vice President, and Ashlee Florer, Secretary. I would like to congratulate

Megan Ecker from Bellarmine University for receiving the "Outstanding KYCEC Student Member of the Year!" Megan played a very important role in re-activating the Student CEC chapter on her campus.

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 Amy Clausen (president) at [amclausen@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:amclausen@moreheadstate.edu) or Dr. Sarah Hawkins-Lear (advisor) at [s.hawkins@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:s.hawkins@moreheadstate.edu)!

Hope to see all of you at National Conference this year in Philadelphia!



#### Subscribe Today

Get Tool of the Week in your E-mail  
See more at: <http://www.tooloftheweek.org>



## T-Shirt Design Contest Winner!

The Exceptional Children's Conference partnered with VSA Kentucky to hold our first T-Shirt design contest! Forty eight designs were submitted and the difficult selection process began! We are proud to announce the design that won. If interested in ordering a t-shirt contact [carriebbearden@gmail.com](mailto:carriebbearden@gmail.com). **THANK YOU** to all who entered!



**Winning Design**  
Quincy Wren, age 17  
Newport High School,  
Newport KY

**vsa**  
**KENTUCKY**  
The State Organization  
on Arts and Disability



## Outstanding Kentucky Student CEC Member of the Year



**Megan Ecker** was nominated by her professor, Lauren Pohl, from Bellarmine University. Megan, an undergraduate student, has a passion for students with disabilities and is a keen observer of students' abilities and needs. She believes that all students can learn at high levels, and this is the engine that drives her to excellence! In 2011, Megan single-handedly reinstated the Bellarmine Chapter of Student Council for Exceptional Children! With a clear mission and gentle determination, she recruits new members, pursues all available grant monies, and tirelessly plans service opportunities and fund raisers for the chapter, including the Downs' Syndrome of Louisville and Best Buddies Walk. Megan has an instinctive ability to collaborate with her peers, co-teachers and faculty. Dr. Pohl states, "As we prepare the next generation of special educators, it's most gratifying to see such a remarkable leader emerge and take charge!"

## Twenty-Five Year Special Educators

It is with sincere appreciation and gratitude that we honor these deserving award recipients for 25 years of commitment and dedication serving students with disabilities across the Commonwealth.

Jeannie Marie Taylor - Allen County - Teacher

Gail S. Walsh - Campbell County - Speech Pathologist

Bill Davenport - Hardin County - Teacher

Debra Richardson - Jessamine County - Speech Pathologist

Kathleen Shelton - Jessamine County - Speech Pathologist

Tara Garriss - Meade County - Teacher

Suzy Harreld - Meade County - Teacher

Vickie Voyles - Meade County - Teacher

Holly Bedingfield - Owensboro Ind. - Teacher

Carolyn Filzer - Owensboro Ind. - Teacher

Melodie Leonard - Owensboro Ind. - Teacher

Theresa "Sherry" Dick - Pulaski County - Teacher

Elaine Brawner - Scott County - Teacher

Martin S. Hendrix - Scott County - Administrator

Pam Marcum - Scott County - Teacher

Nancy Thomason - Scott County - Teacher

Mona Malone - Taylor County - Teacher



**Congratulations on achieving this milestone and making a difference in the lives of children!!!**

## 48th Annual Exceptional Children's Conference 2013 Highlights

### Congratulations to the 2013 Carl Perkins Contributor to Special Education Award Recipients!

**Mr. Mike Miller** was nominated for this award by the Kentucky Council for Administrators of Special Education (KY CASE). In his 37 years of service, Mike has performed a variety of positions from special education teacher, Director of Special Education, and in numerous positions at the Kentucky Department of Education. During his tenure, he has served on countless committees, advisory panels, and advisory boards. Mike's contribution and leadership to the field of special education is endless. Directors in the field have always been able to call upon Mike with any question or concern and know that he would be a supporter and advocate for children with disabilities. He has been a true friend and supporter to children with disabilities and those who work in this field!



## Congratulations!

**Ms. Angela Pleasant** was nominated by Leah Bruce, the parent of a student with special needs. Ms. Pleasant is a regular education 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Farmer Elementary School in Jefferson County. Upon learning that she would be the teacher for a young man with a challenging autoimmune disorder, PANDAS, she took it upon herself to learn about the young man and this disorder. Ms. Bruce states, "Ms. Pleasant chose to educate herself *about* my son before *educating* him. She worked on solving the puzzle that is my son, and created a safe harbor for him in her classroom, so he was able to learn, grow, and thrive!" Ms. Pleasant made a choice to believe in this student and to educate him as an individual, not as a disability.



