

81st Annual MCEC Conference

Virtually: March 3-5, 2021

Ordinary People...



...Extraordinary Vision



Council for
Exceptional
Children

MICHIGAN

Strengthening the Field of Education to
Impact Success for Individuals with Exceptionalities



Welcome to the 81st Annual MCEC Conference



Lydia Moore
Conference Chair
@lydiastarr73

Welcome and thank you for joining us at the 81st annual Michigan Council for Exceptional Children conference. As our 80th conference ended on March 6 of 2020, who could have imagined the year that was ahead of us? The field of special education has undergone tremendous shifts and challenges in the past 12 months (with pandemic learning plans, Zoom fatigue, Google extensions, Course Management Systems, health and safety protocols, and on and on and on). Through all of this, one thing remained the same: we are passionate about impacting the success of students with exceptionalities.

In order to honor and invigorate that passion, we are thrilled to bring you our annual conference in a virtual format! As always, we will provide our members and guests with innovative and contemporary information related to the field of special education. As our partners in this valuable work, we appreciate your engagement as presenters, participants, colleagues, and learners. Whether you are a student who is eager to enter the educational workforce, a seasoned veteran hoping to hone your craft, or parents looking for the best supports for your children, our sessions are sure to meet your needs.



Angie Jasper
MCEC President
@and_daphne_jaz

You may notice that our sessions are highly focused this year on one or more of the following topics:

- Culturally responsive teaching
- Social emotional learning
- Early Childhood Intervention
- Special education services in remote environment
- Policy and compliance
- Pre-service student support (for those entering the field)

We intentionally planned these topics to target the most relevant information needed right now! It is our hope that you have a productive learning experience. Additionally, we hope that you make new connections and expand your network of educational professionals that can support you in the future.

Thank you for all that you do for students with exceptionalities throughout our state. MCEC would not be the organization that we are without our loyal members and conference attendees. Please enjoy your time with us over the next three days and remember to access the recordings for the sessions you miss. Continue the discussion and engagement within the conference event app and on Twitter using the hashtag **#MichCEC** and conference slogan **#ExtraordinaryMCEC**.

MCEC Mission Statement

The mission of the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children is to strengthen the field of education to impact success for individuals with exceptionalities by providing professional development, support and advocacy for children, youth, families, special and general educators.

In addition, the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children assists and provides support to the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) in all its efforts on behalf of persons with exceptionalities, and to participate in all appropriate governance activities of CEC subject to the general supervision and control of CEC.

MCEC Diversity and Inclusion Statement

Michigan CEC values diversity within our organization and the greater community. We recognize that our organization is stronger when we embrace, honor, and welcome diverse perspectives, experiences, backgrounds, and identities. We are committed to the care, respect, and dignity of all individuals. We express our commitment to anti-racism and dismantling systems of oppression within the educational community. We reaffirm our dedication to social justice, diversity, inclusion, and equity as we strive to be responsive to the needs of our students, families, and educators. We seek to give voice to and amplify the voices of those who have been marginalized by being proactive and intentional in our advocacy efforts including promoting awareness, deepening understanding, and exerting influence on social issues, public policy, and legislation that impact success for individuals with exceptionalities. Michigan CEC will continue to uphold the values of inclusion and equity as we work to ensure that each and every individual is valued within the communities in which they live and learn.

Schedule of Events

March 3, 2021

9:00am – 12:00pm	Half Day Morning Workshops: <i>An Individualized Empowerment Program: The IEP for Special Educators, Caretakers, and Other Service Providers</i> Presenter: Brandis Ansley <i>Practical Trauma-Informed Strategies to Reduce Anxiety in Students</i> Presenter: Jessica Minahan
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch Break
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Half Day Afternoon Workshops: <i>UDL and Multiple Means of Expression</i> Presenter: Lee Ann Jung <i>Understanding Oppression and Privilege and Supporting Positive Racial Identity Development</i> Presenters: Jamie Almanzán, Graig Meyer, Aaron Johnson

March 4, 2021

9:30am – 11:45am	Breakout Sessions
12:00pm – 12:30pm	MCEC Annual Meeting
12:45pm – 1:30pm	Poster Sessions
1:30pm – 2:30pm	Keynote - Jamie Almanzán
2:45pm – 6:15pm	Breakout Sessions

March 5, 2021

9:30am – 11:45am	Breakout Sessions
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Division Meetings
1:30pm – 2:30pm	State of the State Address - Teri Rink
2:45pm – 5:00pm	Breakout Sessions

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Wednesday Morning Workshops

March 3, 2021 - 9:00am to 12:00pm

An Individualized Empowerment Program: The IEP for Special Educators, Caretakers, and Other Service Providers



Presenter: Dr. Brandis Ansley; Assistant Professor of Special Education, Central Michigan University

Special educators, caretakers, and other service providers (“Spectaculars”) are compassionate and empathetic human beings dedicated to bringing out the best in children and youth with disabilities. It is no secret that these individuals face intense demands in their roles and often put their needs last. Furthermore, recent events have highlighted the need for Spectaculars, in addition to their typically demanding responsibilities, to be vocal and visible advocates, activists, and agents of change.

This critical work often leaves Spectaculars feeling discouraged or defeated by external factors beyond their control. At some point, many experience compassion fatigue – a condition that includes burnout, secondary traumatic stress, or both. Compassion fatigue jeopardizes their personal well-being and capacity to perform in their roles. In response, self-care has become a trending topic for Spectaculars and others in similar roles. However, they need much more than encouragement to take care of themselves. As such, participants of this workshop will:

- Learn about the research findings relevant compassion satisfaction and compassion fatigue
- Assess and identify their individual strengths, needs, preferences, and interests that empower their own well-being and capacity to perform in their supportive role to others
- Develop an individualized empowerment plan that can be implemented to best support the Spectacular’s well-being, quality of life, and capacity to fulfill their demanding roles.

Practical Trauma-Informed Strategies to Reduce Anxiety in Students



Presenter: Jessica Minahan; Board-Certified Behavior Analyst

With up to one in three children struggling with anxiety in this country, overwhelmed adults require a new approach as well as a practical and easy-to-implement toolkit of strategies that work. In the time of Covid-19, and the subsequent societal changes, anxiety has become ever-present in students of all ages. It is probable that during a pandemic that heavily impacts everyday life, levels of anxiety in children and teens are even higher, and the possibility of subsequent trauma greater.

Through the use of case studies, humorous stories, and examples of everyday challenging situations, participants will learn easy to implement preventive tools, strategies, and interventions for reducing anxiety, increasing self-regulation, accurate thinking, and self-monitoring in students. Virtual classroom and traditional classroom examples will be shared.

Wednesday Afternoon Workshops

March 3, 2021 - 1:00pm to 4:00pm

UDL and Multiple Means of Expression

Presenter: Dr. Lee Ann Jung; CEO of Lead Inclusion



In this session, Lee Ann will guide participants to consider the many ways students can demonstrate their understanding, whether learning at a distance or in their classrooms. We explore these multiple means of expression within the context of construct validity—ensuring that we are measuring what we intend to measure. We generate solutions to these questions: Why are options for expression important? How can we support our teams to provide students with options to show their learning in a way that improves, rather than compromises validity? How do we provide options and maintain a perception of fairness?

Understanding Oppression and Privilege and Supporting Positive Racial Identity Development



Presenters: Jamie Almanzán, Graig Meyer, Aaron Johnson; The Equity Collaborative, LLC

In this workshop, we will explore neuroscience research that shows providing space for people to be listened to, share experiences, and process both emotionally and cognitively, enables them to see how school and classroom structures can either benefit or hinder equity goals. We

will explore how our brains react when addressing racial bias and equity and practice techniques that can catalyze change. For educators in any part of school systems, the practice of listening can have a profound impact on our desired outcomes. We will begin to understand how listening creates opportunities for increased cultural responsiveness, builds alliances across race and role, and catalyze change across a system.

Keynote - Jamie Almanzán

March 4, 2021 - 1:30pm to 2:30pm



Listening Across Difference and Exploring Bias and Cultural Schema

Presenter: Jamie Almanzán, The Equity Collaborative, LLC

It is through listening that real change can occur. Listening as a practice can be both a tool for healing from the impact of systemic oppression and a diagnostic tool toward achieving equity. This interactive keynote workshop provides a large-scale roll out of an organization's equity initiatives. It will allow for a common equity focused vocabulary to be shared throughout the participants at all levels. The core goal will be to build

the knowledge of the attendees of the MCEC conference and increase their capacity and ability to address various inequities related to the students and families they serve. Participants should come away with a clear approach for thinking about how the understanding and application of an equity centered framework can support change at multiple levels in the system.



State of the State - Teri Rink

March 5, 2021 - 1:30pm to 2:30pm

Join Teri Rink, Director of the MDE Office of Special Education, and staff to discuss relevant and current information on the status of special education during the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and moving forward.

