#WeKeepTeaching

**CEC Joins with Partners to Provide New Online Resource Center for Educators**

The Educating All Learners Alliance – which is comprised of more than 30 national education organizations, including CEC – launched a new website of resources to support virtual instruction for students with exceptionalities during the COVID-19 crisis.

**Resources for Teaching Remotely During COVID-19**

We are constantly adding to our Resources for Teaching Remotely webpage, so make sure you bookmark it and check back for updates! From resource links to free CEC webinars for teachers AND administrators, we’ve got you covered with the latest resources and information.

**On the Blog**

“**It. Will. Be. O.K.**”: What I’ve Learned About Navigating COVID-19

Today on the blog, CEC member and special educator Richard shares his advice for navigating COVID-19 and an important reminder that we’re not alone.

**Take Action**

**What You Can Do: Tell Congress to Infuse Funding in Support of Special Education**

As Congress continues to address the COVID-19 crisis, it is critical that members hear from their constituents about their needs. Join us in requesting a one-time infusion of emergency funds for IDEA to
directly target and support the needs of states, school districts, and educators.

Congressional Leaders, Limited by Social Distancing, Clash on Next COVID-19 Response Bill

Lawmakers remain at an impasse on another interim relief package or a more comprehensive package, which is rumored to be in the works.

Fresh Off the Forum

Conversations from the CECommunity

The CECommunity All-Member Forum is an exclusive 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:

- Frustration with lack of student engagement
- Online resources for structured literacy

CEC in the News

Educators Get Creative to Serve Students With Disabilities

Need a coffee break? Check out this piece from NPR that celebrates special educators and the work you’re doing to meet the challenges of teaching online – featuring CEC Board Member Danielle Kovach and two CEC Teachers of the Year.

Journal Articles of the Week

Improving Reading Comprehension of Informational Text: Text Structure Instruction for Students With or At Risk for Learning Disabilities
One type of strategy instruction that may improve the reading comprehension of students with or at risk for learning disabilities is text structure instruction. This article in *TEACHING Exceptional Children* describes and provides resources general and special education teachers can use to scaffold text structure instruction with informational texts.

**Transition Engagement of African American Youth With Disabilities: A Serial Mediation Model**

Published in *Exceptional Children*, this study looks at how psychological constructs mediate relationships and engagement in transition–vocational rehabilitation services among African American students with disabilities.

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**HLPs in Action**

**Webinars to Improve Your Practice**

Developed by CEC and the CEEDAR Center, High-Leverage Practices (HLPs) are 22 practices every special educator should master — and this year, they’re the feature of our annual CEC webinar series! Check out the full series, learn more, and register today to take a deep dive into some of the essential strategies special education teachers need to support their students.

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**Transition Talk**

**NTACT Webinar Series**

Did you know our friends at the National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT) have a series of webinars you can access and watch online for free? Topics range from “Providing Transition-Focused Activities Online and At Home” to “Employment Preparation and Work Based Learning Experiences in a Virtual World,” and more.

**Special Offer: Life Centered Education**

CEC’s Life Centered Education (LCE) is a fully online, secure transition curriculum and portal that tracks and reports on progress and outcomes and is specifically designed to help meet IEP goals. The best part? Anyone who subscribes to LCE through April 30 can get a 15% discount!
CEC 2021

**Call for Proposals**

The Call for Proposals for the CEC 2021 Convention & Expo in Baltimore, MD, is open! Learn more, check out the guidelines, and submit your proposal by **April 30**.

Get Involved

**Your Opportunity to Apply for the Board of Directors**

CEC’s Leadership Development Committee is seeking diverse, knowledgeable, and inspired volunteers to advance our mission by serving on CEC's Board of Directors. Submissions close **May 13**, 3pm ET, so learn more about the requirements and apply today!

**Are You Getting the Whole Picture?**

CMCSS uses social-emotional behavior assessments in their RTI model to better identify what supports students need to be successful. Watch the video.

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**Upcoming Events**

**Division for Early Childhood Annual Conference**

Minneapolis, MN | October 20-23, 2020

**2020 Annual Ontario CEC Special Education Conference**

Toronto, ON | November 27-28, 2020

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**News**

**Special Report: Social-Emotional Learning: Making It Work**: This report from Education Week explores the challenges and opportunities to teaching...
social-emotional learning when school buildings are open and operations are normal.

**Special Report: Coronavirus and Schools:** Education Week frequently updates its report with the most relevant news, information, and resources on how schools are being impacted during COVID-19.

**Educators in many states report low e-learning attendance:** A survey of 5,659 educators found respondents reporting low online class attendance, with 55% saying less than half of their students were attending.

**DeVos Offers $3 Billion In Education Emergency Block Grants To Governors:** About $3 billion in federal block grants will be directed to states to support education, US Education Secretary Betsy DeVos announced Tuesday.

**Bipartisan, Bicameral Group of Lawmakers Support Emergency Broadband Funding:** Legislators from both the House and Senate sent a letter to congressional leaders urging them to provide support for rural broadband relief so that small internet carriers can sustain services and upgrades for schools and families in low-income areas.

**RAND Study: Online Resources Not Teachers' Top Choice Before Coronavirus Pandemic:** Fewer than a third of teachers reported that online resources were a primary material that they used most often in their classrooms, according to data from the RAND Corporation. The report says that most teachers used online resources to supplement other materials while they also expressed concern about
equity of access to online learning opportunities.

**Teacher-Candidates Will Be Able to Take the Praxis Certification Test at Home:** Many states, concerned about a disruption to the teacher pipeline at a time when many school districts can't find enough qualified teachers in perennial shortage areas, issued guidance waiving or adjusting some requirements.

**Thousands of Schools Are Falling Short on Students' Data Privacy Rights, Report Says:** Parents and students can opt out from schools disclosing personal information, but a new report says many schools don't make that option clear to families.

**New Blog Series: Learning in the Time of COVID-19:** The Learning Policy Institute has developed a blog series that will explore strategies and investments to address the current crisis and build long-term systems capacity."

**Special Ed. Administrators Press Congress for IDEA Waivers During Pandemic:** The nation's leading special education administrator groups – including our Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) division – are pressing leaders in Congress to give schools flexibility on federal requirements of IDEA.

**New Database Catalogs Remote Learning Approaches in 82 Districts Closed by Coronavirus:** The Center on Reinventing Public Education is cataloging and sharing how 82 school districts in the U.S. are successfully making the transition to remote learning during prolonged school closures.
Supporting special needs students — virtually: Check out this article highlighting Shannon Petracco, a special education teacher and new CEC member.

Dual language teachers try to 'stay the course' separated from classrooms: Students are missing the normal “inputs” that support biliteracy, but experts say there are ways to amplify the second language at home.