### 2013 Outstanding Early Childhood Service Award Recipient!

Congratulations to Beth Schaeffer, this year's recipient of the annual Outstanding Early Childhood Service Award. Beth is a Preschool Consultant with Warren County Schools and a strong advocate for children, families, and teachers in Kentucky.



Jessica Hart  
(KY DEC  
Treasurer),  
Lorie Richey,  
Beth Schaeffer,  
and Elizabeth  
McLaren (KY  
DEC President)

**Watch for e-communications with CEC updates.  
Join our Facebook members.**



### Congratulations to the 2013 Outstanding Special Education Administrator of the Year!

KYCEC is proud to recognize Ms. Vicki Writsel, Associate Superintendent and Director of Special Programs from Bowling Green Ind. Schools. A 34 year veteran in the field of special education, 26 of those years as a Director of Special Education, Vicki has had the opportunity to teach, lead, coach and mentor numerous people! One of those people is Dr. Rhonda Simpson, who describes Vicki as "the person who has made the difference in my professional career. She understands that leadership is about relationships."



Go to [www.kycec.org](http://www.kycec.org) to get ongoing info about the 2014 conference.

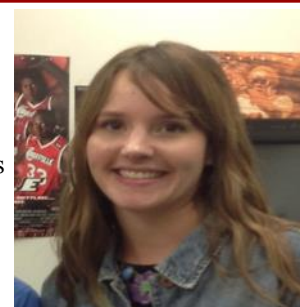


**Ms. Carrie Wedding, Owensboro Middle School, Owensboro Independent Schools.**

Principal George Powell describes Carrie by saying that she truly cares about kids and is always looking for ways to improve their lives. Carrie's first work experiences in a non-profit for abused and neglected children in the court system led her to the realization that 60% of abused and neglected children also had special learning needs. She chose a teaching career; she identified the value of co-teaching and has since pioneered many professional development opportunities in her school and district to advance co-teaching efforts. Carrie says, "I have worked to educate teachers that it is NOT about what they (the students) CAN'T do, but about HOW they can do it 'DIFFERENTLY.'" She has worked with university staff and students to develop partnerships that encourage her students to "dream big" and envision their futures in college.

**Ms. Renee Scott, Providing Access to Community Transition (PACT) Program, University of Louisville and Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville, KY.**

Beginning with volunteer work at a therapeutic horseback riding center, Renee fell in love with the individuals with low incidence disabilities who came to the center. She has been teaching for 10 years with half her experience at the PACT Program. This program allows Renee the ability to focus on making a true difference in the post-school outcomes of her students. The nature of her work is collaboration. She tirelessly works with university staff and professors, representatives from the community, a variety of agencies that provide post-school supported employment opportunities, and a plethora of service providers to ensure that her students meet their greatest potential. She is currently developing the reach of the PACT program by initiating an Advisory Committee with representatives across the community. The Kentucky Department of Education and the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children would like to congratulate Ms. Renee Scott on being one of the three esteemed finalists for the Special Education Teacher of the Year Award.



And the Winners are...

Yes I Can!



Congratulations to All of our Winners!

Also during the Awards Luncheon at Fall Exceptional Children's Conference, the 2013 Kentucky winners of the Yes I Can! Winners were announced. The awards are given to children and youth with disabilities who excel in the designated categories. These awards are presented as a collaborative effort between KYCEC, KYCASE and PIONEERS. A brief synopsis of these seven talented individuals follows:

**Kevin Bailey – Academics, University of Louisville**  
Kevin, 19, is a graduate of Central High School where he held a GPA of 3.75 and received an ACT score of 25. Kevin is legally blind and was a Kentucky Governor's Scholar, received the Woodford Porter Scholarship and the Louisville Cardinal Covenant Scholarship.



**Robert Gross – Self-Advocacy, Scott High School** –Robert, 19, will graduate in May of 2014. He plans to attend college and study criminal justice. Robert has autism and practiced self-advocacy to allow chose his program of study in high school.



**Congratulations to All!!!**



**Suede Posey – Transition/Vocational Training, Green County Success Academy and Green County Area Technological Center** – Suede, 18, will graduate in May 2013. He participated in a welding program and looks forward to continuing with opportunities in this area after graduation.







**Zebulon Risen- Arts, Green County Middle School-** Zebulon, 15 was diagnosed with autism and is blind. He is gifted in music and holds a 4.0 GPA. He plays several instruments, participates in band and performs in his community.