Town Hall Meeting - March 5, 2021 - 2:45pm-3:45pm

Presenter: Teri Rink, Director, MDE Office of Special Education

Join the MDE Office of Special Education Director, Teri Rink and staff, to discuss current issues and initiatives in special education. Teri and her team will also address questions from conference participants.

Thank You!

Sponsors

Conference Event Sponsors

Platinum Plus Sponsor - BSA Software
Silver Sponsor - MAASE

Honorable Mention Sponsors

Deverett and Angie Jasper

Recognition

Lydia Moore, President-Elect, Farmington Public Schools - Conference Chairperson, Conference Planning Committee

Angie Jasper, MCEC President, Central Michigan University - Conference Planning Committee

Heather Martinez-Varieur, Vice President, Wayne-Westland Community Schools - Wednesday Workshops, Conference Planning Committee

Ben Hicks, Past President, Charlevoix-Emmet ISD - Conference Planning Committee

Ann Walton, MCEC Executive Director - Conference Planning Committee, Exhibitor

Denise Smith, MCEC Executive Associate - Conference Planning Committee, Conference Program

Joni Vernia, Student MCEC Chapter Advisor, Jackson ISD - Student Activities

Kassey Kytola, Student MCEC Chapter President, Northern Michigan University - Student Activities

General Conference Information

Logging into the Virtual Conference - [Directions](#)

Questions/Need Assistance? - Contact us at: mcec@michigancec.org

Continuing Education Offerings - A participant can acquire SCECHs at no cost. SCECHs will be awarded for completed conference sessions on a 1 hour = 1 SCECH basis. A form will be made available to all conference participants who wish to seek SCECHs. Be sure to keep that form handy throughout the conference and complete it after each session you attend. At the end of the conference, please submit your SCECH form electronically per the directions on the form. Prior to registering on-line, please obtain your PIC # which is required for awarding SCECHs.

A participant can also earn social work CE hours at no additional cost for designated conference sessions. These designated sessions are identified within this program, and can be found on pages 21 and 37. A form will be made available to all conference participants who wish to seek SSW CEs. Be sure to keep that form handy throughout the conference and complete it after each session you attend. At the end of the conference, please submit your SSW CE form electronically per the directions on the form. Certificates will be provided within 30 days after the end of the conference.

2021 Conference Exhibitors

[Alt + Shift](#)

[BRAINS](#)

[Concordia University Ann Arbor](#)

[Deaf Blind Central: Michigan's Training and Resource Project](#)

[Early On Michigan/Build Up](#)

[LegiLiner](#)

[McGraw-Hill Education](#)

[Oakland University](#)

[Special Education Mediation Services](#)

[Winsor Learning](#)

MCEC Leadership

Michigan CEC Board of Directors

Angie Jasper, Central Michigan University.....	President
Lydia Moore, Farmington Public Schools	President-Elect, , CEC RA Rep
Heather Martinez-Varieur, Wayne-Westland Community Schools	Vice President
Ben Hicks, Charlevoix-Emmet ISD.....	Past President
Mary Bradley, Muskegon Area ISD.....	Secretary
Nichole Moore, Wayne-Westland Community School District.....	Treasurer
Joe DeMarsh, Ingham ISD	Membership Coordinator, CEC RA Rep
Donna Tinberg.....	Children’s Action Network Coordinator
Joni Vernia, Jackson County ISD	MCEC Student Chapter Advisor
Matt Koekkoek, Traverse Bay ISD.....	Member at Large, OEAA Representative
Candi Bush, Family Center for Children and Youth.....	Member at Large, SEAC Representative
Jen DeWaard, West Ottawa Public Schools	Member at Large
Linda Meyer-Szur, Retired Special Education Teacher, Perry Public Schools	Member at Large
Lauren Ringle, Public Schools of Petoskey.....	Member at Large
Charles Thomas	MDE Liaison
Ann Walton	Executive Director
Denise Smith	Executive Associate

Michigan Special Interest Division Contacts

Ben Hicks, Charlevoix-Emmet ISD.....	CASE/MAASE
Kimberly Krug, Wayne RESA.....	DADD
Christina Roy, Oakland Schools.....	MidCDD
Cheryl Brown, Ann Arbor Public Schools.....	DCDT
Precios Armstrong, Jackson County ISD.....	DDEL
Kathryn Bourbina, Monroe ISD	DEC
Monica Harris, Grand Valley State University.....	TED

Michigan CEC Student Board

Kassey Kytola, Northern Michigan University.....	President
Katie Pluimer, Central Michigan University	President-Elect
Abigail Proctor, Grand Valley State University.....	Secretary/Treasurer
Meredith Filter, Grand Valley State University	CAN Coordinator
Nicole Viers, Central Michigan University	Membership Chair

Michigan Foundation for Exceptional Children

Cheryl Borowski	Chair
Wendy Minor	Co-Chair
Concetta Lewis.....	Secretary
Ben Hicks	MCEC Liaison
Mary Wiese.....	Treasurer
Cheryl Brown.....	Member at Large
Matthew Korolden	Member at Large
Sharon LaPointe.....	Member at Large

MCEC Past Presidents

Ben Hicks	2019-2020	Joseph Noorthoek.....	1970-1971
Nichole Moore	2018-2019	James Edward Keller.....	1969-1970
Concetta Lewis.....	2017-2018	Paul Mason.....	1968-1969
Ann Walton	2016-2017	James Alvin Hutchinson	1967-1968
Laura LaMore	2015-2016	Walter Wend	1966-1967
Joe DeMarsh	2014-2015	John Mader	1965-1966
Mary Meldrum	2013-2014	Howard Morgan.....	1965-1966
Wendy Minor	2012-2013	Charles Mange	1964-1965
Dawn Gallup.....	2010-2012	Robert St. Germain	1963-1964
		June England.....	1962-1963
Cheryl Borowski	2009-2010	Harry Butler	1961-1962
Tina Atkins-Dean	2008-2009		
Mark Francis.....	2007-2008	Richard Guenther	1960-1961
Janis Gaubatz.....	2006-2007	Paul Voelker.....	1959-1960
Laurie VanderPloeg	2005-2006	Marvin Beekman	1958-1959
Suzanne Shellady	2004-2005	Marguerite Rapson	1957-1958
Judy Pazol.....	2003-2004	Mildred Walton	1956-1957
Chris VanderWall	2002-2003	Bruce Siders.....	1955-1956
Kathy Barker.....	2001-2002	Mable Giszczak.....	1954-1955
		Stephen Partington	1952-1954
Linda McCrea	2000-2001	Merry Maude Wallace.....	1951-1952
Jim Randall.....	1999-2000		
Frances Mueller Paris.....	1998-1999	Irett Ferris	1950-1951
Michael Dombrowski.....	1997-1998	Alfred Thea	1949-1950
Lucian Parshall	1995-1997	Laura Wingertszahn.....	1947-1949
Gene Kyle	1994-1995	Doris Klaussen	1946-1947
Chris Clinton-Cali	1993-1994	John Tenny	1943-1946
Barbara Senninger	1992-1993	Doris Klaussen	1942-1943
Hugh Reid.....	1991-1992	Alice Metzner.....	1941-1942
Todd Bingaman	1990-1991	Joseph Cauffman	1940-1941
Shirley Young.....	1989-1990	Violet Foster	1939-1940
Paul Michaelson	1988-1989		
Mary Spessard	1987-1988		
Leonard Rezmierski.....	1986-1987		
Mary Campbell	1985-1986		
Chuck Achterhof	1984-1985		
Marylyn Lake	1983-1984		
Arnold Larson.....	1982-1983		
Janet Kline.....	1981-1982		
Robert Luce.....	1980-1981		
Carolyn Benscoter.....	1979-1980		
Christopher Young.....	1978-1979		
Larry Campbell	1977-1978		
Tom Caldwell	1976-1977		
Gary Navarre	1975-1976		
Casimir Schesky.....	1974-1975		
Robert Crump.....	1973-1974		
Leonard Luedtke	1972-1973		
Mildred Williams	1971-1972		

82nd Annual MCEC Conference



Dear Michigan CEC Conference Attendees:

I want to take this opportunity to personally invite you to the 82nd Annual Michigan Council for Exceptional Children Conference, to be held on March 2-4, 2022 at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Each year, the conference hosts over 1,000 participants from across the state of Michigan who are looking to grow professionally, gain support, network, learn strategies and acquire tools to best assist students with exceptionalities. Next year's conference promises to be an inspirational and educational experience for all professionals, parents, and students working with or on behalf of students with exceptionalities.

On March 2, 2022, we will offer pre-conference Wednesday Workshops. These in depth learning opportunities are designed to allow participants to engage in a topic of interest for a longer time period. On March 3-4, we will offer a wide array of breakout sessions presented by professionals in the field of special education, as well as family members of and individuals with exceptionalities. As always, participants will be able to attend a top notch keynote address and obtain timely updates from the Michigan Department of Education.

You do not want to miss this professional development opportunity! Not only will you build your professional practice - you will have the opportunity to earn credits toward the renewal of your educator certificate or professional license. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend Michigan's premiere special education conference again in 2022. For more information visit michigan.exceptionalchildren.org.

