

## President's Message

My fellow CEC members,

I'm incredibly thankful for the opportunity to be your KYCEC President! Together with the Board, we've developed strategic goals that will further our advocacy on behalf of students. I wanted to share just some of the ways that we are supporting you as members:

1. Our New Teacher Academy will be virtual this year; there are awesome sessions planned. Please share with your new teachers so they can receive well designed and meaningful PD to support their practice.
2. Our member meeting that we usually hold at conferences will be held virtually.
3. We are working with KASA to build a KY Legislative Summit. This next session of the General Assembly will be a budget session; with the effects of COVID on our state and economy, we will need to diligently advocate with our elected leaders to ensure that our exceptional children continue to receive an appropriate public education.
4. We are planning for an interactive book study in the spring to support you even more.

I'm so very thankful to be a member of KYCEC and I know how hard your board is working on your behalf. Please continue to seek out fellow teachers and have them join KYCEC:

<https://exceptionalchildren.org/get-involved/join-now>



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## 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!

Photo by [Tracy Le Blanc](#) from [Pexels](#)

# 2020 Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference updates

Due to COVID-19, the 2020 Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference is cancelled this year. We'll miss joining together at the Galt House to celebrate our profession, our wonderful students, and to fill our professional toolbox, but we'll look forward to meeting again in 2021!

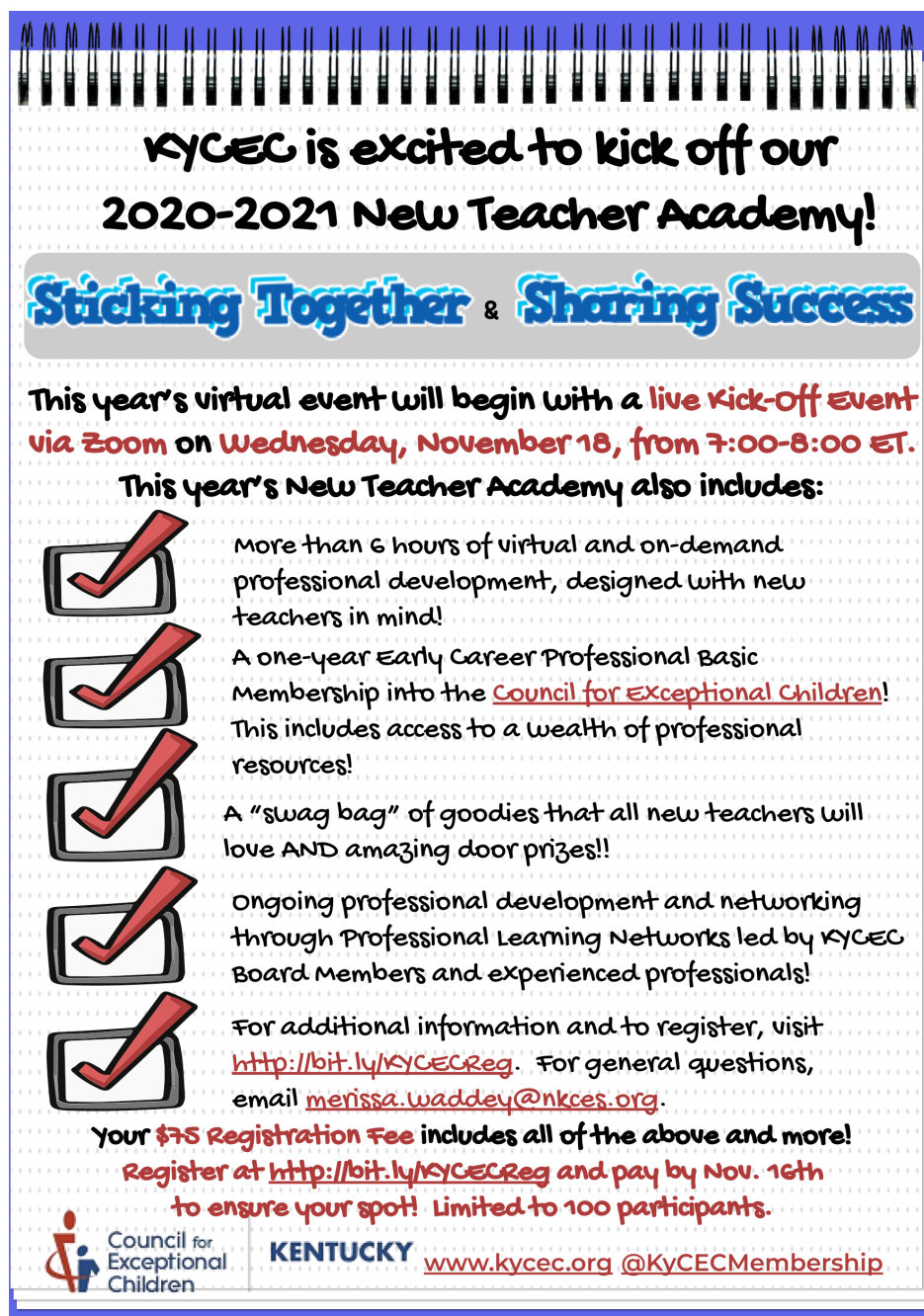
In the meantime, keep an eye on our website for virtual learning opportunities!

