

## Happy spring, KYCEC members and colleagues!

We're so glad you've chosen to be part of the greatest exceptional children's advocacy organizations! In our Spring newsletter, we'd like to update you on news from our field and share a few national Council for Exceptional Children initiatives. To stay updated, please bookmark our KY CEC website at <https://kentucky.exceptionalchildren.org>

As we move into the final part of the 2022-2023 school year, it's a great time to think about honoring outstanding educators in our field. At KYCEC, we have several awards that are presented at our fall Exceptional Children's Conference.

Please consider nominating a colleague for one of these awards:

- Outstanding Special Education Administrator of the Year,
- Carl Perkins Contributor to Special Education,
- Special Education Teacher of the Year,
- Mary May Wyman Outstanding KYCEC Member of the Year,
- KYCEC Business Award, and
- KY Student Member of the Year.

In addition, we'd also like to encourage you to nominate an exceptional student for one of the six Yes I Can! Awards. One winner in each category will be selected for excellence in: Academics, Arts, Transition, Technology, School and Community Activities, and Self-Advocacy. State winners will be recognized at the Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference in November. KYCEC Yes I Can! Winners will also be nominated to CEC for consideration of their national awards. The deadline for all award nominations is June 30, 2023. The nomination forms can be found on our website, <https://kentucky.exceptionalchildren.org>.



Mark your calendars for our 2024 Annual Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference on Nov. 19-21, 2024 and the 2024 National CEC Conference in San Antonio, TX on March 12-15, 2024. As this school year comes to a close, I want to thank each of you for all you do to support exceptional students and educators across our state. You make a difference!

**Laura Clarke, KYCEC President**



## Join us on Social Media!

We'd love to chat and tweet with you on social media - you can find us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). We share favorite resources, trainings, and conference information on our social media accounts and would love to hear from you - please check us out and like, share, and retweet any news that catches your eye!



# Congratulations to our 2023 YES I CAN! WINNERS!



**Bobby Kidd**  
**Arts**  
**North Jackson**  
**Elementary**



**Maylee Judd**  
**School & Community**  
**Activities**  
**Green County High School**



**Lex Marcum**  
**Technology**  
**Clinton County**  
**High School**

**Jordon Hulett**  
**Self-Advocacy**  
**Jessie Clark**  
**Middle School**



**LorieLys**  
**Berrios-Castillo**  
**Academics**  
**North Hardin**  
**High School**

## 2023 Yes I Can! Award Nominations

KYCEC is proud to recognize children and youth with exceptionalities who have demonstrated their determination and achievements in multiple ways. Presented each year at the Exceptional Children's Conference, the Yes I Can! Awards recognize six categories including; Academics, Arts, School and Community Activities, Self-Advocacy, Technology, and Transition. Your students achieve amazing things each day, let's celebrate those achievements together.

[Nomination Form](#)

Contact [stacyacrawford@gmail.com](mailto:stacyacrawford@gmail.com) with any questions regarding nominations.



## 2023 KYCEC Awards

Nominations are open for awards recognized at the Exceptional Children's Conference. See the descriptions of each award and recognize colleagues and community partners for their work in the field of exceptionalities.

### **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 education in Kentucky.

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Contact: [kentuckycec@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckycec@gmail.com)

[Nomination Form](#)

### **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.

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Contact: [kentuckycec@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckycec@gmail.com)

[Nomination Form](#)

### **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 review [our website](#) for more information about this award.

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Contact: [kentuckycec@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckycec@gmail.com)

[Nomination Form](#)

### **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 unselfish service in promoting the education and welfare of children with exceptionalities. The nominee must be a Kentucky CEC member in good standing with a minimum tenure of continued membership for the previous three years.

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Contact: [kentuckycec@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckycec@gmail.com)

[Nomination Form](#)

### **KYCEC Business Award**

This award recognizes businesses that have provided for the enhancement, awareness, and employment of individuals with exceptionalities in order to promote and support their full participation within the community.

