Fall Conference 2014
Boise, Idaho

Our annual Fall Conference will be held in Boise, Idaho at the Red Lion Hotel Boise Downtowner (1800 W Fairview Ave, Boise, ID 83702) October 1st - 4th, 2014.

Former Board Members

Thank you for your service to the Idaho CEC. We appreciate the time and passion that you have put forth in serving on our board. We will miss your ideas, feedback, and personality. Have a wonderful 2014!

Former Board Members
Barbara Hayhurst- Secretary
Cyndi Cook- Past President

Future Board Members

Interested in bringing Professional Development and training opportunities to Idaho Special Educators? Do you have ideas about better serving children with exceptionalities in Idaho? Contact our President at recorder@sd148.org

Welcome Newly Elected Board Members

Vice President - Carol Ruud
Carol has served children with disabilities as a Psychosocial Rehabilitation Specialist for over 7 years and as a special education teacher at Grace Jr/Sr High in Grace, Idaho. Carol is currently a member of the Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD) and the Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT).

Secretary - Gina White
Gina works for the Fruitland School District, as the Special Education Director, the LEP/Migrant Coordinator, and the Homeless Liaison. She has been an educator for 18 years, and this is her first position on the Idaho CEC Board.

State Representative - Phyllis Vermilyea
Phyllis works as the Nampa School District’s Behavior Specialist/Consulting Teacher, and is looking forward to representing Idaho CEC and all of it’s subdivisions at the National CEC level as a Representative. She has served as Vice President, President Elect, President, and Past President on both the Idaho CEC and Idaho Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders boards.
From the President

Greetings and Salutations,

I am Robin Corder, your new Idaho CEC president for 2014. I have a Master’s Degree in Human Exceptionality, and I received my special education administrative endorsement in June of 2006 and my principal-ship in the fall of 2007. During the past ten years, I have been working as the Director of the Special Education, Title I, the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) program, the Migrant program, the Gifted and Talented (G/T) program, Medicaid billing, RTI, and Curriculum coordinator for the Grace School District.

Last year, I had a unique opportunity to work with Rich Henderson from the State Department and Stephanie Dahlke from Idaho School Psychologist Association in developing and planning the National DLD conference that was held in Sun Valley October 2-4, 2013. It was a great conference with a wide variety of sessions for all attendees.

This year we will be holding our annual conference back in the beautiful city of Boise. Our President-Elect, Kindel Mason, has some fabulous options for great motivating keynotes and awesome breakout sessions.

I am excited and pleased to welcome our new officers, Carol Ruud - Vice President, Gina White - Secretary, and Phyllis Vermilyea - Representative. Thank you to our outgoing officers Barbara Hayhurst, Kelly Hall, and Cindy Cook. All your hard work was greatly appreciated and you will be dearly missed.

The CEC Board would like to hold a second annual spring workshop. It was such a great success last year, and we able to offer a great professional development opportunities to our teachers. Patricia Hampshire presented Behavior concerns/intervention for students with high functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders; Toni Wheeler presented Common Core and Special Education; and Kelly Hall presented on Google Docs in Special Education.

Idaho Tri-Universities Student CEC Chapter.

We are a new student chapter made up of three universities; BSU, NNU, and U of I. For many of us, this is our first experience being involved in a student organization and we are really excited to see what we can accomplish during our first year! We have several potential goals and several ideas for group activities such as getting connected through networking, guest speakers, and collaboration with other subdivisions and families. At this point we are trying to recruit as many new members as we can and we're looking forward to watching our student chapter grow and develop. We have created a facebook page called Idaho Council for Exceptional Children-Student Organization. Here is the link as well. https://www.facebook.com/groups/707952652548063/
The members of DCDT hope to see you all at the CEC Conference in Boise, Idaho in October. It should be a great time for all.

I would like to welcome DCDT’s new President Mary Kay Merten. I am now Past President. It has been an honor working with all the CEC members. To my DCDT and Secondary Transition Mentor family, you have all been a great inspiration and support team. I loved getting to know you. I wish you all a great year. Keep smiling!