## New Teacher Academy

For more information, visit [our website](#) today!

To register, visit

<http://bit.ly/KYCECReg>








**KYCEC is excited to kick off our  
2020-2021 New Teacher Academy!**

**Sticking Together & Sharing Success**


**This year's virtual event will begin with a live Kick-Off Event via Zoom on Wednesday, November 18, from 7:00-8:00 ET.**

**This year's New Teacher Academy also includes:**

-  More than 6 hours of virtual and on-demand professional development, designed with new teachers in mind!
-  A one-year Early Career Professional Basic Membership into the Council for Exceptional Children! This includes access to a wealth of professional resources!
-  A "swag bag" of goodies that all new teachers will love AND amazing door prizes!!
-  Ongoing professional development and networking through Professional Learning Networks led by KYCEC Board Members and experienced professionals!
-  For additional information and to register, visit <http://bit.ly/KYCECReg>. For general questions, email [merissa.waddey@nkces.org](mailto:merissa.waddey@nkces.org).

**Your \$75 Registration Fee includes all of the above and more!**

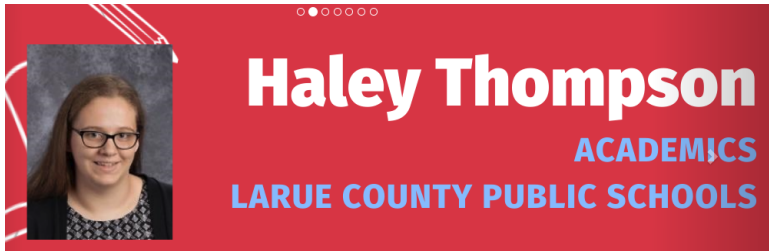
**Register at <http://bit.ly/KYCECReg> and pay by Nov. 16th to ensure your spot! Limited to 100 participants.**

 **KENTUCKY** [www.kycec.org](http://www.kycec.org) @KyCECMembership

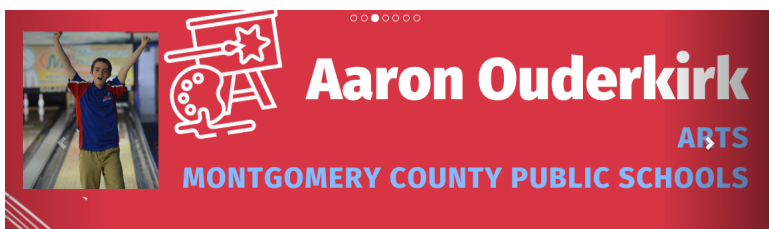
## Yes I Can Award winners



One of our greatest joys is recognizing KY youth with exceptionalities who have demonstrated their determination and achievements. Please join us in congratulating this year's incredible winners!



Each winner is also on our website at [kycec.org](http://kycec.org).



