Dear NCCEC Members,

Thank you for reading our first completely online newsletter. NCCEC has gone green! We will continue to publish and post a Fall, Winter, and Spring newsletter. The only difference is that you will receive the newsletter via email. Thus, it is important that we have updated email information for all members. If your email has changed, then please send any new information to our newsletter editor, Debbie Metcalf, at metcalf@ecu.edu. We want to make sure our members stay connected!

In addition to staying connected through the newsletter and website, you can also find NCCEC on Facebook. Just search North Carolina CEC next time you are on Facebook and do a friend request. It is a great way to network with other NCCEC members.

Now that you know how to get connected, let’s talk about getting involved. If you are interested in serving as an officer for NC-CEC or know someone who would be a great candidate, the 2010 Call for Nominations is included in this newsletter and also on our website. Voting will occur in the Fall. For more information about officer positions, see the website or email me at nc.cec.sped@gmail.com.

The 2010 Annual NCCEC Conference will be back in Wilmington, NC January 28th-29th with pre-conference sessions January 27th. We are already busy with conference planning. The call for proposals can also be found within the newsletter and on the NCCEC website.

I wish everyone luck with the ending of the school year!

Jennifer Diliberto

NC-CEC Officers 2008-2009

Past President:
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   julie_bost@abss.k12.nc.us

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   nc.cec.sped@gmail.com

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Treasurer:
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   jeffst@ecu.edu

Student Coordinator:
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   lfloyd@ncat.edu

for NC-CEC
2010 Conference
Call for Proposals
Information please go to page 6
Felix S. Barker Leadership Award ‘09
Ms. Margaret H. Blackwell

Margaret Blackwell received the Felix S. Barker Leadership Award at the NC-CEC state conference in February. Margaret is the Executive Director of Exceptional Children’s Programs for Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools. This award recognizes outstanding service by an individual to exceptional children and youth in the state of NC. Margaret also serves on the NC-CEC Board as Treasurer.

NC-CEC Mini-Grant Recipients – 2009
Congratulations to the following CEC members who were each awarded a $500 mini-grant at the NC-CEC State Conference!

Dr. Brenda Scott, Onslow County Schools
Assistive & Instructional Technology Coordinator

Project Title: Extreme Make Over: Constructing Interactive & Adapted

Janis Baumbarger, Alamance Burlington School System EC Program Specialist

Project Title: Transition Fairs for Students with Disabilities

Emily R. Davis, Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools Transition Facilitator

Project Title: Food for Families

Laura Norris, Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, OCS Support Teacher

Project Title: Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Presents an Employability Bowl

Katheryne Rhys Myrick Potts, Pitt County Schools EC Teacher

Project Title: Vibroacoustic Therapy for Students with Significant Disabilities

Mary Watson (left), Director of NC DPI EC Division, presenting Margaret Blackwell with the 2009 Felix Barker Award.

NC-CEC President Jennifer Diliberto (center) presents mini-grant awards to Rhys Potts and Emily Davis (right).
The focus of this year’s CAN and Representative Assembly meetings for the Council for Exceptional Children was on a pivotal moment in our history, the signing into law of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which took place on February 17, 2009. The ARRA more than doubled current federal funding for special education and early intervention. This is the largest investment the government has ever made in special education. CEC contributes this to over 30 years of strategic, focused advocacy by CEC members in collaboration with education and disability communities.

It will be important for CEC members and other stakeholders to understand ARRA to maximize its impact. CEC is dedicating part of its website to providing members with resources and updates. Be sure to check out the ARRA webpage at: www.cec.sped.org>Policy and Advocacy. Here is an excerpt from this website:

The U.S. Department of Education has emphasized that ARRA funds should be used for investments that can be sustained after the ARRA funding expires (at the end of the 2010-2011 school year), such as:

- Assistive technology devices and training in their use,
- Focused professional development;
- Data collection enhancements;
- Expanding the availability and range of inclusive placements for preschool children with disabilities, and
- Hiring transition coordinators and job developers for students entering the workforce.

