Here’s How You Can Recognize Your Exceptional Students

We know you’ve been waiting, which is why we’re excited to announce that nominations for the 2020 Yes I Can Awards are officially OPEN! Presented each year at the CEC Convention & Expo, The Yes I Can Awards program recognizes children and youth with exceptionalities for their outstanding determination, abilities, and accomplishments. Nominations close September 16, 2019!

Want to recognize a special education professional or college/university student? We have award programs for that, too! Learn more and nominate an outstanding member of our community today.

Check Out CEC Leaders Talk Restraint and Seclusion on NPR's All Things Considered and The 74

On Tuesday, Kevin Rubenstein - veteran educator and Policy & Legislative Chair for the Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) - went live on the air to discuss the issue of restraint and seclusion in light of a new U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report released earlier this week.

Check out the full story on All Things Considered!

CEC’s Director of Policy and Advocacy, Deborah Ziegler, Ed.D., also spoke out on the GAO report and the importance of accurate data collection for an article featured yesterday in The 74. Read it on the74million.org!

If you’re interested in taking a deeper dive into CEC’s other advocacy issues and leveraging media coverage, you can hear more from Kevin, Deb, and the reporter who covered the All
Things Considered piece, Jenny Abamu, when you register for the 2019 Special Education Legislative Summit on July 7-10.

Unpacking Practitioner Coaching

On July 10, the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (NCPMI) will be offering a coaching webinar, "Coaching Conversations: Using Constructive and Supportive Feedback to Build Practitioners' Confidence and Competence."

Not only is CEC a partner on the NCPMI grant, but former Division of Early Childhood (DEC) President and DEC Recommended Practices Commission member Mary Louise Hemmeter will be featured as a panelist. Learn more!

Have You Watched the New HLP Video Yet?

In case you missed it, make sure you've seen the new high-leverage practice (HLP) video, "HLP #20: Provide Intensive Instruction." The latest video examines the practice of intensifying instruction and highlights components of the data-based individualization (DBI) process championed by the National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII).

You can also find more information about high-leverage practices, including the full video series, a free professional development guide, and an HLP video feedback survey, on highleveragepractices.org.

Policy Highlights

Perry Preschool Project 50 Years Later

New research by the University of Chicago reinforces the outcomes of the landmark Perry Preschool Project on early childhood programs. Read more.

Announcing Part C Child Find Self-Assessment
Developed by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in partnership with the Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy) and the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA), the Child Find Self-Assessment (CFSA) is a tool that state IDEA Part C programs can use to enhance their child find efforts. Read more.

**Upcoming Events**

**2019 Leadership Institute**
Arlington, VA | July 5-7, 2019

**2019 Special Education Legislative Summit**
Arlington, VA | July 7-10, 2019

**What's Happening in Washington**
CEC Webinar | July 17, 2019

**Kids Count: No growth in pre-K enrollment, 8th-grade math proficiency:** The U.S. child population continues to increase and grow more diverse, but the overall rate of 3- and 4-year-olds not attending preschool hasn’t changed since 2010, according to the 2019 Kids Count Data Book, which has been tracking child well-being at the state level since 1990.

**RAND Corp identifies summer programs that meet ESSA guidelines:** A new report from the RAND Corp. identifies 43 summer programs that meet the top three tiers of the Every Student Succeeds Act’s (ESSA) evidence standards.

**Evaluating English-Learners for Special Education Is a Challenge. Here's Help:**
Schools often have trouble identifying English-language learners with learning disabilities—and most states don’t offer formal guidance to help educators diagnose
and support the students as outlined in a report from the National Center on Educational Outcomes.

**Lawmakers Look To Jump-Start Employment For Transition-Age Youth:**
With a bipartisan proposal, members of Congress are pushing a new plan to increase competitive, integrated employment and improve the transition from school to work for young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Study: Socioeconomic-based integration changes 'schooling contexts' for black students:** A new study focusing on a North Carolina district's effort to integrate schools based on students’ socioeconomic status shows such a plan doesn’t reduce overall segregation in a district, but it can significantly change school experiences for students who would have attended a majority-minority school.