## 2014 Kentucky Yes I Can Deadlines Announced!!!!

KYCEC is proud to announce the details for the 2014 Kentucky Yes I Can! awards, which will be presented at the 2014 Fall Conference. The deadline for nominations forms and information for the 2014 competition can be found at [www.kycec.org](http://www.kycec.org). The deadline for nominations is [May 1](#). Questions should be addressed to the 2014 coordinator, Rhonda Simpson at [rhonda.simpson@green.kyschools.us](mailto:rhonda.simpson@green.kyschools.us)

### Morgan Jones – School and Community, East Carter High School-

Morgan, 14, has competed and placed in speech competitions on the school, county, regional and state levels. Despite having multiple disabilities, Morgan does not use note cards to give her speeches.



**Elizabeth "Bess" Thornton – Athletics, Eastern Elementary School-** Bess, 9, has cerebral palsy and competes on the Scott County Cross Country team. She has progressed from walking with assistance to completing and unassisted mile.



## Congratulations YES I CAN Winners!!



**Braden Ussery – Technology, Alvaton Elementary School-** Braden, 12, uses a variety of technology to accommodate his visual impairment. He is at the top of his class in many subjects. He writes for the school newspaper and is an accomplished pianist.



Continued from page 2. You'll network with each other in the sessions and the exhibit hall. You'll cherish those incidental "Ah Ha!" moments. We all left conference with new strategies and ideas to be more effective in our jobs.

**#3 Conference is invigorating...** for the young and old. It was inspiring to see our collective body standing, cheering and shouting during the motivational address by Dave Weber, "Leadership Redefined." We needed these moments to nod in agreement and laugh out loud at ourselves. One of the highlights of conference is always the keynote address, which is introduced by the talents of our own. This year was no exception as we were wowed by the performances of Tom and Kathy Arnold.

**#2 High on KYCEC's list of goals is congratulating, appreciating and rewarding our own.** At this year's conference, Kentucky Department of Education and KYCEC partnered to recognize three outstanding teachers from across our state and recognize the Teacher of the Year. We recognized the Outstanding Early Childhood Service, winner, Outstanding Special Education Administrator, Outstanding KYCEC student, the Carl Perkins awardees, VSA's T-shirt designer, and the list goes on. Be sure to read the articles on our websites and in this newsletter about all of these individuals. We cheer each and every one of them who champion our students.

**#1 The most important highlight and the reasons for our passions are our students.** There is no way you can attend one of the Yes I Can! events at conference without feeling the utmost pride in these individuals and in the career we have chosen. Their accomplishments are phenomenal. Each one represents a little bit of each of us, who cheer for them, advocate for them, and toil for them. They are our Badge of Honor. At last year's CEC conference we had three national Yes I Can winners. This year we have another, Zebulon Risen. Proof again that our programs across the State, our professionals across the state, and our students and their families are second to none. We are proud!!!



# What's Going On???

Winter 2014

## Kentucky Traineeship Program for Special Education & IECE

The traineeship program funds are available to help defray part of the tuition costs for courses that lead to teacher certification in special education or early childhood education.

Further information can be located at the new website or by email.

Check out the new website:  
<http://kytraineeship.org>

Or new email address:  
[kytraineeship@kytraineeship.org](mailto:kytraineeship@kytraineeship.org)

## KY Division for Early Childhood

KY DEC recently provided one mini-grant to support a professional development experience for early interventionists, early childhood teachers, and families in eastern Kentucky. A one-day, collaborative conference is being organized by KY DEC, Morehead State University, and the Ashland Regional Training Center on autism identification and intervention for young children.



## KYCEC Membership Winners!!

Congratulations to Lori Fitzgerald and Kendra Maxwell for joining or renewing their membership during KYCEC's fall memberships drive. Not only did they take advantage of the \$10 discount on their membership to our premier organization, but they have won a Target gift card. Congratulations!!



Congratulations to Zebulon Risen, National CEC YES I CAN Winner!!

Thanks to everyone who made the 2013 KYCEC YES I CAN! awards ceremony a success!!



## Kentucky Association for Education and Rehabilitation Conference March 12-14<sup>th</sup>

Best Western, Lexington Conference Center

Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Orientation and Mobility Instructors, Rehabilitation Instructors, or anyone who is working to further the education of the Blind or Visually Impaired.