Thanks for attending and I look forward to seeing you next year!

Respectfully,

Heather Martinez-Varieur, MCEC Vice President
2022 Conference Chair

Future CEC Conference Information

Michigan CEC Conferences

82nd Annual Conference

March 2 – March 4, 2022 • Grand Rapids

83rd Annual Conference

March 1 – March 3, 2023 • Grand Rapids

National CEC Conventions

March 8 – March 13, 2021 • Virtual

<https://exceptionalchildren.org/convention>

January 15 – January 19, 2022
Orlando, Florida

Michigan Foundation for Exceptional Children



Dear MCEC Conference Attendees:

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your role as educators, service providers, student educators, and parents in helping students with exceptionalities to progress in their attainment of skills in preschool, elementary and ultimately secondary education programs, which will help to prepare them for their lives as engaged, and productive adults in their communities. As you know, many students with exceptionalities desire to pursue postsecondary education or training, but need financial support to do so. This is where the Michigan Foundation for Exceptional Children (MFEC) comes into play.

The MFEC was established by and received an initial endowment of funds from the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children (MCEC) in 2001 to provide scholarship assistance to students with exceptionalities who desire, and have been accepted to pursue post-secondary education or training programs after exiting from secondary education. MFEC funds these scholarships from interest on the initial MCEC endowment and from donations from the Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education's silent auction, corporations, parents, and staff and friends of MFEC. We are proud to report that since 2001 we have awarded \$130,500 to 115 students.

MFEC could use your help! If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution where 100% of the donation will go to student scholarships, please make your check payable to:

Michigan Foundation for Exceptional Children
c/o Cheryl Borowski
MFEC Chair
93780 Siebert Ave
Marcellus, MI 49067

MCEC Campership Scholarships



This is an opportunity for students to apply for funding (up to \$250) to attend a summer camp in Michigan. These camperships are open to students with an active Michigan IEP, in need of financial support, and who would otherwise not have an opportunity for a summer camp experience.

Visit our [website](#): to apply

Applications must be electronically submitted by **April 15, 2021**
Notifications will be mailed by **April 30, 2021**

Questions?
Please contact us at:
camperships@michigancec.org

2021 Virtual Honors and Awards

Congratulations!

MCEC would like to recognize and extend our congratulations to:

University with the most attendees - Grand Valley State University

District with the most attendees - Ottawa Area Intermediate School District

Universities with Student CEC Chapters:

- Central Michigan University – Kourtney Loux, President, loux1kg@cmich.edu
- Grand Valley State University – Madison Twymann, President, twymanm@mail.gvsu.edu
- Michigan State University – Emily Crawford, President, crawf405@msu.edu

First conference registrant – Dorothy Miller, Detroit Public Schools Community District, FREE one-year CEC Premier Membership

Drawing from community agencies – Diane Kullis, Roundtable Strategies/Special Education Mediation Services, MCEC Swag

Drawing from new college student participants – Sarah Griffin, Grand Valley State University, FREE CEC Student Membership

Drawing from all teacher participants – Christopher Migliore, Wayne Westland Community School District, CEC Bookstore Voucher

University professor most time presenting the last five years – Holly Hoffman, Central Michigan University, CEC Bookstore Voucher

Drawing from all ancillary/related service provider participants – Staci MacDonald, School Social Worker, Ottawa Area ISD, CEC Bookstore Voucher

Drawing from all parent participants – Angela Tyszka, Oakland Schools, FREE CEC Basic Membership

Drawing from most years presenting over the last five years – Ron Sandison, Author and Founder of Spectrum Inclusion, Amazon e-card

2021 Virtual Honors and Awards

One of the highlights of the MCEC Conference is the inclusion of the Entrepreneurial Classroom. This honor is awarded to a classroom that prepares students to enter the community not only in their ability to make and sell a product, but also in the development of their social skills. Please consider visiting last year's winner on their [FaceBook](#) page, call Mixer at 313-389-0220 or email chandra.bonnau@lpps.info for more details and to place an order.

Mixer Garden/Market Stand ASD Post-Secondary



2021 Virtual Honors and Awards

One of the highlights of the MCEC Conference is the inclusion of the Entrepreneurial Classroom. This honor is awarded to a classroom that prepares students to enter the community not only in their ability to make and sell a product, but also in the development of their social skills. Please consider visiting our 2019 winner, FireStarters. They are currently selling their products through Gemmen's ACE in Hudsonville, at their local Farmer's markets, on their [Facebook](#) page, or email alazette@oaisd.org for more details and to place an order.

FireStarters



2021 Virtual Honors and Awards

25 or More Years of CEC Membership

Armstrong, George
Boyd, Mattie
Cherup, Susan
Dawson, Teresa
Dunn, John
Harmala, Michele
Helder, Nancy
Ing, Liza

Janeczko, GERALYN
Killu, Kim
Kinney, Christopher
Kruppe, Amy
Lazich, Marisa
Patton, Cynthia
Reissner, Laura
Reska-Hadden, Marcia

Rivera, Sharon
Roe, Joan
Ryan, Tammy
Swatosh, Diane
Tinberg, Donna
Troia, Gary
Urbanski, Kimberlie

20-25 Years of CEC Membership

Beckman, Lindy
Finn, Jane
Knevitt, Tammy
Kroll, Kathleen

Lancaster, Paula
Lauer, Roger
Li, Tsai-Ping

Moody, Mark
Myott, Bryan
Skean, Viveca

15-20 Years of CEC Membership

Bouck, Emily
Callahan, Christine
Conrad, Elizabeth
Curran, Sandra
Graetz, Jan

Hammons, Amy
Jefsen, Laurie
Klemm, Jennifer
Lively, Debra
Meyer-Szur, Linda

Minor, Wendy
Powell, Trienere
Renkiewicz, Nanette
Walton, Ann
Young, Marcia

2021 Virtual Honors and Awards

10-15 Years of CEC Membership

Allison, Michelle
Bahr, Michelle
Bailey, Barbara
Barton, Leanne
Berg, Steven
Boyd, Michelle
Bradley, Mary
Champagne, Jennifer
Conlen, Sarah
Consales, Christine
Cooley, Derek
DeMarsh, Joe
Donati, Sharon
Dronsejko, Catherine
Enicks, April
Farr, Lori
Francis, Mark
Geiger, Cyndi
Gordon, Julie
Green, Amy
Hoffman, Holly
Holverstott, Katy
Hoppstock, Eric
Horton, Elizabeth
Howard, Jody
Ihrke, Crystal

Jasper, Andrea
Jex, Brian
Johnson, Celeste
Jones, Dawn
Kay, Alyn
Kelty, Noel
Kennedy, Beth
Koceski, Susan
Krug, Kimberly
Kurche, Sara
Lewis, Concetta
Livingstone, Jillian
Lóser, James
Mack, DeAnn
McGuire, Pamela
McIntyre-Lindstrom, Sara
Michalak, Justin
Millar, Dorothy
Moore, Lydia
Mosser, Lisa
Nicholson, Michelle
Novak, Jorri
O'Donnoghue, Sharon
Olex, Karen
Olsaver, Tiffany
Phillips, Evelyn

Quinn-Seidl, Rosemary
Rans, Christine
Ricks-Doneen, Julie
Robertson, Christine
Shapero, Catherine
Shelton, Kellie
Siems, Stephanie
Smith-Gerdes, Carolyn
Sneider, Heather
Summy, Sarah
Surbrook Goins, Nancy
Tadajewski, Elaine
Taylor, Stephen
Telfer, Angela
Thorsen, JoAnne
Traynor, Holly
Valerius, Matthew
Vannatter, Cherie
Wager, Cherie
Wahman, Charis
Wallace, Luchara
Wanger, Angela
Wassenaar, Jean
Zewatsky, Jason
Zimmerman, Janan

2021 Virtual Honors and Awards

5-10 Years of CEC Membership

Adair, Natalie
Aiken, Kris
Armstrong, Precios
Atwell, Amy
Augustyniak, Theresa
Bartz, Daniel
Billingsley, Jacqueline
Bodrie, Greg
Boehle, Holly
Boomgaard, Shawna
Bourbina, Katie
Bradley, Jacqueline
Brant, Daniel
Buchkowski, Lynn
Bush, Candi
Caesar, Adrima
Claes, Andrew
Cole, Shellie
Collins, Tammy
Common, Eric
Conroy, Christa
Corrigan, Jenny
Cross, Pamela
Cummings, Lillian
Curiel, Emily
Cypher, Abby
D'Agostino, Sophia
DeJaeger, Michelle
Delfine, Darnella
DePauw, Dalyce
Desiderio, Jennifer
DeWaard, Jennifer
Dorgan, Charity
Douglas, Sarah
Ewert, Nicole
Fanelli, Kate
Fekete, Diane
Flynn, Kathleen
Gannon, Sheila R
George, Pamela
Gilding, Jesse
Girolamo, Elena
Gothberg, June