Staci Vreeland

Offices Up for Election

DCDT Officer positions are up for election this year. Officer positions available are President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you know of anyone interested in running, who is a DCDT member or wants to become one, please encourage them to join CEC and DCDT, and run for a DCDT office. Please also send their name to Staci Vreeland at staciv1@gmail.com and I will place their name in the hat. We will be holding elections at our general meeting in October at the CEC Annual Conference in Boise, Idaho.

Join DCDT

To join DCDT you must join our parent organization, the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and indicate on the application that you would like to join the DCDT division. Joining DCDT entitles you to an array of benefits:

- National, regional, state, provincial, and local conferences that offer the opportunity for continuing education units (CEU’s)
- Opportunities to network with colleagues and leaders in the field of transition.
- Forums to contribute to the field through publications, conferences, and informal meetings.
- Acquire implementation tools and practical strategies that can be applied in individual settings.
- Receipt of research-based and current publications, including:
  - Career Development of Exceptional Individuals (CDEI) journal providing research-based and practical descriptions of models, programs, and strategies.
  - DCDT Network Newsletter providing latest information on legislation, projects, resources materials, and model programs

To learn how to join go to: http://www.dcdt.org/join-dcdt/

DCDT members nominations are now open for the 2014 Life Time Achievement Award. The nominee should be someone who has been in transition for a significant amount of time, or someone who has helped students transition into their communities, and be a CEC member. Please send the name of your nominee and a brief synopsis of why you think they deserve this award to Staci Vreeland at vreelands@npschools.us by Sept. 12th, 2014.
Idaho Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities

Annual Division Report 1-11-14

At the annual state CEC conference in October 2013, DADD was able to host the STAR program developers, Dr. Joel Arick and Shelia Magee in a pre-conference and in session strands all of the first day. The STAR program is particularly relevant for the population of students DADD represents and we were very grateful to Dr. Patricia Hampshire as our president of 2013 for coordinating such big names to participate in the conference! Dr. Hampshire also spearheaded the establishment of a statewide student CEC chapter! Universities participating in the “Idaho Tri-University Student Chapter” include: BSU with Dr. Hampshire as the faculty advisor, UI (Dr. Hollingshead faculty), NNU (Karen Smucker faculty). Dr. Hampshire also generously devoted her time to present for the CEC spring conference, which was very successful and lucrative for the state CEC board. In the Spring of 2013, DADD hosted a “Curriculum Share (show and tell)” event at Timberline High School in which board members presented materials relevant for various age groups to DADD members and potential members.

As of September, DADD has 23 current members. New board members serving for 2014 include Andrea Cox as president, Rachelle Kynaston as president elect, Dr. Aleksandra Hollingshead as vice president, Barbara Hayhurst as secretary (4th term!), and Carol Carnahan serving as treasurer.

Into 2014, DADD plans to work with CCBD in coordinating a spring conference. DADD also looks forward to continuing and expanding our collaboration with family and community agencies. We also plan to continue to explore new opportunities for DADD to contribute locally in the areas of professional development, awareness, and access to resources for individuals and families of individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities!

Andrea Cox
DADD President
andread.cox@gmail.com
DEC has been focusing, for the last few months, on our election of new members. We had several board members retire early so we have needed to fill our Vice President, and Treasurer positions. We appreciate the work and support that Rejeana Blackburn and Kim Arrasmith have given to DEC over the past years. Our board decided to stay in our same positions this year because our vice president resigned last Fall. We have elected a new Vice President; Charlene Davis who is a Senior Developmental Specialist with the Infant Toddler Program. We are still looking for a treasurer. We would love to have you join with us if any of you would be interested.

We are looking forward to partnering with CCBD and IDADD co-hosting a Spring conference in Boise March 14th and 15th. The topic will be on the interplay of communication and behavior, and assistive technology and how it can help improve communication and behavior. Be watching for more information as we get all of the details worked out.