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Contact: [kentuckycec@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckycec@gmail.com)

[Nomination Form](#)

### **KY Student Member of the Year**

This award is given to an outstanding student CEC member. The student must be an active CEC member in a Kentucky student chapter or state unit.

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Contact: [shawkins12@uky.edu](mailto:shawkins12@uky.edu)

[Nomination Form](#)



# Spring 2023 Newsletter



## Division Update-KYCASE

As KYCASE President, I had the pleasure of attending the National CASE Annual Board Meeting and Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, in November, with several KYCASE members from Kentucky. The conference focus was “Facing the Future Together.” The enriching and engaging learning sessions by Joe Beckman brought together many ideas for social and emotional support for our students and employees. Dr. Lori Desautels connected us together with a better understanding of how the developing brain and body and adversity impact well-being. The session, along with Legal Panel supports, shows the strength and importance of being a part of strong associations like KYCASE and councils like KYCEC.

-Barry Lee, Superintendent Casey County Schools

### KYCASE SPRING INSTITUTE with Anne M Beninghof

- Thursday, March 23, 2023
- Anne M. Beninghof lays out a road map for providing specially designed instruction (SDI) in any classroom.


### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Schools identified as needing Targeted Supports and Improvement (TSI)
- Anyone who observes and gives feedback in classrooms (i.e. Principals, Asst. Principals, Supervisors of Instruction, Curriculum Coaches, DoSES, Consultants, Coop staff, University staff, etc.)

### Time

- Virtual 3 hrs 9:00-12

### 2022-2023 KYCASE Executive Board

		2022-2023 KYCASE Executive Board			
Michelle Oakley KYCASE Past President	Barry Lee KYCASE President	Robin Bush KYCASE President Elect	Amy Turner KYCASE Vice President	Vacant KYCASE Treasurer	Terri Gentry KYCASE Secretary
					
DoSE Shelby Co.	Superintendent Casey County	DoSE Davless Co.	DoSE Union Co.		DoSE Ballard Co.

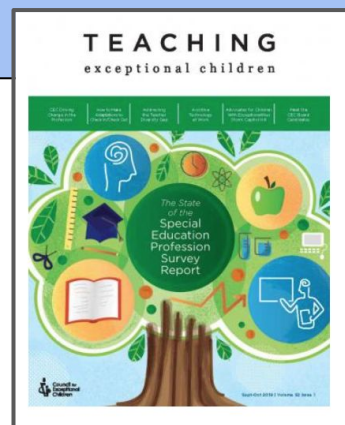
## Membership Update

Thank you so much for being a valued member of the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children (KYCEC) and National CEC! We currently have 578 AMAZING members of KYCEC! YOU are part of the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the success of children and youth with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

### “Perks” of Belonging!

- Annual opportunity to apply for the [KYCEC annual \\$650 mini-grants](#)
- Countless [tools & resources for your professional development](#)
- Access to the [BEST journals available](#) to support our teaching practices
- Opportunity to [join special interest divisions](#)
- Access to the [CEC Exceptional Teacher Repository](#)
- Easy, accessible [ways to advocate](#) for our exceptional learners, their families, and our role as special educators and administrators!
- Opportunities to [network with other like-minded professionals](#) around the country and within our state

“Personally - I believe our *Teaching Exceptional Children* journal is the BEST journal around and my FAVORITE perk of belonging to CEC.” Have you checked out the latest issue? Access it digitally [here](#) - Scroll down and log-in to access the entire journal! Download your favorite articles and add to your teaching toolbox!



“I believe the CEC community itself is incredibly beneficial. You have endless opportunities to meet and network with like minded individuals who are passionate about special education. The relationships I have created through my CEC membership have been incredibly beneficial.” Access the [CECCommunity](#) to start networking! ~ Mary Jo Krile



## ADVOCACY: WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

You're already an expert in what you do, and sharing your expertise can make a difference in legislation.

How can educators become public policy advocates? Just think: you educate and motivate students every day. That's what advocacy is: education and motivating lawmakers.