Granzo, Cheryl
Greulich, Luana
Haan, Jill
Hancock, Christine
Hartl, William
Haseley, Doug
Hayes, Stefanie
Hazley, Tammy
Heroux, JoDell
Hetheron, Bob
Hicks, Ben
Hodges, Lynette
Hoezee, Claudia
Holmberg, Kari
Jarve, Beth
Kennedy, Leigh
Koekkoek, Matthew
Kopke, Rachel
Krantz, David
Krefeld-Freier, Krista
Kuhn, Craig
Kuipers, Mark
LaFoilie, Deanna
Lauer, Nicholas
Lauzon, Heidi
Lawson, Tina
LeRoy, Adam
Loder, Lillie
Longshore, Elizabeth
Lucke, Jessica
Lynch, Linda
McDougal, Jacqueline
Meeker, Mary
Meeker, Samantha
Miller, Amanda
Miller, Christine
Miller, Heather
Miller, Mindy
Minter, Mingcoria
Mitchell, Carrie
Moore, Nichole
Nosworthy, Nadia
Nuse, James

Nyen, Tammy
OConnor, Colleen
Okolo, Cynthia
Patrick, Malissa
Peltier, Marliese
Pirtle, Clayton
Plank, Amy
Pogliano, Michelle
Polega, Steven
Pollock, Mary
Ralls, Rebekah
Rangler, Karen
Raschke, Suzanne
Reed, Rebecca
Reeder, Maureen
Rewa, Tessa
Robie, Shalika
Rosa, Michelle
Senkowski, Erin
Shaffer, LaShorage
Simmons, Angela
Sladewski, Anne-Marie
Smith, Denise
Smith, Stacey
Strickland, Gail
Stuard, Melissa
Tafel, Megan
Taiariol, Jennifer
Tapp, Anne
Tarsa, Brenda
Thelen, Renee
Toth, Susan
Townes, Debra
Uganski, Tanya
Venema, Jamie
Weckstein, Janis
Wegner, Karen
Weyhing, Valerie
Wolschlager, Michelle
Yates, Peggy
Zann, Mary
Zelinski, Debra

Why Join CEC?

Professional Membership

Whether you're a student teacher-candidate, an early career professional, a seasoned professional, training the next generation of educators, or administrating special education programs, we're here for you. With a broad range of benefits to supplement your professional development, we have the tools and resources you need to support you from college to retirement.

Join or renew your membership in CEC during this conference and get \$10 off your annual rate (discount code: CECMember2021) AND you'll be eligible to win a FREE two-day registration to our 2022 MCEC Conference!



Membership Benefits

Professional Membership

	Premier	Full	Basic
\$250,000 of Professional Liability Insurance	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to CEC's Online Learning Library and "Quick Takes" Video Series	Live and Recorded	Recorded	Limited
Access to CEC's research-to-practice journal, <i>Teaching Exceptional Children</i>	Print and Online Access	Print and Online Access	Online Access Only
Access to CEC's research-to-practice journal, <i>Exceptional Children</i>	Print and Online Access	Print and Online Access	Online Access Only
"Special Education TODAY" Weekly e-Newsletter	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Access to Networking Through the All-Member Forum	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Member Savings on Professional Development, Publication, Events and Resources	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Access to Join Special Interest Divisions*	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Membership in State/Provincial Local Unit	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Preferred Member Pricing on Insurance Programs	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Access to the CEC Career Center, the Largest Job Bank Devoted Exclusively to Special Education Professionals	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Complimentary e-Book from the CEC Store**	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Additional investment required.
** Complimentary e-Book selected by CEC.

For additional information about the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC),
visit our website at www.exceptionalchildren.org.

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Early Career Membership

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"Special Education TODAY" Weekly e-Newsletter	●	●	●
Access to Networking Through the All-Member Forum	●	●	●
Member Savings on Professional Development, Publication, Events and Resources	●	●	●
Access to Join Special Interest Divisions*	●	●	●
Membership in State/Provincial Local Unit	●	●	●
Preferred Member Pricing on Insurance Programs	●	●	●
Access to the CEC Career Center, the Largest Job Bank Devoted Exclusively to Special Education Professionals	●	●	●
Complimentary e-Book from the CEC Store**	●	○	○

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Student Membership

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Membership Benefits

Student Membership

	Premier	Full	Basic
\$1 Million Student Educator Professional Liability Insurance Policy	●	●	●
Access to CEC's Online Learning Library and "Quick Takes" Video Series	Live and Recorded	Recorded	Limited
Access to CEC's research-to-practice journal, <i>Teaching Exceptional Children</i>	Print and Online Access	Print and Online Access	Online Access Only
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"Special Education TODAY" Weekly e-Newsletter	●	●	●
Access to Networking Through the All-Member Forum	●	●	●
Member Savings on Professional Development, Publication, Events and Resources	●	●	●
Access to Join Special Interest Divisions*	●	●	●
Membership in State/Provincial Local Unit	●	●	●
Preferred Member Pricing on Insurance Programs	●	●	●
Access to the CEC Career Center, the Largest Job Bank Devoted Exclusively to Special Education Professionals	●	●	●
Complimentary e-Book from the CEC Store**	●	○	○

*Additional investment required.
 ** Complimentary e-Book selected by CEC.

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 visit our website at www.exceptionalchildren.org.

Why Students Should Belong to the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

Top 10 Reasons

10

Benefits of a Professional at a Special Rate

Continue to pay the student membership rate for the first two years in your teaching profession. Save BIG bucks!!!!

9

Increase Your Professional Profile

Explore career options on-line in the largest job bank on the Internet devoted exclusively to special education professionals.

8

Get the Resources You Need at Prices You Can Afford

The CEC Catalog is crammed with resources and materials specifically for special education members. Members save up to 30%.

7

Keep Up-to-Date on Special Education Issues, Trends, and Findings

CEC Publications TEACHING Exceptional Children, CEC Today, CEC Smart Briefs give you an early look at significant research, practical help and trends in special education.

6

Network, Network, Network

Get to know and learn from other educators in your community, state, nationally and around the globe.

5

Make a Difference with Policy Makers

Add your voice to advance the policies that support children with exceptionalities and the professionals who serve them.

4

Prepare for Employment

Attend the CEC Annual Conference and other CEC professional development opportunities. Access the latest special education information, advocacy for children with exceptionalities and the profession.

3

Add New Leadership Skills to Your Resume

Participate in your state CEC activities, join a committee, run for office in your student chapter, get involved at all levels of CEC.

2

Expand Your Knowledge

Join any or all of CEC's 18 special interest divisions to increase your knowledge.

1

Improve the Educational Success of All Students

Isn't that why you want to become an educator?

College Student Strand

The 2021 MCEC Student Board welcomes you to the Student Strand during the 81st Annual Conference

Thursday Sessions

9:30am - 10:30am

Looking for Your First Teaching Job? Learn These Ways to Stand Out in the Interview and What to Expect During Your First Year of Teaching

Whether you are looking for your first teaching job or in search of a new one, there are important things you can do today to stand out in a future interview. You will also get some great insight and advice on how to make the most of your first year of teaching.

9:30am - 11:30am

Preparing to Support Students in a COVID-Impacted Learning Environment

Topics covered in this recorded workshop: Identifying and addressing academic, social, emotional or skills-based slide.

- What to expect as kids adjust to a post-COVID environment and where to find them additional support (where to refer, how to find, etc.)
- Additional family stressors (job disruption, additional caretaking responsibilities, death of loved one(s), emotional trauma, etc.)
- Supporting student re-adjustment to the classroom (mental health, trauma, etc.)
- Questions to ask your new administrator before you set foot in the classroom (from student forum, 2019)
- Classroom set-up and management strategies

2:45pm - 3:45pm

Data Data Data – I Have Data...Now What?

An overview of data collection will be reviewed in a short presentation. This will be followed by examples of data sheets completed by adults and students independently. I will also discuss how I changed my data collection, wrote IEP goals, and wrote CLP's due to teaching virtually.

4:00pm - 5:00pm

FAPE, Complaints, COMP Ed, Oh My: Learning the Dos and Don'ts for Special Education

As special educators, we are held to different legal guidelines when it comes to our students' education. How do we stay in compliance? When do we need to submit that document again? During this webinar, learn the dos and don'ts about special education or refresh your memory if it's been a while since you thought about logistics!

Friday Sessions

9:30am - 10:30am

Virtual? Hybrid? Face-to-Face? What is Student Teaching in a Pandemic?

Student teaching is a time in which dreams come true for many future educators. It's their first time in front of a classroom, bursting with energy and passion to teach the future of the world. But when indoor gatherings are limited to ten or less people and teachers have 20 children in their classrooms, where does the focus lie: on safety or quality education?

10:45am - 11:45am

Resourceful Resources from Resourceful Resources

Learning to teach in a pandemic was not part of our practicum classes, however, we lived through it and have the resources available to help you adapt to life that is teaching in a pandemic. Join us for a session full of extraordinary resources including all of the job openings that you can imagine. Hear from administrators around Michigan that are hiring in their schools!