Overall, ARRA is providing over $100 billion for funding programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education. In the short term, infusing more money into education will hopefully minimize layoffs and program cuts as well as create jobs that are needed to implement new initiatives. In the long run, the ARRA seeks to ensure better educational outcomes to preserve the economic health of our nation. Perhaps we can use our newsletter space to share feedback on how ARRA impacts you, your school/early intervention programs, children, and youth. Please email Lynn Zubov at zubovl@wssu.edu or Debbie Metcalf at metcalfd@ecu.edu with your input.

2009 CASE Outstanding Administrator of Special Education

NC-CEC’s own Margaret Blackwell was selected as the 2009 CASE Outstanding Administrator of Special Education by the International Council for Exceptional Children. She was presented with this honor at the CEC Convention in Seattle, Washington. The nominees for this award are rated on their participation in professional memberships and activities, innovations and contributions to special education, their impact on Administrator preparation and/or the quality of services to exceptional children. North Carolina CEC has many reasons to be proud. Congratulations, Margaret!
Making and Using a Whisper Phone
Debbie Metcalf, Chan Evans, and Hayley Flynn

Are you looking for a multisensory tool to add to your reading and spelling centers? Check out Whisper Phones! See the directions below for making and using them. They can also help with phonemic awareness, fluency, and expressive reading.

Directions for Making One Whisper Phone
1. Gather these supplies from the plumbing supply section of a hardware store:
   - 1” diameter PVC pipe
   - Two 1” diameter PVC elbows
   - One pair PVC pipe cutters
2. Cut a 3 ½” length of pipe.
3. Slide the elbows onto each end of the pipe.

How to Use the Whisper Phone in a Spelling Center
1. Pick up the first word card and read the word quietly.
2. Hold the phone to your ear and whisper the word into the phone.
3. Whisper each letter of the word into the phone.
4. Whisper the word into the phone again.
5. Turn the card face down and pick up the next card.
6. Repeat Steps 1 – 5 with all the cards until you hear the bell ring.

FREE HOUSING RESOURCE GUIDE:
The Arc of North Carolina is pleased to announce the publication of A Closer Look at Housing Options: A Housing Resource Guide for People with Developmental Disabilities. This guide is a practical tool to help people with disabilities to navigate the housing system and to locate housing in their communities that meets their needs and fulfills their dreams. It includes information on how to search for housing, rental options, home ownership, fair housing, group living and a myriad of other resources. The guide is available free of charge for download on The Arc’s website at www.arcnc.org. For more information, please call 919-782-4632.
Student to Professional Membership

Please find below a brief description of the Council for Exceptional Children’s Student to Professional membership incentive:

- The name of the program is CEC Student 2 Professional Transition Program.
- CEC student members can now continue their membership for the first two years of their professional career at the student rate, plus receive student rates for any division memberships, as well.
- Tell your graduating SPED students that this program offers 40% off the regular CEC professional memberships.
- Payments can be made in three installments of $23.00 each.

Have the graduates go to www.cecd.sped.org and look for “Student to Professional Transition Program”.

Council for Exceptional Children
2009 Kayte M. Fearn CEC Ethnic Diversity Scholarship

Tiffany Cohen
North Carolina A&T State University
Greensboro, North Carolina

Tiffany Cohen is President of the CEC Student Chapter at North Carolina A&T State University. She energized the chapter’s student members for service projects including as a Holiday Book Drive, and horseback riding and an Easter Egg Hunt for students with special needs. She serves in on campus leadership in the Student Government Association and Kappa Delta Pi, and is a campus life mentor. Ms. Cohen has assisted with conducting university workshops and training sessions, and was a session co-presenter at the 2009 North Carolina CEC conference. With her leadership skills and commitment to teaching and excellence for students with learning challenges, Tiffany Cohen will be an asset to the school system lucky enough to hire her!

The Kayte M. Fearn CEC Ethnic Diversity Scholarship is awarded to a culturally diverse CEC student member who has made outstanding contributions to children with exceptionalities and CEC.