## KYCCBD NEWS!

### Mental Health First Aid: Identifying and Intervening Early

Due largely to horrific tragedies, such as Newtown and Tucson, our country is becoming increasingly aware of the importance of early identification and intervention for mental illness. Mental Health First Aid is a unique and powerful vehicle for community education by training participants to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness on a “first aid” basis. Mental Health First Aid teaches participants to implement a five-step action plan, ALGEE, to support someone developing signs and symptoms of mental illness or in an emotional crisis:

- *Assess for risk of suicide or harm*
- *Listen nonjudgmentally*
- *Give reassurance and information*
- *Encourage appropriate professional help*
- *Encourage self-help and other support strategies*

The youth version of Mental Health First Aid is an evidence-based training program to help individuals identify mental health problems in young people, connect youth with care, and safely de-escalate crisis situations. The program, focusing on youth ages 12 to 25, provides an ideal forum to engage communities in discussing the signs and symptoms of mental illness, the prevalence of mental health disorders, the effectiveness of treatment and how to engage troubled young people in services. Youth Mental Health First Aid is primarily designed for adults — family members, caregivers, school staff, health and human services workers, etc. — who work with young people 12-25, but is also appropriate for older adolescents. If you are interested in learning more about Youth Mental Health First Aid, please contact Carmilla Ratliff with Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children at (502) 875-1320 or via email at [carmilla@kypartnership.org](mailto:carmilla@kypartnership.org). Carmilla is a certified Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor and is available upon request.



The KYCCBD  
Behavior  
Institute  
has been postponed  
until the summer  
of 2015  
due to the  
financial climate in  
public education.

### KYTED Call for Papers for the Kentucky Education Journal

The Kentucky Teacher Education Journal (KTEJ) is a publication of the Kentucky Teacher Education Division (KYTED) of the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children (KYCEC). The purpose of KYTED is to improve the preparation and continuing professional development of effective professionals in special education and related service fields. It is vitally important for teaching professionals to keep abreast of the latest best practices in teaching. The purpose of the Kentucky Teacher Education Journal is to encourage the exchange of ideas between faculty in universities, teachers in the fields, and college students pursuing teaching as their profession. Our scholarly refereed journal provides a forum for the dissemination of original research, critical issues, information and ideas concerning teacher preparation with an impetus to advance instruction for educators of exceptional children, in order to have a positive impact on the education of students with and without disabilities.

KTEJ is published two times per year, Fall and Spring, and is currently seeking submissions of manuscripts. We will be excited to review manuscripts from all areas of Kentucky and the country. Please keep in mind that authors should describe the importance of the topic in terms of preparation of special education teachers. Some suggested topics for submissions are:

Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Teacher Evaluation, Transition, Co-teaching, Promising Practices, Beneficial Components of Teacher Education, Alternate Delivery of Teacher Education Programs

KTEJ now has a permanent home and is published at TopSCHOLAR®, the institutional repository of Western Kentucky University(WKU). The editors, authors, and reviewers at KTEJ are dedicated to the mission of supporting teacher education in Kentucky and internationally, while maintaining a focus on special and gifted education.

I encourage you to explore the current edition of KTEJ at <http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ktej> and consider submitting a manuscript for consideration by March 15, 2014. Authors guidelines and submission information is provided on the website.

Questions may be directed to the Editor of KTEJ, Dr. Wanda Chandler by email at [wanda.chandler@wku.edu](mailto:wanda.chandler@wku.edu), or to me at [critessl@nku.edu](mailto:critessl@nku.edu).

## KYCASE

**The KYCASE Spring Institute is February 24 & 25!** The topic this year is "Doing More with Less: Budgeting in Tough Times for Better Results". This session was designed to respond to our current financial woes in education by providing practical guidance to district leaders in ways to cut cost while boosting effectiveness and impact. Dr. France Stetson of Stetson & Associates, Inc. brings her extensive experience from staffing studies, program evaluations, and on-site technical assistance to a practical working session to see if 'doing more with less' can actually mean more efficiency and effectiveness. Participants will receive materials featuring cost cutting recommendations and tools and strategies for improving quality practices related to assignment of teachers, para educators and central office personnel.