2:45pm - 3:45pm

Teacher Panel

During this panel, you will hear from a variety of professionals in the educational field. From first-year to veteran teachers as well as other professionals in the school setting, you will be able to ask any questions or gather some great advice.

Special Interest Divisions

Michigan Division for Early Childhood

The **Michigan Division for Early Childhood (MiDEC)** is your source for information, resources, and guidance related to young children with special needs and their families. MiDEC is dedicated to promoting policies and evidence-based practices to support families and enhance the optimal development of all children. MiDEC encourages and promotes professional growth and quality practices to support young children with exceptional needs and their families. Join us to learn about the many benefits and activities of MiDEC.

Division on Career Development and Transition

The **Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT)** focuses on the career development of individuals with disabilities and/or who are gifted and their transition from school to adult life. Members receive the journal **Career Development for Exceptional Individuals** and the **DCDT Network** newsletter. The mission of DCDT is to promote national and international efforts to improve the quality of, and access to, career/vocational and transition services, increase the participation of education in career development goals, and to influence policies affecting career development and transition services for persons with disabilities.

Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities

The CEC **Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD)** is composed of persons committed to enhancing the quality of life of individuals, especially children and youth, with autism, intellectual disabilities and other developmental disabilities. The Division seeks to further the knowledge base of the field, thus ensuring the continued advancement of positive educational and life outcomes for those with autism and developmental disabilities. Joining DADD entitles you to an array of benefits such as:

- 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 autism and developmental disabilities.
- Acquisition of implementation tools and practical strategies that can be applied in individual settings.
- Receipt of research-based and current publications, including: Education and Training in Autism and Developmental Disabilities, Focus on Autism and other Developmental Disabilities, and DADD Express Newsletter.
- Visit www.daddcec.org to learn more about this division and ways to get involved.

Special Interest Divisions

Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learners

Join us on Friday 12:00pm to 1:00pm

The CEC **Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learners (DDEL)** is one of 17 special interest groups of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, including students with disabilities and those identified as gifted. DDEL advances educational opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse learners with disabilities and/or gifts and talents, their families, and the professionals who serve them. It is the only professional organization dedicated exclusively to the concerns of culturally and linguistically diverse exceptional learners. Members receive the journal **Multiple Voices for Ethnically Diverse Exceptional Learners** and the **DDEL Newsletter**.

Michigan Division for Communicative Disabilities

The **Michigan Division for Communicative Disabilities and Deafness (MiDCDD)** is concerned with the well-being, development, and education of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with communication and learning disorders, ranging from mild to profound, and/or who are deaf or hard of hearing. DCDD aims to provide information to professionals and families regarding:

- (a) the development of communication and learning abilities,
- (b) the prevention of communication and learning disorders, and
- (c) evidence-based assessment and intervention practices for individuals with speech, language, learning, and/or hearing difficulties.

Teacher Education Division

The **Teacher Education Division (TED)** works on behalf of special education teacher educators. Supported primarily by volunteers, TED strives to serve its members through a variety of activities that include an annual conference, awards, and website. TED is a diverse community of professionals who lead and support teacher education on behalf of students with exceptional needs and their families. We accomplish this through:

1. Research
2. Professional and Leadership Development
3. Advocacy

Thursday Breakout Sessions Schedule

2021 MCEC Conference • Thursday, March 4 th • Day-at-a-Glance								
9:30am-10:30am	9:30am-11:30am	10:45am-11:45am	12:00pm-1:15pm	1:30pm-2:30pm	2:45pm-3:45pm	4:00pm-5:00pm	4:00pm-6:00pm	5:15pm-6:15pm
Brain-Based Learning: Quickly Learn to Teach the Way Students Really Learn	Are You Giving Students What They Need to Succeed?	Legislative Action Updates	MCEC Annual Meeting (12:00pm-12:30pm)	*Keynote – Jamie Almanzán	Behavior Interventions for Virtual Teaching and Face-to-Face*	Flipping Into 2021	FAPE, LRE and the Virtual IEP*	Empowering Educators in Their Own Social-Emotional Wellness Journey
Compassionate Care Practices within Caregiver Coaching*	Code Blue! Finding Our Way Forward Through COVID*	Early On System Updates*	<i>Poster Session:</i> Helping Teachers, Families, and Students (12:45pm-1:00pm)		Data, Data, Data – I Have Data...Now What?*	FAPE, Complaints, COMP Ed, Oh My: Learning the Dos and Don'ts for Special Educ.	How to Bring Equity to the Discipline Process for Students Receiving Special Ed. Supports and Services*	Learning Life Skills in a Virtual Reality
To Each Their Own, All for One, or One for All*	Making the Most of the Coaching Role by Building Rapport*	Lessons Learned in Special Education Problem Solving During COVID. Where do We go From Here?*	<i>Poster Session:</i> Successful Approaches for Working with Paraeducators (1:00pm-1:15pm)		Getting into a Groove with Mathematics Routines	From Research to Practice: Teaching Math to Students with Significant Disabilities	The Boat Has a Hole In It and No One Seems to Care: Effective Communication in the Midst of Chaos*	Homebased Transition Services: Update on Our Successes
Looking for Your First Teaching Job?	Preparing to Support Students in a COVID-Impacted Learning Environment	Now Steaming! Using Video Models and Prompts to Teach Daily Living and Employment Skills	<i>Poster Session:</i> Teaching Students with Severe Disabilities Online: Effective Practices and Overcoming Challenges (1:15pm-1:30pm)		Math Tasks + Manipulatives= Success	Stress, Coping, and COVID: Self-Caring While Student-Teaching Through Pandemic-Related Disruptions	The Rubric Roadmap: Your Guide to High Quality BIPs and BIP to IEP Connections*	Making the Most of Paraprofessional Supports: Tools for Sp. Educators Using, Hiring, Training, and Supervising Special Educ. Paraprofessionals
Antecedent Strategies for Students Who Have Experienced Trauma*	Using Teaching Interactions to Explicitly Teach and Generalize Social and Behavior Skills*	Quick Guide of Research Based Interventions for Students who Have Experienced Trauma			Refresh Your Tools! Evidence-Based Practices for Students with ASD	Successfully Developing Fluency	Teacher Advocacy and Self-Care: Looking Out for What's Important!	Strengthening Foundational Mathematics Concepts for Students with Disabilities During Remote Instruction
					Supporting Young Children's Social-Emotional Development in Turbulent Times			

*Sessions approved for SW-CEs

Thursday Sessions • 9:30am – 10:30am

Brain-Based Learning: Quickly Learn to Teach the Way Students Really Learn so That you Can Reduce Stress and Uncover the Secrets to Engage All Students

Presenters: Pamela George, Assistant Professor of Special Education, Cornerstone University Teacher Education Department; Sarah VanderBaan, Special Education Supervisor, Choice Schools Associates

Researchers claim that a brain-based learning approach provides educators with tools to boost cognitive functioning, decrease discipline issues and foster the joy of learning (Jensen & McConchie, 2020).

In this session participants will receive a success-path to go from being overwhelmed in the classroom to fully competent and equipped with knowledge of how the brain learns.

Next, participants will gain strategies and tools for leveraging a highly engaged learning environment. Lastly, participants will add teaching tools to their tool-box that they can use immediately to motivate struggling students and help them succeed.

Topic: College Students

Level: Basic

Compassionate Care Practices Within Caregiver Coaching: Experiences of Michigan Early Intervention Providers*

Presenter: Sophia D'Agostino, PhD., Hope College

This presentation explores the reported use, perceptions, and confidence of Michigan early intervention providers' in regards to caregiver coaching practices and compassionate care practices. Recommendations for preparation and practice will be discussed along with implications for the field.

Topic: Early Childhood

Level: Basic

To Each Their Own, All for One, or One for All: Group Contingencies in the Classroom*

Presenters: Adrienne Bohlen, Behavior Consultant, Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology; Avner Fraidlin, M.A., BCBA, LBA, Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology; Kyle Visitacion, B.S., Behavior Consultant, Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology; Jessica E. Van Stratton Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, Associate Professor of Psychology, Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology

This presentation will provide strategies for building a culture of teamwork and motivation by reviewing the literature on group contingencies (GCs) and step-by-step guidelines on how to successfully implement GCs into any classroom. Defining factors, considerations for implementations, and tools for increasing student motivation will be included.

Topic: Culturally Responsive Teaching

Level: Basic

Thursday Sessions • 9:30am – 10:30am

Looking for Your First Teaching Job? Learn These Ways to Stand Out in the Interview and What to Expect During Your First Year of Teaching

Presenter: Tyler Harms, Author and Special Education Teacher, Sparta Area Schools

Whether you are looking for your first teaching job or in search of a new one, there are important things you can do today to stand out in a future interview. You will also get some great insight and advice on how to make the most of your first year of teaching.

Topic: College Students

Level: Basic

Antecedent Strategies for Students who Have Experienced Trauma*

Presenter: Lisa Drumb, Assistant Teaching Professor of Special Education, Marian University

Function-based interventions are the most effective, including those who have experienced trauma. That said, being proactive is necessary to best support the student. The purpose of this session is to provide participants proactive options (antecedent strategies) when working with students who have experienced trauma.

