

KENTUCKY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN



CEC Mission Statement

The Council for Exceptional Children is a professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the success of children with exceptionalities. We accomplish our mission through advocacy, standards, and professional development.



CEC is opening its doors to the special education community in need of resources.

Nonmembers of CEC can receive a free basic membership from now through May 31 by using the promotional code **CECED60**. This will give you access to all of our journal articles, member discounts on publications and events, and our online membership community where you can ask questions and receive support from special educators, administrators and support personnel.



Follow the link to access the supplemental fact sheet from the US Department of Education with

additional/new guidance concerning educating students with disabilities during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

<http://cec.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT05MjE1Nzc4JnA9MSZ1PTEwMjk4NTEyNTgmbGk9NzUwNzk1MzA/index.html>

Hello Colleagues! Thank you for taking the time to explore the contents of our Spring KYCEC Newsletter! It is exciting to finally say "spring" as it seems winter was exceptionally long and dreary this year...although the start of spring has certainly been challenging. I want to personally thank you for the incredible work each of you has been doing to serve your students well through these uncharted, overwhelming times. Special educators do not scare easily, and your dedication to meeting the needs of our learners does not go unnoticed.



Given the circumstances, I want to encourage you to be intentional in caring for yourself. Self-care is easily neglected by special educators, and we can certainly allow ourselves to end up at the bottom of the priority list as we focus on our students and our families. Please remember to put on your own oxygen mask first, to use an airline metaphor. Your physical and mental well-being is critical if you are to effectively care for others. How can you set aside at least 15 minutes each day to feed your mind? Soul? Plan for nutrition and exercise for your body? Here are two tips to encourage you in making yourself a priority:

- Determine reasonable boundaries around phones and email - decide at what time you will turn both off in the evenings and weekends. For example, I physically switch email off of my phone in the evenings so that I can be mentally present with my family and for my self-care activities.
- Use your car time as care time...does music restore you? An encouraging podcast? A favorite genre of audiobook? Determine what you will do and make that a consistent habit for those times you have the car to yourself. For example, I have an audiobook playing every afternoon on my drive home from work.

Please keep checking our website for additional information, upcoming opportunities, and celebrations. Be sure to nominate one of your incredible students for a Yes I Can! Award, and seize the opportunity to apply for a mini-grant! We are here to serve you and honor your students, and we look forward to all this spring and summer will bring.

Dr. Merissa Wadley
KYCEC President





Leadership Opportunities

Get Involved!!!! We are constantly looking for new board members who are willing to give time, compassion and innovation to Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children.

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 next Vice President. This office carries a four-year commitment. The Vice President succeeds to President-Elect, President, and Past President.

Get involved.



Submit your nomination today at www.kycec.org!



Savannah Boone, LaRue County High School Exceptional Education Collaborative Teacher 9-12 English and Department Chair

Mrs. Savannah Boone is well versed in Best Practices. She is always willing to learn new strategies to ensure success for every student. As a collaborative teacher she provides specially designed instruction in the general education setting to students in the 9th - 12th grade. Using Instructional differentiation, she connects learning to the students' interests and ability levels. She uses high interest texts that match with the students' zone of proximal development. Technology, cooperative groups, and hands-on learning experiences are an integral part of her daily lessons. She strives to meet the social, emotional, and educational needs of all of her students. Mrs. Boone consistently teaches, models, and monitors her student's progress. Within her classrooms, scaffolding is a key concept. She and her students develop anchor charts and interactive word walls. Mrs. Boone develops sentence starters and graphic organizers for her students to enhance the writing process. In addition, she assists the students create individualized "word walls" for their binders. By using these Best Practices, Mrs. Boone has seen improvement in the quality of student work and independence. Furthermore, Mrs. Boone has helped implement Station Teaching and the Sources of Strength Program at LaRue County High School. Thank you for your continued commitment and passion for education students with exceptionalities.



KYCEC would like to congratulate the following teachers for being awarded a \$650 mini-grant:

- Kim Puckett at Model Laboratory School in Richmond, KY is using her mini-grant to purchase Adapted Outdoor Play Equipment to support students with disabilities in their K-12 school.
- Erica Price is using her mini-grant to fund a Transition to Work High School Greenhouse Garden project for Montgomery County Public Schools in Mt. Sterling, KY
- Natalie Alexander at Larue County Public Schools in Hodgenville, KY, is using her mini-grant to develop a program for Increasing Writing for Students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
- Stacy Crawford is using her mini-grant to provide a Self-Regulated Strategy Development Teacher Training for several teachers in Bullitt County Public Schools in Elizabethtown, KY.
- Miranda Reed at Mayfield Independent Public Schools in Mayfield, KY is using her mini-grant to purchase a Chromebook for Progress Monitoring for the district OTA and add Fast Bridges Learning Program intervention for RTI initiatives for HS students in the district.
- Leslie Ferguson is using her mini-grant to provide Sensory room supplies in Johnson County Public Schools in Paintsville, KY.
- Tabi Smith at Hart County Public Schools in Munfordville, KY is using her mini-grant to provide Alternate Seating for Middle School Students.
- Sarah Neikirk is using her mini-grant to Add Core Vocabulary Boards on the Playground and Around the School in Kenton County Public Schools in Ft. Wright, KY.

