3 Ways I Build Strong Relationships With My Students' Families

As a special educator, collaboration is critical when it comes to helping every child in the classroom learn, grow, and thrive. In her latest blog post, special education teacher Kelsey shares three tips she uses to build strong relationships with her students’ families.

Check it out!
And Now, CEC’s New Officers

CEC’s President Elect and Treasurer are appointed by the Board of Directors from two applicants that were vetted and recommended by the Leadership Development Committee. We congratulate the newly appointed President Elect and Treasurer, both appointed by the Board following interviews at its meeting on November 16-17. Terms for both begin Jan. 1, 2020.

Stay tuned to learn more about Dennis and Yvonne in the Jan./Feb. 2020 issue of *TEACHING Exceptional Children*!

**President Elect: Dennis Cavitt, Ed.D.**

Dennis Cavitt was appointed to the position of President Elect. He has served on the Board of Directors since Jan. 1, 2018. He also served as Chair of CEC’s Representative Assembly Committee (Jan. 2016-June 2018). Dennis is an Assistant Professor of Special Education at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX.

**Treasurer: Yvonne Bui, Ph.D.**

Yvonne Bui was appointed to the position of Treasurer. She is a former member of the Board of Directors (2015-2017). Yvonne is Chairperson and Professor in the Department of Special Education at San Francisco State University.

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Have You Read the New *TEACHING Exceptional Children*?

Speaking of *TEACHING Exceptional Children*, the Nov./Dec. 2019 issue of our research-to-practice journal is now available online, as well as in print for our Full and Premier members!

From promoting play in early childhood programs to reading comprehension strategies for high-school students with ASD, our latest set of articles features real-life advice, tips, and interventions you can implement today.
#CEC2020: You’ve Got Options

At the CEC 2020 Convention & Expo, attendees have access to more than a Technology Playground, three amazing keynote presentations, a free Portland metro rail pass, endless networking possibilities, and 700+ sessions. They ALSO have the opportunity to add on full- and half-day workshops, held Wed., Feb. 5 and Sat., Feb. 8. With topics ranging from behavior management to working with paraeducators to IEPs, our optional workshops cover the latest in special education and provide additional professional development hours, too!

Haven’t registered for CEC 2020 yet? From now until November 30, use the code TEC30 and get an EXTRA $30 off the current discounted Advance Rate for Full registration.

Learn more!

Policy Highlights

Second Continuing Resolution Expected to Pass, Major Hurdles Remain to Finalizing FY 2020

On Tuesday, the House of Representatives passed a second temporary spending measure to give Congress an additional four weeks to hash out a deal on final spending levels for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. Read more.

School Voucher Case Scheduled Before Supreme Court, CEC Weighs In

Check out the amicus brief CEC signed onto last week in support of public education and the rights of students with disabilities in the Supreme Court case Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue. Read more.
Join Us. Work with Great Minds.
Get your PhD.

Our top-tier Special Education department has several exciting doctoral opportunities for Fall 2020. Apply today! Priority deadline December 1.

#MCEC2019: Innovations in Special Education
Norwood, MA | November 22

Kentucky Exceptional Children’s Institute
Louisville, KY | November 24-26

Ontario CEC 63rd Annual Conference
Toronto, ON | November 29-30

'Fair Means Providing What They Need': Massachusetts CEC President Dr. Elizabeth Stringer Keefe is featured in a recent Education Week Teacher blog post.

35 States Have Teacher-Leadership Policies, But Not All Give Extra Pay or Incentives: A new analysis by the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) shows that 35 states now have formal teacher-leadership policies, but only 21 of those states have policies that give teacher-leaders extra pay or other incentives.

Beyond NAEP: Experts seek ways to address US 'reading crisis': To address disappointing reading scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the Educational Testing Service has released assessment-based solutions to the nation's "reading crisis."

Should all remedial classes in college be eliminated?: Some colleges have
eliminated placement exams, but a new study finds that these tests may be useful in determining whether incoming students are ready for college-level work, researchers say.

**Everybody Supports 'Equity,' But How Do They Define It?:** Policymakers, researchers, district administrators, and teachers have taken it upon themselves to push for "equity" between student groups.

**Ed Dept makes student debt, earnings data searchable by program:** The U.S. Department of Education announced Wednesday that it upgraded its College Scorecard to let users compare data on median student loan debt and post-graduate earnings by program of study within institutions.

**Teacher survey: Lawmakers 'not doing enough' to prevent school shootings:** Findings from a Fishbowl survey of 1,067 teachers show an overwhelming majority (87%) believe lawmakers are not doing enough to prevent school shootings.

**4 Reasons Why Students Don’t Receive the Degrees They’ve Earned:** An initiative of the Institute for Higher Education Policy is studying the experiences of community-college "stop-outs," students who have earned some college credit but don't have a degree or certification.

**State ESSA Goals May Prove Elusive:** Because of the variety of goals and the reduced federal role from NCLB to ESSA, it's not easy to keep tabs on how all 50 states and the District of Columbia are doing when it comes to staying on track.

**Graduates value degrees and courses relevant to their jobs, survey finds:**
When asked if their education was worth the price, 57% of graduates of vocational and technical programs strongly agreed, compared with 50% of individuals with graduate degrees, 48% with associate degrees, and 40% with bachelor's degrees, according to a survey by Gallup and Strada Education Network.

**Poll: Young adults favor experience over degrees for job prep:** Just over 73% of teens and young adults say that job experience is "a good way to prepare for success," compared to a college degree, according to a recent survey from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.