Topic: Social Emotional Learning

Level: Basic



Thursday Sessions • 9:30am – 11:30am

Are you Giving Students What They Need to Succeed? Meeting the Needs of ALL Students Through Engagement, Equity and Inclusion

Presenter: Kerri LaDuke, Special Education Consultant, Macomb Intermediate School District

Do you want to explore strategies to use in your classroom to reach ALL your students? This session will provide strategies to help teachers of preschool and elementary students who may have behavioral, sensory, learning and emotional needs that impact them in the classroom. Come hear some ideas that you can implement immediately.

Topic: Early Childhood

Level: Intermediate

Code Blue! Finding Our Way Forward Through COVID and Beyond In The Midst of Crisis, Trauma, and Grief*

Presenters: John Ball, Owner, Celebrate Hope LLC; Lisa Goyette, Owner, Celebrate Hope LLC

Even as we start to see an end to the pandemic, the emotional, psychological, and social impact of COVID will remain long after. In this seminar, we will discuss the personal and organizational implications of the pandemic. We will also provide valuable tools to help educators, students, and the families that you serve find healthy ways to move forward.

Topic: Social Emotional Learning

Level: Intermediate

Making the Most of the Coaching Role by Building Rapport and Using Behavior Skills Training*

Presenter: Ben Woiwode, Behavior Coach, Ottawa Area ISD

How do you ask others to do more? This conversation highlights effective coaching by focusing on building rapport and using Behavior Skills Training (BST). Participants will be equipped with practical ways to build rapport, avoid coercive interactions, and develop BST training protocols for any skill they are trying to coach.

Topic: College Students

Level: Basic

Thursday Sessions • 9:30am – 11:30am

Preparing to Support Students in a COVID-Impacted Learning Environment

Presenter: Danielle Kovach, Ed.D., New Jersey City University

Topics covered in this recorded workshop:

- Identifying and addressing academic, social, emotional or skills-based slide
- What to expect as kids adjust to a post-COVID environment and where to find them additional support (where to refer, how to find, etc.)
- Additional family stressors (job disruption, additional caretaking responsibilities, death of loved one(s), emotional trauma, etc.)
- Supporting student re-adjustment to the classroom (mental health, trauma, etc.)

Questions to ask your new administrator before you set foot in the classroom (from student forum, 2019)

- Classroom set-up and management strategies

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment Level: Basic

Using Teaching Interactions to Explicitly Teach & Generalize Social and Behavioral Skills*

Presenters: Danielle Lindquist, BCBA, LBA, Scarborough School District, ME/Navigating Behavior Change, LLC; Amanda Wilson, NCSP, BCBA, LBA, Anchorage School District/Navigating Behavior Change, LLC

Do you want to explore strategies to use in your classroom to reach ALL your students? This session will provide strategies to help teachers of preschool and elementary students who may have behavioral, sensory, learning and emotional needs that impact them in the classroom. Come hear some ideas that you can implement immediately.

Topic: Social Emotional Learning Level: Intermediate



Thursday Sessions • 10:45am – 11:45am

Legislative Action Update

Presenter: Donna Tinberg, Consultant, Thayer-North Educational Consulting, LLC

Members of the MCEC Legislative Advocacy and Action Committee will provide an overview of current legislative and policy issues which the committee has identified as important to the organization. There also will be an opportunity for participants to identify other issues that they would like to see incorporated into the MCEC Legislative Platform. This session will be participatory in nature.

Topic: *Legal/Compliance/Policy*

Level: *Basic*

Early On System Updates*

Presenters: Noel Kelty, Director, Early Childhood Development and Family Education, Office of Great Start, Michigan Department of Education; Barb Schinderle, Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC) Staff Liaison, Michigan Department of Education

The Michigan Department of Education, Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Development and Family Education, is the state lead agency for Early On® Michigan, which is Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act. This session will provide participants with timely federal and state updates and opportunities as well as an overview of the program's State Systemic Improvement efforts. This session will inform the Early On system and its intersection with the Michigan Department of Education's top priorities.

Topic: *Early Childhood*

Level: *Intermediate*

Lessons Learned in Special Education Problem Solving During Covid 19. Where Do We Go from Here?*

Presenters: Dianne Kullis, Intake Specialist, Special Education Mediation Services; Beth Kohler, Outreach Representative, Special Education Mediation Services

Learn about common issues that were facilitated, brought to conciliation, or mediated during the Covid 19 Pandemic. How can what we learned during remote/blended educational delivery with regard to student behavior, learning, and new parent understanding of their child's unique needs inform our return to a normal learning environment?

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Basic*

Thursday Sessions • 10:45am – 11:45am

Now Streaming! Using Video Models and Prompts to Teach Daily Living and Employment Skills to Learners with Exceptional Needs

Presenters: Lindsay Essig, Western Michigan University, Graduate Student; Sarah Pierce B.S., RBT, Graduate Student, Western Michigan University; Alyvia Anaple, Undergraduate Student, Western Michigan University; Kayla Jenssen M.A., BCBA, LBA, Doctoral Student, Western Michigan University; Jessica E. Van Stratton Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, Associate Professor of Psychology Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology

Deficits in daily living and job-related skills are barriers to independence for learners with exceptional needs. This session will briefly review the literature on video models and prompts, and discuss how to facilitate student independence across settings. Practical recommendations for developing video models and prompts will be provided.

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Basic*

Quick Guide of Research-Based Interventions for Students who Have Experienced Trauma

Presenter: Joanne Duford, Special Education Teacher, Addison High School

An eclectic seven step approach for special education teachers has been recommended to bring more trauma-sensitive practices into the special education environments: recognize basic truths, build strong relationships with families, develop self-awareness, create a safe and caring learning environment, focus on relationships, responsibility and regulation, plan for self-care, and question and reflect on behavioral events.

Topic: *College Student*

Level: *Basic*



Thursday Annual Meeting/Poster Sessions • 12:00pm – 1:30pm

MCEC Annual Meeting – 12:00pm-12:30pm

Presenter: Angie Jasper, MCEC President

The Annual MCEC Meeting is open to all conference attendees as well as non-conference participants. The agenda will include: approval of 2020 meeting minutes, review of the MCEC Budget, 2021 election results for the 2021-22 year, special interest division updates, and progress of the MCEC strategic plan.

Helping Teachers, Families, and Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Develop IEP Goals 12:45pm-1:00pm

Presenter: Andrea Peterson, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA); Doctoral Fellow, MI-LEND; Wayne State University

Public schools in the US are required to provide an IEP for each student receiving special education services. This poster presents resources according to a chronological timeline to help teachers, caregivers, and students collaborate to create observable and measurable IEP goals.

Level: Basic

Successful Approaches for Working with Paraeducators 1:00pm-1:15pm

Presenter: Atikah Bagawan, Graduate Student, Michigan State University

Supervising paraeducators in the classroom can bring its own challenges. This presentation will provide teachers with strategies on how to supervise, train, and coach paraeducators using adult learning principles.

Level: Basic

Teaching Students with Severe Disabilities Online: Effective Practices and Overcoming Challenges 1:15pm-1:30pm

Presenters: Anna Wetzel, Undergraduate Student, Central Michigan University; Andrea Jasper, Professor of Special Education, Central Michigan University

This project determined effective practices and strategies for teaching students with severe disabilities in an online format. This session provides insights and challenges that should be considered when working with students. Participants will gain awareness of successful strategies that can be added to their teacher toolkit.

Level: Basic

Thursday Sessions • 2:45pm – 3:45pm

Behavior Interventions: for Virtual Teaching & Face-to-Face*

Presenter: Lisa Drumb, Assistant Teaching Professor of Special Education, Marian University

During this session, participants will learn about specific behavior interventions from the field of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) that can be created and implemented in a virtual setting. These include: behavior contract, group contingencies, and reinforcement schedules.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment Level: Basic

Data Data Data, I Have Data... Now What?*

Presenter: Joni Vernia, Teacher, Jackson County ISD

An overview of data collection will be reviewed in a short presentation. This will be followed by examples of data sheets completed by adults and students independently. I will also discuss how I changed my data collection, wrote IEP goals, and wrote CLP's due to teaching virtually.