Get involved in advocating for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with exceptionalities and the professionals who support them:

1. Check out our [Educate. Motivate. Advocate Videos](#) where CEC's Senior Policy & Advocacy Advisor will get you started on the basics of advocacy.
2. Sign up for the [Special Education TODAY Newsletter](#) and get relevant policy information in your inbox every Friday.
3. Contact your elected officials through the [Legislative Action Center](#)
4. Discover what you can do at the [Special Education Legislative Summit](#) in July.

**YOU EDUCATE. YOU MOTIVATE. NOW, YOU CAN ADVOCATE!**

## Make the Most of Your Membership!

We want YOU to make the MOST of your membership! Check out this Onboarding video to learn more about CEC resources, navigating the website, MONEY for your classroom, and MORE!



## Get Involved!

Many of our KYCEC divisions have open positions! If you would like to get involved, contact the following people:

- To learn more about positions with KYTED (Teacher Education Division), email [kera.ackerman@uky.edu](mailto:kera.ackerman@uky.edu)
- To get involved with KYCEC's Students & preservice teachers, email [shawkins12@uky.edu](mailto:shawkins12@uky.edu)
- To get involved with KYCCBD (The Council for Children with Behavior Disorders), email [mandy.carter@kedc.org](mailto:mandy.carter@kedc.org) or visit <https://www.kyccbd.org/>
- To learn more about positions with KYDEC (Division of Early Childhood), contact [shawkins12@uky.edu](mailto:shawkins12@uky.edu)

# Spring 2023 Newsletter



KENTUCKY

Special  
Education  
Legislative  
Summit  
  
**July 9-12, 2023**



Held in Washington, D.C. during July, the [Special Education Legislative Summit \(SELS\)](#) is an opportunity for educators from across the country to make a difference by advocating for change with Members of Congress.

Mark your calendars to join us July 09, 2023 - July 12, 2023.

- **Once-in-a-lifetime opportunities**
- **In-depth learning about key issues**
- **Opportunities to improve your advocacy skills with the experts**
- **Meet with your representatives and advocate for teachers and students**



To learn more about SELS, contact [misti.carr@nkces.org](mailto:misti.carr@nkces.org).



# Spring 2023 Newsletter



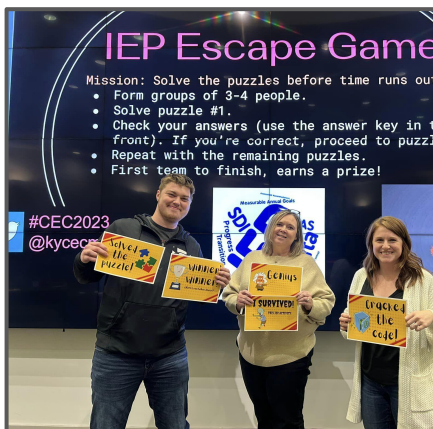
Council for  
Exceptional  
Children

KENTUCKY

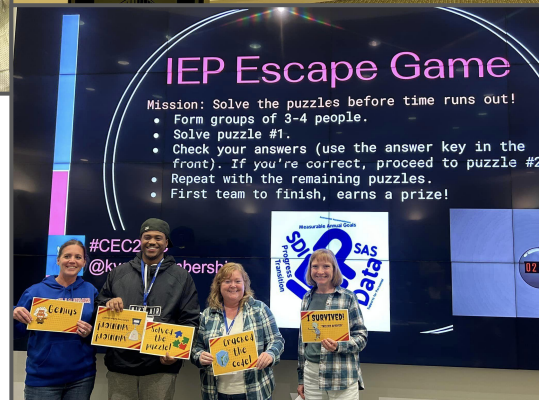
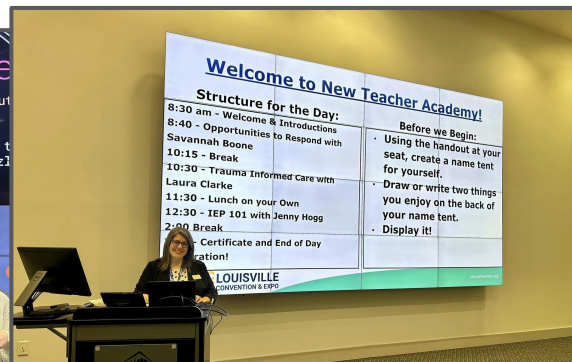
## Did you LOVE CEC 2023 in Louisville as much as we did??