Our DEC board has been working to clarify and redefine our board responsibilities and have been looking for new ways to support DEC in the state of Idaho. We are hoping to provide support to members and recruit new members by supporting early childhood events in various parts of the state. We feel that with the budget restraints throughout state programs we need to look for opportunities to partner and join other early childhood conferences and trainings.

We are looking forward to the CEC conference in October and are eager to attract and support the vendors coming to Boise. We are hoping to also host some kind of a post conference as well and would welcome any other subdivision who would like to partner with us in this event.

Becky Parker, DEC President
Idaho Council for Children with Behavior Disorders

Officers for 2014:
Past President: Phyllis Vermilyea
President: Cyndi Cook
Pres. Elect: Melissa Swander
Vice Pres: Malinda Glasgow
Secretary: Lisa Esson
Treasurer: Bryon Cox

October 2013 CEC Conference: Idaho CCBD planned to hold a Post-Conference in cooperation with iDADD. The content of the session was to focus on language and its influence on behavior, especially in younger children. However, due to low registration the conference was cancelled.

Spring 2014: Idaho CCBD has booked the Hampton Inn in Meridian for the annual 2-day Spring Workshop to be held March 14 & 15 (Friday-Saturday). Day 1 will feature presentations on the Connection and Interplay of Communication and Behavior from Infant/Toddler through High School, including those with Autism Spectrum Disorders, and in the afternoon a presentation on Assistive Technology to aid and foster communication and its impact on communication and behavior for all ages of children, including those on the Autism Spectrum. Day 2 will feature a day long presentation on Sensory Integration, neurological processing, Principles of Behavior Strategies with sensory integration in mind, effect and implications for students with ASD, and a make-and-take time. CCBD is partnering with DEC and iDADD for this collaborative look at students who come to us with co-occurring needs. Students come with a vast array of needs and we need to be prepared to provide a multitude of layered interventions if we are to give them a true chance for success. We hope you will join us. Registration information will be coming soon.

National CEC 2014 Conference: Idaho CCBD plans to send the President to the National CEC Conference in Philadelphia in April 2014.

October 2014 CEC Conference: Idaho CCBD plans to hold a post-conference during the Idaho CEC Conference in Boise in 2014. Content is to be determined later. CCBD plans to hold our membership meeting and luncheon at the conference as well. Date and location for the Luncheon and membership meeting will be announced closer to conference time.

Membership: CCBD would like to encourage you to consider becoming a part of our unique organization. Member benefits include discounts for conference/workshops, literature that looks specifically at behavior. Let’s be honest, we all have students with behavioral concerns in our classrooms and schools. If you would like further information on membership opportunities please contact our President, Cyndi Cook at ccook@nnu.edu.

Thank you
Cyndi Cook
Idaho CCBD President.
Idaho CEC State Representative Report

State Representatives:
Phyllis Vermilyea and Staci Vreeland

I would like to thank Kelly Hall for all her hard work as a State Rep. Thanks for showing me the ropes. Welcome to Phyllis Vermilyea as our new State Rep. I look forward to working with you.
Staci

The Idaho CEC State Representatives have participated in the following activities:
- State CEC Executive Board meetings
- CEC’s Annual Conference in Sun Valley, Idaho

Awards:
- CEC’s “Yes I Can!” award winner was Devon Christensen, from Grace, Idaho. He was then nominated for the National CEC “Yes I Can!” award and won. This is the first time Idaho has had this honor. Devon will be traveling to Philadelphia in April to receive his award. Congratulations Devon.

Membership:
- We are always looking for new ways to increase membership in CEC and subdivisions. It was decided at the January CEC board meeting that each subdivision will pay membership for one new member to CEC and that subdivision.

Nominations are now being accepted for the Paraprofessional Excellence Award, Clarissa Hug Award, and the Yes I Can! Award. Please submit nominations by June 1, 2014. Click on the link below to take you to the Idaho CEC page to make your nominations.
http://www.idahocec.org/professional-honors/
President’s Address—January 2014

Dear ITAG-SAGE Members,

I am so pleased to welcome 2014 as the new President of ITAG-SAGE. I have been a teacher in the Boise School District for the last 24 years. I feel so fortunate to be taking on this role with a wonderful Executive Board.