Topic: College Students Level: Intermediate

Getting into a Groove with Mathematics Routines

Presenter: Shawna Veit, Special Education Consultant, Oakland Schools

Educators will participate in estimation and language based math routines that provide classroom ready, engaging lessons that can be shared online or face to face with students. We will use K-8 grade content examples to see how these low-prep routines can be adapted and modified to support a wide variety of learners.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment Level: Basic



Thursday Sessions • 2:45pm – 3:45pm

Math Tasks + Manipulatives = Success

Presenter: Kevin Dykema, Teacher, Mattawan Consolidated Schools

Rich mathematical tasks that engage students in solving and discussing are a vital part of a mathematics classroom. Manipulatives can be utilized as a tool to help students with such tasks by providing entry points for each and every student. Come explore some rich tasks utilizing a variety of manipulatives

Topic: Culturally Responsive Teaching Level: Intermediate

Refresh your Tools! Evidence-Based Practices for Students with ASD

Presenters: Ky'Aria Moses, Graduate Student and Behavior Specialist, Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology; Alyssa McElroy, M.A., BCBA, LBA, Doctoral Student and Behavior Analyst, Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology; Tanner Pickett, Graduate Student and Behavior Specialist, Western Michigan University; Jessica E. Van Stratton Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, Associate Professor of Psychology, Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology

Evidence Based Practice (EBPs) in education can be defined as a model of professional decision-making in which educators integrate the best available evidence with family values, current educational variables, and expertise to provide education for their students. This session will provide a brief review of current EBPs for students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in early childhood, elementary, middle, and high school settings. Strategies and considerations for developing successful EBPs in each setting will be discussed..

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment Level: Basic

Thursday Session • 2:45pm – 6:00pm

Supporting Young Children's Social-Emotional Development in Turbulent Times*

Presenters: Charis Wahman, Assistant Professor, Michigan State University; LaShorage Shaffer, Associate Professor, The University of Michigan-Dearborn

In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of young children entering early childhood programs with acute social and emotional concerns. This presentation will highlight evidence-based strategies teachers can employ to address young children's social-emotional development in times of uncertainty.

Topic: Social Emotional Learning Level: Basic

Thursday Sessions • 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Flipping Into 2021

Presenters: Ben Burmeister, Teacher, Jackson Public Schools; Joni Vernia, Teacher, Jackson County ISD

We will be diving into the application and theory of Flipped Learning. I will provide examples, assessment data, and variants of flipped learning to prepare future teachers for what is to come regarding this not as new as you'd think teaching model.

Topic: College Students

Level: Basic

FAPE, Complaints, COMP Ed, OH MY: Learn the Dos and Don'ts for Special Education (MCEC Pre-Recorded Webinar)

Presenters: Jordan Bullinger, Clark Hill, P.C.; Robert Dietzel, Thrun Law Firm, P.C.

As special educators, we are held to different legal guidelines when it comes to our students' education. How do we stay in compliance? When do we need to submit that document again? During this webinar, learn the dos and don'ts about special education or refresh your memory if it's been a while since you thought about logistics!

Topic: Legal/Compliance/Policy

Level: Basic

From Research to Practice: Teaching Math to Students with Significant Disabilities during Remote Instruction

Presenters: Kate Fanelli, Coordinator, Alt+Shift; Jennifer Magoulick, Math Accessibility Specialist, Alt+Shift

All students can and should learn mathematics. Participants will learn research on teaching math to students with significant disabilities and view examples that show how math assessment and instruction can look for students in self-contained and center-based programs, even during remote learning.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment *Level: Basic*

Thursday Sessions • 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Stress, Coping, and COVID: Self-Caring while Student-Teaching through Pandemic-Related Disruptions

Presenters: Brandis Ansley, Assistant Professor of Special Education, Central Michigan University; Meagan Wander, Special Education Teacher, Lake Orion Community Schools

The session describes a pilot study in which teacher candidates volunteered from January-April 2020 to participate in an online stress intervention during their student teaching placement. Despite unanticipated disruptions related to COVID-19, 28 candidates completed the study. Outcomes measured before and after the intervention indicated that program participants: (a) significantly increased their teacher efficacy, self-compassion, and use of cognitive reappraisal strategies; and (b) decreased their levels of stress and burnout. However, comparison participants indicated no significant changes for these outcomes. In addition, program participants experienced a small, insignificant reduction in secondary traumatic stress, but comparison participants experienced a significant increase, which suggests that program participation may buffer the impact of secondary trauma while student-teaching. Such findings have implications for all educators and are presented in this session.

Topic: *Social Emotional Learning*

Level: *Basic*

Successfully Developing Fluency

Presenter: Kevin Dykema, Teacher, Mattawan Consolidated Schools

Having students develop number fluency is critical, but how can we do this? Come explore ways to integrate number talks and number strings to develop this essential skill. See how manipulatives can be used to further the development.

Topic: *Culturally Responsive Teaching*

Level: *Basic*



Thursday Sessions • 4:00pm – 6:00pm

FAPE, LRE and the Virtual IEP*

Presenters: Kelly Rogers, Special Education Coordinator, Char-Em ISD; Stephanie Dyer, Autism Education & Intervention Specialist & Professional Learning Content Specialist, Statewide Autism Resources & Training (START) & MiMTSS TA Center

This session will provide participants with a virtual IEP process that embeds FAPE, LRE, and compliance while ensuring meaningful parent input. Included in the session will be tools, strategies and checklists to facilitate and implement a whole-child high-quality offer of FAPE in a virtual, hybrid or building LRE.

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Basic*

How to Bring Equity to the Discipline Process for Students Receiving Special Education Supports and Services*

Presenter: Laura Zangara, Intake Coordinator, Special Education Mediation Services

This workshop will provide a high-level overview of the discipline landscape in Michigan for students with disabilities. We will examine disproportionality of discipline for students with disabilities and the impact of restorative practices on school climate. We will also review the ABC's of discipline of students with disabilities:

What is a removal?

How do we "count"?

When does the law apply to students in general education?

When do we hold an MDR? and provide some practical take-aways for your tool kit.

Topic: *Legal/Compliance/Policy* **Level:** *Basic*

The Boat Has a Hole in It and No One Seems To Care: Effective Communication In The Midst of Chaos*

Presenters: John Ball, Owner, Celebrate Hope LLC; Lisa Goyette, Owner, Celebrate Hope LLC

When tension and anxiety run high, it essential to create a healthy and engaging culture that paves the way for productive communication and dialogue to occur. In this seminar, we will share practical tools to help create an affirming educational environment for staff, students, and the families that you serve.

Topic: *Social Emotional Learning* **Level:** *Intermediate*

Thursday Sessions • 4:00pm – 6:00pm

The Rubric Roadmap: Your Guide to High Quality BIPs and BIP to IEP Connections*

Presenters: Renee Thelen, Director of Accountability & Program Improvement, Ionia County ISD; Shannon Shy, Program Consultant for Behavior Support, Livingston ESA; Abbey Mix, Autism Coach, Kent ISD

School teams often support students with challenging behavior who require a Behavior Intervention Plan, as well as an Individualized Education Program. However, the quality of these supports may vary based on training, skills, and experience. Rubrics are an efficient way to set performance and quality expectations, as well as measure the work of an individual and/or team. School teams who wish to grow their skills with designing and implementing BIPs and connecting BIPs to the IEP can use rubrics as a road map to increase quality and improve student outcomes. Attendees will learn how to use simple rubrics to assess the quality of behavior intervention plans, as well as how to connect the Functional Behavior Assessment data and Behavior Intervention Plan goals into the student's IEP.

Topic: *Social Emotional Learning*

Level: *Intermediate*

Teacher Advocacy and Self-Care: Looking Out for What's Important!

Presenter: Monica Harris, Associate Professor, Grand Valley State University

Teacher self-care is not an indulgence, it's a discipline! Being able to advocate for ourselves is vital to our own well-being, as well as the health and learning performance of our students. Therefore, to support student learning, we must first support our own health and wellness.

Topic: *Social Emotional Learning*

Level: *Basic*



Thursday Sessions • 5:15pm – 6:15pm

Empowering Educators in Their Own Social-Emotional Wellness Journey

Presenter: Mike Croy, Principal, Macomb ISD

What you do as an educator matters. You have chosen to serve others and that means that you must also carve out time to relax, renew, and reflect on your own wellness so we can be extraordinary for those you serve.

Topic: Social Emotional Learning

Level: Basic

Learning Life Skills in a Virtual Reality

Presenters: Ben Hicks, Director of Special Education, Char-Em ISD and Past President, MCEC; Abby Cypher, Executive Director, MAASE; Ashleigh Moro, Teacher, Jackson County ISD; Sam Avis, Teacher, Jackson County ISD

Would you like to teach your students life skills, but can't get out of the classroom to the grocery store, a kitchen or a bedroom that looks like one in the student's home? We'll show you how you can use virtual reality to bring all of these environments into your classroom for student instruction. Michigan CEC, in collaboration with MAASE, Great Lakes Reality Labs, and educators from the field, has developed a set of online learning modules to enhance student engagement, interaction and skill acquisition in a virtual reality environment. Phase 1 of this work has produced 10 virtual modules that include topics such as putting away groceries, safely using an oven, safely crossing the street, and using self-checkout in the grocery store, among many others. Participants will learn about the development of the modules, use of the supporting materials and how to access and utilize this new resource with a diversity of learners.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment

Level: Basic

Homebased Transition Services: Update on Our Successes

Presenters: Jim Loser, Assistant Superintendent Special Education, Ionia County ISD; Ben Croel, Transition Teacher, Ionia County ISD

Last year we implemented a new methodology in providing transition services to our most significantly involved young adults. At last year's CEC conference, we had shared our vision for this new approach. Join us in hearing just how successful it has been in providing transition services in the home environment.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment

Level: Intermediate

Thursday Sessions • 5:15pm – 6:15pm

Making the Most of Paraprofessional Supports: Tools for Special Educators Using, Hiring, Training, and Supervising Special Education Paraprofessionals

Presenter: Abby Holland, Teacher Consultant, M.Ed., Ed.S., Eastern Michigan University

Paraprofessionals provide important support like re-teaching, data collection, and personal care that, in turn, leads to student growth and learning. Suggested tools and practices presented were developed in accordance with best practices found in the current literature to support special education teachers and administrators in making data-informed decisions regarding paraprofessional support needs, hiring, training, and supervision.

