With nearly 14,000 new CEC members, our community has gotten some new faces over the past couple days. We are so proud to have you as part of our organization and know we are that much stronger with you by our side. After all, together we all make a difference! Thank you, and welcome to CEC. No matter where and no matter how, #WeKeepTeaching, don’t we?

On the Blog

How CEC Volunteers Are Making Strides: Spotlight on the LDC
To learn more about CEC’s leadership and the various ways our members are making strides in the special education community, we chatted with Leadership Development Committee (LDC) Chair, CEC Past President Mikki Garcia.

Take Action

Action Alert: Support Emergency IDEA Funding
CEC invites you to write to your Members of Congress to provide a one-time infusion of emergency funds for IDEA in a stimulus bill in order to directly target and support the needs of states, school districts, and educators.

Congress Passes Second Stimulus Package, Immediately Pivots to Third Package
As the Families First Coronavirus Response Act was being debated and passed in the Senate last week, Congress had already turned to
drafting a third stimulus package, the *CARES Act*, with more Congressional action expected to follow.

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**Fresh Off the Forum**

**Conversations from the CECommunity**

The CECommunity All-Member Forum is an online space for members to ask questions, share resources, and come together to improve their practice. ICYMI, here are some of the posts our community shared this week:

- Providing virtual support for low-incidence learners
- Paraprofessional professional development

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**Journal Articles of the Week**

**Supporting Students With Co-Occurring Language and Behavioral Deficits in the Classroom**

This article in our research-to-practice journal, *TEACHING Exceptional Children*, features practical examples and strategies for managing co-occurring language and behavior problems in the classroom.

**Are Schools in the U.S. South Using Special Education to Segregate Students by Race?**

This study published in *Exceptional Children* looks at whether students of color are more or less likely to be identified as having disabilities than similarly situated white students in U.S. states with histories of de jure and de facto racial segregation.
HLPs in Action

**CEC Partners with DC PCSB to Support Special Educators Through Innovative Training Institute**

To support schools in improving outcomes for students with exceptionalities, the DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) partnered with CEC to offer the first-ever High-Leverage Practice (HLP) Institute. Read our latest press release to learn more!

**Have You Registered for our 2020 HLP Webinar Series?**

Our 2020 webinars are here, and they’re focused on the High-Leverage Practices (HLPs)! This series of 8 webinars will help you implement some of the most important HLPs in your classroom. Bonus? We’re offering CEC members FREE registration for our first 2 webinars in April focusing on HLP #6, “Using Assessment Data!”

**CEC Reads**

**CEC Launches Work from Home Publications Sale**

Are you looking for resources you need while working at home away from your classroom or office? CEC has you covered with the “Work from Home CEC Publications Sale!” Buy publications on the CECatalog between now and April 15 and receive a 15% discount. Use code **CECSAVE15** when ordering and make sure you enter your valid home address!

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Become a leader in special education and advance your passion for providing quality environments for individuals with disabilities.

The Ph.D. in Special Education at Duquesne University is an 80 credit program that allows students to begin upon completion of their undergraduate degree. This program gives candidates the tools to maximize the potential for achieving meaningful quality of life for individuals with disabilities. Students accepted to this program receive a 25% tuition
#WeKeepTeaching, how CEC volunteers are making strides, and more

scholarship. This program can be completed at the full or part-time course load.

## Upcoming Events

**3rd Annual South Dakota CEC Summer Institute**  
Sioux Falls, SD | June 2-3

**2020 Special Education Legislative Summit**  
Alexandria, VA | July 12-15, 2020

## News

**Schools Get $13.5 Billion in Coronavirus Package Signed Into Law**: The measure fast-tracked through Congress and signed by President Trump includes regulatory flexibility and money for K-12, but states and local officials already say more is needed.

**USDA Plans to Deliver Boxed Meals to Students from Rural Schools**: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has partnered with the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty, McLane Global, and PepsiCo to deliver 1 million meals per week to students from rural schools closed due to coronavirus.

**Massive Shift to Remote Learning Prompts Big Data Privacy Concerns**: An unprecedented number of online interactions between teachers and students from their respective homes introduce new privacy questions that lack easy answers.

**U.S. Department of Education Issues New Information in Response to Coronavirus**: Last week, the U.S. Department of Education posted three new documents to their coronavirus resource webpage as pressure mounted from Members of Congress.
**CDC: Autism Rate Climbs Again**: The number of American children diagnosed with autism is on the rise yet again, according to new government data. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday that 1 in 54 kids have the developmental disorder.

**Report highlights need for new early ed public funding model as demand grows amid coronavirus crisis**: A New America analysis envisions a financing system in which families pay roughly 40% of program costs for children from birth to age 5 and public funding covers about $82 billion.

**How Coronavirus Is Jeopardizing Teacher Pay Raises**: Just as the movement to pay teachers more money was gaining political steam, the economic fallout from the coronavirus is jeopardizing most of this year’s statewide initiatives to increase salaries, according to an Education Week analysis.

**Schools Reconsider the Calendar as Students Grow More Diverse**: A growing number of schools are re-evaluating their policies on religious holidays in response to the changing demographics of their students.