We are excited to continue all of the hard work that has gone on during 2013. We have teams of educators/advocates working on Legislative issues, building our membership, working hard to bring our members a current newsletter and planning and implementation of education with gifted training opportunities. Watch for our Spring Gifted Conference in late April in Boise!

2014 will be a year of growth, opportunity and challenge. We are so excited to have our members along for the ride!

Ingrid Jungen
President ITAG-SAGE
Highlands Elementary
Boise, Idaho

ITAG/SAGE Legislative Update

ITAG/SAGE has had a busy week meeting with various legislators. Elaine Clegg, Tina Polishchuk, and Nancy Gregory met with the chairmen of both education committees. On Thursday, members of ITAG/SAGE testified before the senate education committee on the status of gifted education in Idaho. In this presentation, ITAG/SAGE requested the restoration of $500,000 to be listed as a sub-line item under the professional development line item. Senators heard stories from parents and teachers, as well as a brief history of gifted education throughout the state. Hopes are high, but it has been communicated to ITAG/SAGE that the hot topic of the legislative session are the recommendations given by the Governor's Education Task Force. "Restoring funding is much harder that we expected it to be. Constituents need to communicate to their legislators that this issue is important to them," said past-president, Tina Polishchuk. "The data is startling, gifted students simply cannot afford another year without this funding." ITAG/SAGE will continue to meet with legislators to discuss the restoration of these funds.
Gifted Program Review in Blaine County School District

The Blaine County School District has been conducting a GATE program review throughout the fall and into January, 2014. Jo Henderson and Dr. Sherry Dismuke, Boise State University faculty, are conducting the review. The findings and recommendations will be presented to the District’s GATE Committee. The program review team focused on the six core elements of gifted programs: Program Design; The Identification Process; Curriculum and Instruction; The Affective Dimension; Professional Development and Program Effectiveness. They were guided in each of these areas by specific, essential questions from the BCSD Gifted Committee, under the leadership of Angie Martinez, Director of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning.

To examine each of the program elements and essential questions, the review team considered demographic data, curriculum information and policy documents. They also conducted focus groups with students at all levels, general education teachers, GATE Facilitators, parents, and building-level and central district administrators. In addition, the review team constructed, disseminated and reviewed survey data gathered from parents, students and teachers.

The findings and recommendations of the review team will guide district personnel in enhancing their processes in identifying and serving gifted students.

Designing Idaho Core Units for Gifted & Talented Students

2 Day Workshop - Watch for more info!
April 25th & 26th
1 credit PD offered by ITAG-SAGE

2014 ITAG-SAGE Executive Board

President: Ingrid Jungen
President Elect: Erin Kueneman
Vice President: Brian Marinelli
Treasurer: Kelly Brady
Secretary: Amy Wiltrout
Past President: Tina Polishchuk

Welcome, Brian, and thank you, Tina, for all your hard work and dedication to gifted education.
Coming this summer!

Temple Grandin: Helping Different Minds to Learn

Don't miss it! Register Today!

Temple Grandin is a professor, prolific author, and one of the most accomplished and renowned adults with autism in the world. During this captivating general session, she will share her personal story, as well as her insights into the vibrant population we know as twice-exceptional children. Too often these kids—both gifted and diagnosed with a disability—get lost in an endless cycle of chasing diagnostic labels and are never given the tools to fully realize their potential. Come away with deeper insights into the challenges these learners face, as well as a fresh perspective on what we in the support community of parents and educators, can do to help some of our brightest children succeed.

Call for Edufest Special Topics Presenters

Edufest 2014 is asking you to share your knowledge, experience and enthusiasm this year as a Special Topics Presenter. We would like to add you and your area of expertise to our program and are hoping you will agree to become a Special Topics Presenter at Edufest 2014! Please contact Sherrie Bosserman at sbosserman@gmail.com or call (208)447-8409 for more information.