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# Advocacy Updates

## ***Legislative Summit 2020***

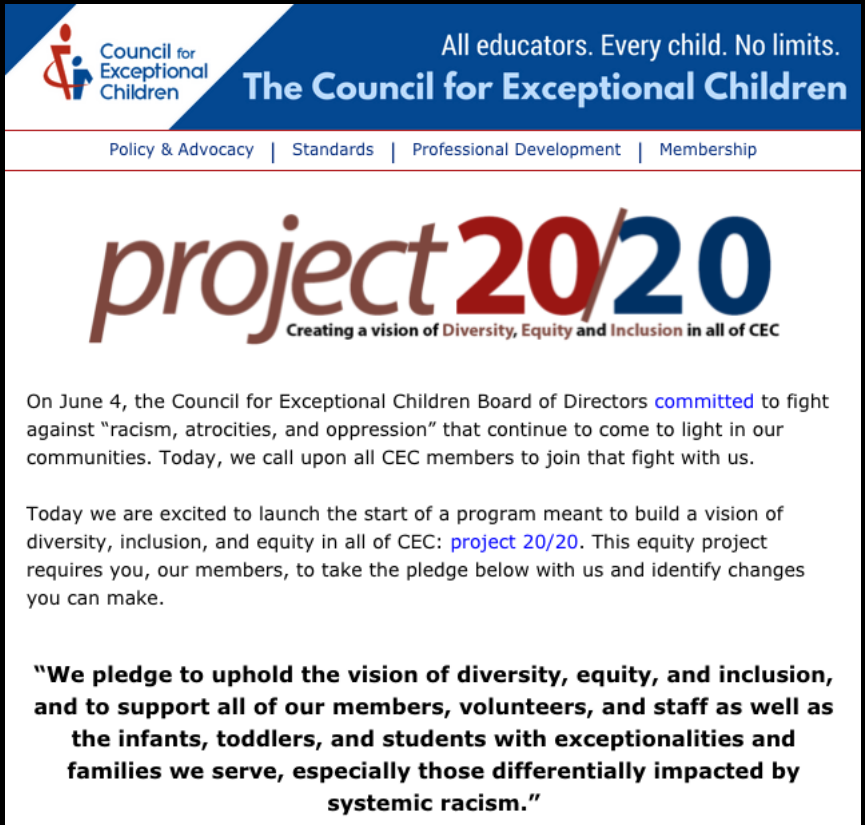
A global pandemic didn't stop Kentucky educators from "Storming the Hill!" Typically held in Washington, D.C., during July, the Special Education Legislative Summit (SELS) is an opportunity for educators from across the country to make a difference by advocating for change with Members of Congress. This year, thirty-two representatives from Kentucky participated in a two-week long session getting in-depth training about key issues and receiving updated news on key issues impacting the field of special education. The main initiatives of focus were: appropriations, mental health, educator shortages, legislation, and more. Virtual meetings were held with Members of Congress where team members advocated for infants, toddlers, and youth with exceptional needs. Team Kentucky proudly represented KYCEC members and Kentucky educators.

## ***You TOO Can be an Advocate!***

Do you want to be an advocate for students with exceptional needs, but are unsure where to begin? CEC has made it easy for you! Check out the Policy and Advocacy Center on CEC's website. Read about priority issues in special education. Then, click on "Take Action!" You'll be prompted to enter your zip code. Letters have been generated on your behalf and will be sent to your Representative with a few clicks of your mouse. In just a few short minutes, you will be a champion for your profession and your students.

Give it a try:

<https://exceptionalchildren.org/policy-and-advocacy>



The screenshot shows the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) website. At the top, the CEC logo is on the left, and the tagline "All educators. Every child. No limits." is on the right. Below the tagline, the text "The Council for Exceptional Children" is displayed. A navigation bar includes links for "Policy & Advocacy", "Standards", "Professional Development", and "Membership". The main content area features the "project 20/20" logo with the tagline "Creating a vision of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in all of CEC". Below the logo, there is a paragraph stating that on June 4, the CEC Board of Directors committed to fight against "racism, atrocities, and oppression". This is followed by a paragraph announcing the launch of the "project 20/20" program. At the bottom, a bold pledge is displayed: "We pledge to uphold the vision of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and to support all of our members, volunteers, and staff as well as the infants, toddlers, and students with exceptionalities and families we serve, especially those differentially impacted by systemic racism."

**project 20/20**  
Creating a vision of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in all of CEC

On June 4, the Council for Exceptional Children Board of Directors **committed** to fight against "racism, atrocities, and oppression" that continue to come to light in our communities. Today, we call upon all CEC members to join that fight with us.

Today we are excited to launch the start of a program meant to build a vision of diversity, inclusion, and equity in all of CEC: **project 20/20**. This equity project requires you, our members, to take the pledge below with us and identify changes you can make.

**"We pledge to uphold the vision of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and to support all of our members, volunteers, and staff as well as the infants, toddlers, and students with exceptionalities and families we serve, especially those differentially impacted by systemic racism."**



# Membership Updates

Thank you to CEC's membership program during the COVID-19 pandemic, Kentucky was able to gain over 450 new members. If you joined CEC during this time, make sure to renew your membership as your membership may have expired. Also, beginning on November 1 through December 31, use code **NTA2020** to save 20% on your new membership or renewal. Currently, Kentucky has 505 members statewide, let's work together to increase membership and include our colleagues in the wonderful professional development and networking opportunities provided by CEC.

