

Louisiana Council for Exceptional Children

Spring 2010 Newsletter



Yes, I Can Award Winners

Pictured left to right
Back Row: William Meece (Livingston Parish) and Ethan Buckelew (Winn Parish)
Front Row: Matthew Hebert, Nicholas Budde, Bailey McQuiddy and Bryson McCoy (all from Livingston Parish)

Scholarship Winner



Eunji Cho from
Northwestern State
University

A Message from the President

It has been a pleasure serving as your President this past year. In May, it will be time to turn over the gavel to the new 2010/11 president, Dr. Paul Mooney.

Educators in Louisiana are hard working and have a true concern for their students. The Louisiana Council for Exceptional Children is continuing its goal in serving educators in the State of Louisiana. Each year our Conference is relevant and timely. The scholarships and mini-grants awarded help out pre-service and in-service teachers conduct their work of teaching and learning in the classrooms.

Super Conference 29 was a success because of you. Super Conference 30 is January 24 & 25 at the Lafayette Cajundome Convention Center in Lafayette. Put it on your calendars now!

Check out the Web site at <http://www.lacec.org> – 2010 Conference presentations are being posted right now.

I would like to ask each of you to take a few moments to reflect on personal and professional commitment and dedication to the students you serve and your professional organization, La CEC. Please stay active and involved. Your participation and voice is what keep LaCEC effective.

I thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president this 2009/10 year. I have learned so much.

CEC Executive Board Elections

This year our membership will elect a new Vice-President and Treasurer. All elected officers must be members in good standing of CEC at the time of nomination and election and remain so throughout the duration of their term in office. Nominations for the office of Vice-President require prior LA CEC State Board Experience. The Vice-President automatically advances to President-Elect, President, and Past-President in the upcoming years. This position requires a four year commitment.

The treasurer serves a two year term in that position and then serves as the chair of the finance committee.

The powers and duties of the Vice-President are:

1. To serve in the place of, and with the authority of, the President in case of absence or disability of the President and President-Elect.
2. To serve on any committee as a representative of the President.
3. To solicit vendors and make arrangements for vendors' displays and participation at annual state Convention.
4. To serve as parliamentarian for Executive Committee and General Meetings.
5. To keep and pass on all records of the Vice-President at the end of the term to the new Vice-President.

The powers and duties of the Treasurer are:

1. To serve as custodian of the funds and official financial records of the Council.
2. To pay out money for expenses approved by the Executive Committee and on authorization of the President.
3. To submit record of all monies collected and expended to contracted Certified Public Accountant and the finance committee for auditing.
4. To transfer all monies and records to the new treasurer within 15 days after installation.
5. To verify and file annual tax report with the assistance of contracted CPA.
6. To serve as registration chairperson of annual state convention.
7. To become chair of Finance Committee at the end of his or her term.

**FOR VICE PRESIDENT
BONNIE BUCKELEW**

Bonnie Buckelew has served on the LaCEC executive board for three years as the Awards chairperson. She is married to Randy and they have 2 children, Ethan and Amanda. She is employed in Jackson Parish as the Supervisor of Special Education as well as the 504, Pre-GED, Alternative School and Credit Recovery Supervisor. She has taught general education, gifted education and special education as well as

working as an educational diagnostician. Bonnie is a member of CEC, LASEA, LASE, American Legion Auxiliary, Lion's Club, Troop Committee Chair for Boy Scout Troop 22 and Cubmaster for Pack 190. Her proudest moment this year was when her son Ethan, who has Asperger's Syndrome achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. It was a long road but well worth the journey.

**FOR TREASURER
ASHLIE ABERCROMBIE ALLARDYCE**

Ashlie Abercrombie Allardyce has served on the executive board for four years; two years as membership chairperson and for the past two years as treasurer. She is running for a second term as treasurer. She is married with one son. Ashlie works in Calcasieu Parish as an early interventionist. She is also employed as an adjunct early interventionist instructor at ULL. She has served on the program advisory committee for the Division of Early Childhood at the national level. Ashlie also currently serves as the LA DEC treasurer. She has presented at state and national CEC conferences.

Complete the ballot below and mail the completed ballot to
Cynthia Owens
697 Aline St.
LaPlace, LA 70068
by Saturday, April 24, 2010.

**CEC 2010 BOARD ELECTIONS
BALLOT**

VICE PRESIDENT

_____ Bonnie Buckelew

_____ write in candidate

TREASURER

_____ Ashlie Abercrombie Allardyce

_____ write in candidate

Super Conference 29 – A Success

Final attendance figure for Super Conference 29 was over 900 paid for the two-day event. Special thanks go to all of you who attended the conference as well as the vendors and exhibitors who helped make the conference a successful event.

Overall, there were 78 informational presentations over the two days, with an average per session attendance of 37 people (range 4 to 120). Monday's 41 sessions drew an average per session attendance of 42 persons, whereas Tuesday's 37 sessions drew a per presentation average of 30 persons.

An analysis of session attendance indicated that those presentations addressing issues related to

collaboration, response to intervention, instructional strategies, autism, and behavior/classroom management were the best attended. The 12 poster sessions at noon on Monday drew a steady crowd.

The Awards Ceremony and Reception, coordinated by Bonnie Buckelew, was very special this year. Student Yes I Can Award winners were all there with their families, principals, teachers, and even Scout leaders (who actually was the Paraprofessional of the Year Award winner). Recipients of LaCEC scholarships and min-grants were there. Also recognized was the young man who won the Cover Art Design contest for the Super Conference 29 program.

Southeastern SCEC

This year during Superconference 29 Southeastern Chapter #796 did a character education presentation on bullying. This was a wonderful opportunity for the student members to present at a recognized conference as well as a fun and different presentation for attendees. The presentation included a make and take demonstration using balloon art to illustrate the children's book *Nora The Nonopus*. This book was written and illustrated by 5th grade students and published by Scholastic. Attendees were first visually entertained by a magic demonstration by Dr. Dan The Magic Man in which they learned the value of

LA-SCEC

Every year, as a service to its student members, LACEC offers free registration to students who volunteer just a few sessions each day handing out verification of attendance stickers. For SuperConference 2010, we had twenty students take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. During their volunteer hours, students were able to attend wonderful sessions given by professionals in all areas of Special Education. Student volunteer Deborah Derry from Southeastern Louisiana University said of the experience, "I thought the Super Conference was invaluable. The workshops were so informative and there were many choices to meet our individual interests. I went to a workshop on Differentiation that gave some strategies I can use in the general education classes as well as in Special education. I would highly recommend the Super Conference to any educator, and to parents of special needs students, as well."



Para Educator of the Year

Brenda Simmons

La. Council for Exceptional Children
c/o P. O. Box 44904
Lafayette, LA 70504

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HAVE ANY NEWS?

If you have division, chapter, or person news you would like us all to know about, please submit it to LA CEC newsletter editor, Geraldine Grandstaff-Beckers, at gbecke1@lsu.edu.

Please submit your news via e-mail attachment and use Times 12 point font. Thank you.