**Welcome to Louisville from the  
Local Arrangement Committee!**



**It was a pleasure to  
meet teachers from  
across the  
Commonwealth in our  
New Teacher Academy!**



**Congratulations to the 2023 National  
Yes I Can! Award Winners!  
What an amazing group of young people!**



**We were honored to  
celebrate our KY National Yes  
I Can! winner for Academics!  
Way to go, Lorielys  
Berrios-Castillo of North  
Hardin High School!**







## Student CEC Chapter Spotlight: Eastern Kentucky University

EKU-CEC has been busy this year! As a newly reactivated student chapter, we have hit the ground running! Currently, we are 10 (soon-to-be 21) members strong. Throughout the year, our members have been using CEC resources in their classes, organizing events to spread disability acceptance/awareness around ECU's campus, having bonding events, advocating at Capitol Hill, and organizing inclusive and accessible events for the Eastern Kentucky region. In March, seven of our members attended the National CEC Conference in Louisville. While at the conference, members attended a pre-conference workshop to learn about teaching inclusion through the use of Braille Lego Bricks, networked, attended social events held by CEC divisions, and learned an incredible amount from sessions. Additionally, two of our members presented a poster session on the use of Desk Pets as a classroom management tool! We are excited to continue with this chapter and see what more we can accomplish in advocacy, teaching, and service to the local, state, and national communities.



Presenting at CEC 2023!



We arrived! CEC 2023!



### WHAT:

The Council for Exceptional Children will be hosting a tabling event in support of World Down Syndrome Day and the Spread the Word to End the Word campaign!



**WHEN:** March 21st from 10-6

**WHERE:** Powell Corner

Come stop by to sign our banner and take the pledge to Spread the Word to End the Word and win a free pair of fun socks!



Rock Your Socks/Spread the Word "Inclusion" Event!



Inclusive, accessible, and sensory friendly Trick-or-Treat Event!



Advocating at Capitol Hill during SELS 2022!

# Spring 2023 Newsletter



## Meet Your Board of Directors!



President  
Dr. Laura Clarke - Director of  
Special Education  
Campbell County Schools



Past-President & Treasurer  
Cindy Green - Exceptional Education  
Consultant, Warren County Schools



Vice-President  
Dr. Stacy Bewley - ECE  
Community Relations  
Supervisor, JCPS

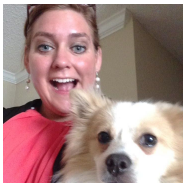


President-Elect  
Cain Alvey - Special Education  
Consultant, Hardin County Schools



Conference Treasurer  
Arden Goodman - Director of  
Special Education, Retired

Recording Secretary  
VACANT - See below!



Membership Chair  
Dr. Mary Jo Krile - Assistant  
Professor, ECU



Executive Secretary Dr. Merissa  
Wadley - Special Education  
Consultant, NKCES



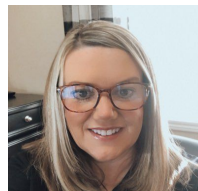
Student CEC Advisor  
Dr. Sarah Hawkins-Lear -  
Associate Professor,  
University of Kentucky



Member at Large  
Wayne Sizemore - Superintendent,  
Jackson Independent Schools



Member at Large  
Savannah Boone - Special  
Education Teacher, Larue  
County Schools



Member at Large & Mini-Grants Chair  
Ramona Karsner - Director of Special  
Education CKEC



Conference Coordinator  
Dr. Carrie Bearden - Director  
of Special Education, Retired



CAN Coordinator  
Misti Carr - Special Education  
Consultant, NKCES

**We'd love for YOU to join us!**

**We have vacancies for a Recording Secretary & a Vice-President!**

**Email Dr. Laura Clarke or Dr. Merissa Wadley at [kentuckycec@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckycec@gmail.com) for more information!**