



Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children

In this issue of the KYCEC Newsletter, we spotlight opportunities for you to nominate the incredible students and colleagues you know. Consider who you can nominate today!



The Council for Exceptional Children honors students with exceptionalities every year with the Yes I Can! Awards. Students ages 3-21 are eligible for their achievements in these categories:

- Academics
- Arts
- School and Community

Activities

- Self-Advocacy
- Technology
- Transition

Visit www.kycec.org to find out how you can nominate one of the shining stars with whom you work! Applications are due by May 1st!

Special Points of Interest:

- ⇒ Yes I Can! Nominations
- ⇒ Vote for your CEC representatives!
- ⇒ CAN Updates

Don't Forget to Join KYCEC on Facebook and Twitter!

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AWARD NOMINATIONS

The **Awards Committee of the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children** extends an invitation to members of Kentucky CEC, KYCEC Subdivisions and our colleagues to submit nominations for awards listed below. Each nominee should be recognized as an individual who has provided meritorious service to individuals with exceptionalities in the state of Kentucky. Current members of the Executive or General Boards of KYCEC are ineligible for awards. Nominations are due and will not be accepted after May 1, 2018. Award recipients will be announced May 15, 2018; and honored at the Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference in Louisville, KY, on November 19, 2018.

Visit our website for more information and to submit your nominations. Please direct any questions to kathy.maci@grrec.org.

Outstanding Special Education Administrator of the Year

Carl Perkins Contributor to Special Education

Mary May Wyman Outstanding KYCEC Member of the Year



KYCEC OPPORTUNITIES

Become a leader in your state organization!

The Nominations and Elections Committee of the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children extends an invitation to CEC members in good standing to submit a nomination ballot for any person interested in becoming the **Vice President**. This office carries a four-year commitment. The Vice President succeeds to President-Elect, President, and Past President. Submit your nomination at www.kycec.org today!

CEC Leadership Opportunities

On March 7, 2018, the CEC Board of Directors approved Governance revisions, in which our KYCEC Board shared input, resulting in changes to the eligibility, selection process, size and composition of the Board.

- CEC membership will continue to vote on Board positions (not officers), but future CEC Board member nominees and appointments to CEC committees, work groups and task forces will be chosen from a Leadership Development Committee (LDC).
- Leadership candidates will be chosen from this LDC pool of applicants.
- If you are interested in serving in a CEC leadership position, please consider applying for this committee. This year's application deadline is April 11, but this process will be in place moving forward.
- The application and additional information can be found on the CEC website.
- We would love Kentucky representation at the national level. Your expertise and talents are valued. Please consider this opportunity now or in the future.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

One of our KYCEC Board members, Dr. Laura Clarke, had an article published in the CEC publication *Teaching Exceptional Children* in 2014. The article focused on how to prepare students with exceptionalities for a crisis. Following the tragedy in Florida, Dr. Clarke's team was contacted by *Newsweek* about their work. To read this powerful article on a crucial topic, visit the CEC website and search for Clarke, L. S., Embury, D. C., Jones, R. E. & Yssel, N. (2014). Supporting students with disabilities during school crises: A teacher's guide. *Teaching Exceptional Children*, 46(6), 169–178.

DOI: 10.1177/0014402914534616

Information related to their article has been shared in numerous platforms.

The Washington Post:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/parenting/wp/2018/02/27/how-can-we-prepare-our-kids-with-special-needs-for-a-school-crisis/?utm_term=.4a515f02d021



The Mighty:

<https://themighty.com/2018/03/active-shooter-disability/>

The Friendship Circle Blog (with 22.5k shares):

<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2017/03/06/keeping-students-with-disabilities-safe-in-lockdowns-evacuations-and-other-school-crises/>

SAVE THE DATES!

The annual **Exceptional Children's Conference** will be **November 18-20, 2018**, at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville! We want to hear from YOU! If you have great information, strategies, or proven practices you want to share with your colleagues, then go to www.kycec.org under Annual Conference! There you will find a template of necessary information to submit a proposal. Watch the website for more information on registration and strands for the Conference! See you in November!



SAVE THE DATE
KY CASE SUMMER INSTITUTE
JULY 10-11
New DOSE Institute July 9 (2-5pm)

Embassy Suites, Lexington
2018 Online Registration Opening Soon!
Questions: Tammie Williams
Tammie.williams@mayfield.kyschools.us

**See our website for more information about both of these
amazing professional development opportunities!**

www.kycec.org

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The last few months have been very busy on the legislative front. We, as educators, have focused our efforts on legislative changes that will potentially impact students with disabilities. This is ever-changing, and we need to do our best to advocate for our students. We encourage all of our members to know who Representatives and Senators are on the state and national level. If you have never had the opportunity to contact your legislators, it is a very simple process. It is as easy as picking up the phone and expressing your concerns. You would be surprised how you can make a difference if we unite for our students and their future. Remember, we are not only advocates, but experts in the field of special education. Be willing to offer support. Please continue to let your voices be heard. Here are some quick links where you can obtain contact information.

Kentucky State Legislators:

www.lrc.ky.gov/Find%20Your%20Legislator/Find%20Your%20Legislator.html

United States House of Representatives:

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

United States Senators:

https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

FYI...

- ⇒ A letter was sent by KYCEC to Governor Bevin and State Legislators voicing concern about budget cuts and the impact on services for children with exceptionalities.

- ⇒ Visit our KYCEC website now hosted on the CEC webpage. Our old www.kycec.org URL still works!

- ⇒ If you have concerns or ideas for KYCEC, please contact a Board member. We will be meeting in early June to plan goals for 2018-2019. We appreciate your impact.