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## KYCEC Board Members share a few of our favorite things

### **Laura Clarke, Vice President, from Ft. Thomas, KY**

I am a special education consultant for the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services. One of my favorite go-to resources is [Whole Hearted Counseling](#) - she has wonderful free resources to help students manage their anxiety and stress and develop a growth mindset. I've been trying to deepen my understanding of culturally responsive teaching and what it means to be anti-racist. If you'd like to join me in my journey, check out <https://bit.ly/CRTAntiRacism1> - you can find more free PD at <http://bit.ly/nkcesonlinetraining>



### **Merissa Waddey, Past-President, from Florence, KY**

I serve as a special education consultant for the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services. I am always looking for practical resources to support behavior, and one of my favorites is [PBIS World!](#) This site organizes behavior strategies by tier of intervention, and it includes downloadable templates, implementation steps, and more! I also really love a good podcast while I walk my dog or take a drive - One of my new favorites is *The Scholarly Self-Care Podcast* with Dr. Tia Barnes. You can find more about this [here](#).

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## KYCEC Divisions updates

### KY Teacher Education Division Updates

Are you interested in joining the KYCEC Teacher Education Division? We would certainly Love to have you join our division! In fact, we are providing an incentive to join us- if you join the TED division, we are willing to pay for your division dues (you will need to attend the annual board meeting and send a copy of your paid receipt to Steve Crites [critess1@nku.edu](mailto:critess1@nku.edu) in order to get a check back from the TED organization). Our scheduled  
Ky CEC Fall 2020 Newsletter

annual board meeting is November 21, 2020 at 9 am CST/ 10 am EST via Zoom

<https://murraystate.zoom.us/j/86555013097>

Are you interested in one of the leadership positions? This could be your lucky day! We will be taking nominations from the floor or you can submit your interest in holding a leadership position to any of the current board members. Current open positions include President Elect/ Vice President, possibility of a secretary position, a changing of the guard so to speak.....

**Kentucky Teacher Education Journal** is always open for submission of articles & reviewers of articles. Please share the information with your colleagues.

KTEJ published Volume 7 Issue 1 this month with three articles from professors from Murray State University and Western University. Publishing is not an easy process and it takes a village to get this hard work accomplished for everyone. Sharing our great work across Kentucky through our KTEJ not only provides our KY teachers information but KTEJ is read globally.

<https://digitalcommons.murraystate.edu/ktej/>

## KYCCBD Updates

KYCCBD has many members in KY that have been recognized for their work in the field of education and who have held offices on the national CCBD board. Such members include:

- Terry Scott, past president CCBD
- Justin Cooper, past president CCBD
- Julia Linscott, membership Chair CCBD
- John Burt, received an award from CCBD, I'd have to dig to find the title.
- Tim Landrum, upcoming president CCBD

The current KYCCBD board members work throughout the state of Kentucky in various roles and departments which lends to a well rounded team to support the area of Behavior and Mental Wellness. The KYCCBD members in KY are strong supporters of KYCEC and frequently partner and support KYCEC and their subdivisions. KYCCBD is dedicated to supporting our state partnerships in recent and on-going training.

Currently, KYCCBD is working to ensure that the bi-annual summer Behavior Institute (BI) will continue; due to recent events the target summer date for the next BI is 2022; more information to follow.

# KY Student CEC Division Updates

SCEC officers for the 2020-2021 year are:



- Jodi Hall - President - Morehead State (pictured on right). Jodi shared this great tip for student teachers: "One of my favorite resources that I use as a student in CEC is the GroupMe app! It is a great way for everyone in the group to communicate with each other at the same time! If you download the mobile app, then you can be put into a large group message with all of the other members. We can chat with one another, send photos, and even vote on polls for when we should hold meetings. It also sends push notifications when someone messages in the chat, so that we never miss an announcement!"

- Kiley Richardson - VP - Morehead State (pictured at right). Kiley shared this tip for student teachers: "As a college student, one of my favorite resources to use is the Kentucky Teachers in the Know Facebook group! It is full of not only current teachers but retired and soon to be teachers as well. On the Facebook group, teachers share their questions and advice as well informing everyone of new and upcoming news. It has really benefited me to see what teachers are doing and how they are sticking together, especially in a time like this. Hopefully one day I can give advice and help a future teacher just like the ladies and gentlemen in the group have helped me!"



- Morgan Deravil - Secretary - WKU

## 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.