### Newsletter Chairperson:

**Rhonda Simpson**

**402 East Hodgenville Ave.**

**Greensburg, KY 42743**

**rhonda.simpson@green.kyschools.us**

**The KYCEC Board meets on March 1, 2014. Please share any comments or concerns with your representatives on the [www.kycec.org](http://www.kycec.org) link .**

**It's easy to stay informed! Visit the Website: [www.kycec.org](http://www.kycec.org). Watch for e-communications with KYCEC updates. Join our Facebook members.**

**Spotlight Exceptional Children and Educators in your district in a future newsletter! Share the good news!**

## KYCEC Executive Board 2013-2014

**Pam Matlock**, President  
890 Steamboat Road  
Gilbertsville, KY 42044  
[pmatlock@murraystate.edu](mailto:pmatlock@murraystate.edu)

**Kathy Maciel**, Secretary  
806 Old Fort Avenue  
Bowling Green, KY 42101  
[kmaciel@twc.com](mailto:kmaciel@twc.com)

**Sarah Hawkins-Lear**, KYSCCEC Advisor  
1775 Lawrence Road  
Kailua, HI 96734  
[s.hawkins@morehead.edu](mailto:s.hawkins@morehead.edu)

**Barbara Washington**, President Elect  
3201 Alexander Hall  
Murray State University  
Murray, KY 42071  
[bwashington@murraystate.edu](mailto:bwashington@murraystate.edu)

**Arden Goodman**, Conference Treasurer  
116 Green Lane  
Georgetown, KY 40342  
502-542-0582  
[arden.goodman@scott.kyschools.us](mailto:arden.goodman@scott.kyschools.us)

**Beckie Brown**, Parliamentarian  
100 Bay Hill Court  
Georgetown, KY 40324  
[Beckie.brown@scott.kyschools.us](mailto:Beckie.brown@scott.kyschools.us)

**Dr. Rhonda Simpson**, Vice Pres.  
402 E. Hodgenville Avenue  
Greensburg, KY 42743  
[rhonda.simpson@green.kyschools.us](mailto:rhonda.simpson@green.kyschools.us)

**Cindy Dawson**, Treasurer  
1287 Hayes Court  
Bowling Green, KY 42103  
[specialccd@yahoo.com](mailto:specialccd@yahoo.com)

**Jenny Miller-Horn**, Membership Chair  
Kenton School District  
1055 Eaton Drive  
Ft. Wright, KY 41017  
[jenny.miller-horn@kenton.kyschools.us](mailto:jenny.miller-horn@kenton.kyschools.us)

**Jennifer Green**, Past President  
321 Old Porter Pike  
Bowling Green, KY 42103  
270-320-7952  
[jennifer.green@warren.kyschools.us](mailto:jennifer.green@warren.kyschools.us)

**Erica Cutright**, CAN Coordinator  
905 Ridgecrest Way  
Bowling Green, KY 42104  
[e.c.cutright@gmail.com](mailto:e.c.cutright@gmail.com)

**Miranda Reed**, Member at Large  
100 Crabapple Cove  
Paducah, KY 42001  
270-559-0542  
[miranda.reed@graves.kyschools.us](mailto:miranda.reed@graves.kyschools.us)

**Carrie Bearden**, Executive Secretary,  
Conference Chair  
657 S. Hurstbourne Pky. Ste. 229  
Louisville, KY 40222  
[carribearden@gmail.com](mailto:carribearden@gmail.com)

**Amy Clausen**, KYSCCEC President  
1027 Lanette Dre.  
Cincinnati, OH 45230  
[amclausen@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:amclausen@moreheadstate.edu)

**Merissa Waddey**, Member at Large  
2772 Amsterdam Road  
Villa Hills, KY 41017  
859-341-5260  
[merissa.waddey@kenton.kyschools.us](mailto:merissa.waddey@kenton.kyschools.us)

**Debbie Samples**, Member at Large &  
Mini-Grants  
149 Overby Drive  
Mayfield, KY 42066  
[debbie.samples@graves.kyschools.us](mailto:debbie.samples@graves.kyschools.us)

### KYCEC Divisions:

**CASE:** Kim Johnson

[kim.johnson@owensboro.kyschools.us](mailto:kim.johnson@owensboro.kyschools.us)

**DEC:** Elizabeth McLaren

[e.mclaren@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:e.mclaren@moreheadstate.edu)

**TED:** Steve Crites

[critesstl@nku.edu](mailto:critesstl@nku.edu)

**CCBD:** Patty Whitney

[patty.whitney@att.net](mailto:patty.whitney@att.net)

**Pioneers:** Bill Porter

[bill.porter@simpson.kyschools.us](mailto:bill.porter@simpson.kyschools.us)

### KYSCCEC:

**President:** Amy Clausen

[amclausen@morehead.edu](mailto:amclausen@morehead.edu)

**Vice-President:** Stephanie Gebka

[sagebka@morehead.edu](mailto:sagebka@morehead.edu)

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