Kentucky 2019 Yes I Can! Award Winners were honored during the 2019 KYCEC Conference in November at the Galt House, Louisville.



NOMINATE NOW!

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, 2020. Award recipients will be announced **** and honored at the Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference in Louisville, KY, on November **, 2020. Visit our website for more information and to submit your nominations. Please direct any questions to



Yes I Can!

Applications for this year's 2020 Yes I Can Awards are now open! For additional information and to apply, click [here](#).



2020 Special Education Teacher of the Year

The purpose of this award is to recognize / honor an outstanding teacher in the field of special education.

Please click [here](#) to nominate



Mary May Wyman Outstanding KYCEC Member of the Year

The purpose of this award is to allow the Kentucky Council to honor the member who has shown consistently unselfish service in promoting the education and welfare of children with exceptionalities in Kentucky. This member has provided leadership to our organization over an extensive period of time. The nominee must be a Kentucky CEC member in good standing with a minimum tenure of continued membership for the previous three years.

[Mary May Wyman Nomination](#)



Outstanding Special Education Administrator of the Year

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. The nominee must be a special education administrator in Kentucky and a current CEC member.

[Outstanding Special Education Admin Nomination](#)



Carl Perkins Contributor to Special Education

This award is to be given to individuals for their distinguished leadership and service in the interest of children with exceptionalities. The nominee needs not be working in the field of special education nor be a member of the Kentucky CEC.

[Carl Perkins Nomination](#)



Teaching Special Education Online During COVID-19

CEC is here to support special education professionals and your ongoing efforts to apply good teaching practices remotely due to precautions surrounding the COVID-19 virus.

[Free CEC Webinar: Teaching Special Education Online During COVID-19](#)

In these unprecedented times, teachers are being asked to think outside of the box in terms of how to continue teaching students outside of the classroom. In this webinar, veteran online instructors help identify steps to move online and strategies for adapting the lessons already in motion to this new format.

[Best Practices for Educating Online](#)

This guide will walk you through best practices, teaching strategies, and tips and tricks for delivering high quality instruction and therapy online with a quick turn around.

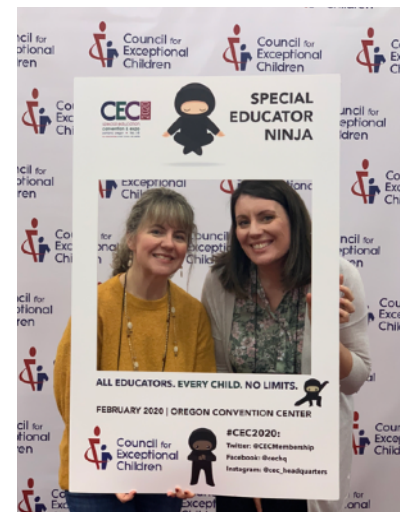


Learning Knows No Bounds



CEC 2020

special education
convention & expo
portland, oregon • feb. 5-8
ALL EDUCATORS. EVERY CHILD. NO LIMITS.





The Trump Administration released its proposal for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 spending. Overall, the budget proposal cuts the Department of Education (ED) by \$6.4 billion, or 8.4 percent. The budget also includes \$5 billion for proposed Education Freedom Scholarships, or tax credits for vouchers that could be used toward private school tuition.

The proposed Education Freedom Scholarships must be rejected. Public funds for private school vouchers are contrary to the best interests of students, families, the public-school system, local communities and taxpayers. Further, private school vouchers undermine civil rights laws such as IDEA by stripping students with disabilities of their civil rights.

CEC makes it easy for you to share your voice on this issue. Simply click on the link below and enter your address. It will develop a letter that you can instantly send to your Congressman.

<https://cqrcengage.com/cek/app/onestep-write-a-letter?18&engagementId=506301>

Keeping public funds in public school should be addressed at the state level, too. **Call the Legislative Message Line: (800) 372-7181.** Leave a message for your legislators today! Simply provide your name and contact information to the operator. Tell them you oppose scholarship tax credits and you want to keep public funds in public schools. Advocating for students with exceptional needs is as easy as that.



Introducing

My name is Nick Newton, and I am currently a teacher in the Hardin County School District. Soon, I will be your KYCEC State President. I have been on the board since September 2018 and came to do so just by looking at the website. I have been teaching since September 2010 as a classroom teacher for students with Moderate to Severe disabilities. As a classroom teacher, I bring that perspective to my interactions with the board and in my goals in leading the organization. I am passionate about the growth of my students and extending that passion and impact by participating in our organization.

I am married to Katie Newton, a school librarian in Hardin County School District, and we live in Vine Grove, KY. We're both lifelong Kentuckians! Katie and I have two beautiful little girls, Ruthie Kate and Millie Renee.



I encourage all members to frequently check the website and find ways to participate in our organization. We have a bright future ahead of us and we want you to be a part of that to extend and grow our Council for Exceptional Children.

Nick Newton
President Elect

SAVE THE DATE

The Annual Exceptional Children's Conference will be **November 22-24, 2020**, 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!