Student Scholarships Awarded

Jenice Ramirez, UNCG, and Alice Talabi, NCA & T, received student scholarships at the NC-CEC Annual Convention in Wilmington.
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: December 1st, 2009

Title of Presentation:_______________________________________________________

Lead Presenter Information:
Name:__________________________________Position/Title:_____________________
Address:__________________________________School/Business:_____________________
City:____________________State:______________Zip:____________________
Email:________________________________Office Phone:_____________________
Home Phone:____________________Fax Number:_____________________
Co-Presenter(s) Name/Address:_________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________

INCLUDE:

Presentation Summary for Conference Program Purposes (25-50 words): Provide a description of the nature of the program, program format, presenter’s role in the program, planned materials for participants, and targeted audience.

Presentation Description for Conference Selection Committee Purposes (up to 2 pages): Provide a detailed description of the nature of the program, program format, presenter’s role in the program, planned materials for participants, and targeted audience.

Area: Please indicate the area(s) of applicability for the proposed presentation (e.g. transition, IEP, behavior, assistive technology, assessment, significant cognitive disabilities, collaboration, diversity, reading, writing and/or math strategies, etc):

Audio-Visual Needs (LCD projector and overhead available):

Presentation Format (general session or poster):
Please note in minutes the anticipated length of your presentation/training session:_______________ (60-90 minutes)

Are you willing to present as a poster or general session? ____yes  ____no
If no, circle your preference: poster    general

Selection Criteria: Presentation selection is based on the following criteria: innovation for the field, creativity in interaction with participants, audience appeal, clarity of organization and presentation, feasibility of presentation, degree to which it addresses a special need or strand area, and overall balance of topics among strands. The Selection Committee is responsible for selecting all papers and programs presented and for determining the session length. The Selection Committee will review each proposal and notify you in a timely manner.

Email or Send Proposals To: Linda Annas --- email: nccecconference@gmail.com

Presenters will be notified on or before December 15th, 2009 and are expected to confirm attendance at 2010 conference by:
1. submitting conference registration and $50.00 conference fee by January 4th, 2010.
2. reserve hotel room on or before January 4th, 2010 (if staying overnight) Hotel information located on registration form.
2010 Call for Nominations  
North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children (NCCEC)  
http://nccec.coe.ecu.edu  

The NCCEC Nominations Committee is currently seeking candidates for the following offices that will run from January 1 – December 31, 2010:  

I. President Elect (3 year term, including President and Past President) – In the case of absence or disability of the President, acts in his/her place with his/her authority, prepares himself/herself for the office of President and serves as Chairperson of the Constitution and By-laws committee. Serves as chair for the annual state conference, with guidance and assistance of President.  

II. Secretary – (1 year term). The Secretary is responsible for recording the minutes of the annual business meeting, for correspondence of the Council, keeping miscellaneous records, and maintaining the Secretary’s copy of the Minutes Book.  

III. Treasurer – (2 year term). The Treasurer is responsible for transacting all financial business of the Federation, and for preparing an annual financial report.  

IV. CAN Coordinator – (2 year term). The CAN Coordinator will familiarize himself/herself with pending legislation relative to students with disabilities and gifted children and youth and make this available to the members as requested.  

All candidates must be current, active members of CEC. Biographical information of the nominees will be available on line. Election of officers will be held by numbered ballot that will be emailed to members. You can also send your vote electronically by including your membership number. Nominations will be accepted by submitting the included nomination form to:  

Bobbie Grammer   or by E-Mail: Chipper145@Aol.com  
7606 Siple Ave  
Fayetteville, NC 28304  

Nominations will be closed as of July 15, 2009.  

******************************************************************************  

Name _____________________________ CEC Number _________________________________  
Office Nominated for _____________________________  
Address  
_________________________________________________________________________________________  
Phone (Home) ____________________  (Office) ________________________________  
(E-mail) __________________________  
Professional Employment Experience: (use continuation page if needed)  

CEC Experience: (use continuation page if needed)