Topic: *College Students*

Level: *Basic*

Strengthening Foundational Mathematics Concepts for Students with Disabilities during Remote Instruction

Presenters: Kate Fanelli, Coordinator, Alt+Shift; Jennifer Magoulick, Math Accessibility Specialist, Alt+Shift

This session will deepen participants' understanding of the mathematics they teach and introduce activities, for both brick-and-mortar and virtual environments, that can help students who struggle and students with disabilities develop accurate mathematical understandings that can be used in arithmetic, algebra and beyond

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Basic*



Friday Breakout Sessions Schedule

2021 MCEC Conference • Friday, March 5 th • Day-at-a-Glance						
9:30am-10:30am	9:30am-11:30am	10:45am-11:45am	12:00pm-1:00pm	1:30pm-2:30pm	2:45pm-3:45pm	4:00pm-5:00pm
Behavior and a Screen – Oh My! Positive Behavior Supports for Students in a Virtual Learning Environment	Behavior Management Tips and Tricks for Early Childhood Staff	Connections that Zoom: Providing Mentorship in a Virtual Environment*	DDEL Division Meeting	*State of the State – Teri Rink	Bridging the Gap Between Students with Disabilities and Their Non-Disabled Peers	A Remote Learning Journey Providing Elementary Level Special Education Services During a School Closure*
TEAM UP! Using a Team Approach to Support Infants and toddlers Who are Blind/Visually Impaired or Deaf/Hard of Hearing*	Elements in Creating Effective IEP Team Meetings*	Empowering Students with Autism & Learning Challenges to Reach Their Full Potential*	TED Division Meeting		Preparing Students with Autism for Growth and Transitioning into Adulthood*	Self-Determined Learning for Transition: A Student Curriculum Project
Virtual? Hybrid? Face-to-Face? What is Student Teaching in a Pandemic?	Supporting Self-Regulation with Scripts*	Making the World a Bigger Place for AAC Users	DCDT Division Meeting		Teacher Panel	The Strengthening Family – School Partnerships Project: How Building Bridges Improves the Educational Experience*
We Are in This Together: Engaging Diverse Families	Edcamp: Exploring Strategies for Diverse Learners with Communication Needs*	Resourceful Resources from Resourceful Resources			MDE Town Hall	Why Do They Keep Engaging in That Behavior? Identifying the Functions of Challenging Behaviors*
Your Voice Counts!	Going Virtual Birth-3 (Early On) Service Strategies, Tips and Tricks*	Seamless Transitions: Providing Continuous Instruction Across All Learning Environments for Students with Autism			What Do/Did We Know About Effective Communication and Collaboration and How Has the Pandemic Changed Our Way of Building Family Relationships?*	New Administration, New Congress, New Priorities: What's In Store for Education Policy in 2021?

*Sessions approved for SW-CEs

Friday Sessions • 9:30am – 10:30am

Behavior and a Screen- Oh My!: Positive Behavior Supports for Students in a Virtual Learning Environment

Presenters: Beth Rice, Education Consultant-DHH, Michigan Department of Education-Low Incidence Outreach; Johanna Brutvan, Education Consultant-BVI, Michigan Department of Education-Low Incidence Outreach

Early intervention for infants and toddlers who are Blind/Visually Impaired (BVI) or Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) is essential. Hear the Michigan Department of Education-Low Incidence Outreach (MDE-LIO) outline the unique needs of infants and toddlers who are BVI or DHH and gain the insight, tools, and resources you need to support the families you serve!

Topic: *Early Childhood*

Level: *Basic*

TEAM UP! Using a Team Approach to Support Infants and Toddlers Who are Blind/Visually Impaired or Deaf/Hard of Hearing*

Presenters: Beth Rice, Education Consultant-DHH, Michigan Department of Education-Low Incidence Outreach; Johanna Brutvan, Education Consultant-BVI, Michigan Department of Education-Low Incidence Outreach

Early intervention for infants and toddlers who are Blind/Visually Impaired (BVI) or Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) is essential. Hear the Michigan Department of Education-Low Incidence Outreach (MDE-LIO) outline the unique needs of infants and toddlers who are BVI or DHH and gain the insight, tools, and resources you need to support the families you serve!

Topic: *Early Childhood*

Level: *Basic*

Virtual? Hybrid? Face-to-Face? What is Student Teaching in a Pandemic?

Presenters: Panel of Student and First-Year Teachers

Student teaching is a time in which dreams come true for many future educators. It's their first time in front of a classroom, bursting with energy and passion to teach the future of the world. But when indoor gatherings are limited to ten or less people and teachers have 20 children in their classrooms, where does the focus lie: on safety or quality education?

Topic: *College Students*

Level: *Basic*

Friday Sessions • 9:30am – 10:30am

We are in This Together: Engaging Diverse Families (MCEC Pre-Recorded Webinar)

Presenters: Dr. Baranda Fermin, Facilitator, Associate Pastor, University Park United Methodist Church; Ayanna Eggleston, Parent Consultant, Family Center; Victoria Martinez, Parent Leader; Derrick Padgett, School Social Worker, Farmington Public Schools; Lohren Carter-Nzoma, Assistant Superintendent, Detroit Public Schools Community District

Today's students come from increasingly diverse ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Promoting effective engagement with their families is key to providing equitable service, supports, and promoting success. During this webinar, a panel of community stakeholders will share their perspectives on what has worked and recommend strategies to facilitate engagement. Webinar attendees will be able to identify the essential elements needed to increase community involvement.

Topic: *Culturally Responsive Teaching* **Level:** *Basic*

Your Voice Counts

Presenter: Donna Tinberg, Consultant, Thayer-North Educational Consulting, LLC

Your voice as a special educator can help shape the legislation and policy decisions that impact the lives of students with disabilities! Learn from members of the MCEC Legislative Advocacy and Action Committee how to make your voice heard through the use of practical tools and processes currently available to MCEC members. Gain confidence in your ability to truly make a difference for our kids!

Topic: *Legal/Compliance/Policy* **Level:** *Intermediate*



Friday Sessions • 9:30am – 11:30am

Behavior Management Tips and Tricks for Early Childhood Staff

Presenters: Kristen Wrase, ASD Coach, Wayne-Westland Community School District; Daniel DePaulis, ASD Coach, Wayne-Westland Community School District; Katrina Moxham, Early Childhood ASD Coach, Livonia Public Schools

Participants will be given a quick overview of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This will be followed by a deep dive into high yield and other evidenced based Tier 1 PBIS basic behavioral management techniques that benefit all types of learners. There will be time for participants to integrate their learning into their own personal artifacts and/or reflect on how they can immediately use this learning with their students when they see their students next. Lastly, participants will be given some basic strategies to use to deescalate students in crisis, including setting limits.

Topic: *Early Childhood*

Level: *Intermediate*

Elements in Creating Effective IEP Team Meetings*

Presenter: Diane Kullis, Intake Coordinator, Special Education Mediation Services

Learn how collaboration and communication skills, such as active Listening and effective questioning can increase parent involvement. Discuss the 10 steps to building a trusting relationship with parents. Learn how to organize and facilitate effective IEP meetings.

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Basic*

Supporting Self-Regulation With Scripts*

Presenters: Stephanie Dyer, Autism Education & Intervention Specialist & Professional Learning Content Specialist, Statewide Autism Resources & Training (START) & MiMTSS TA Center, Kelly Rogers, Special Education Coordinator, Char-Em ISD

In our current context of continuous change and uncertainty, shifts in the delivery of instruction and services to students, and the implementation of safe practices in schools, we must consider the impact of stress on both students, staff, and families. Predictable and consistent procedures and routines are an effective way to manage and reduce stress and anxiety. This session outlines a process for developing and implementing prevention, teaching, and response behavioral strategies in a script format in order to promote consistency, self-regulation of students, and emotional regulation of staff and families. Examples of universal supports and prevention scripts, as well as scripts to respond to challenging behavior, will be shared.

Topic: *Social Emotional Learning*

Level: *Basic*

Friday Sessions • 9:30am – 11:30am

Going Virtual: Birth-3 (Early On) Service Strategies, Tips, and Tricks*

Presenter: Jaime Knape, Ed.S, Special Education Supervisor, Mecosta-Osceola ISD

We will be presenting on the strategies (with examples) we used to take clunky VIRTUAL Early On services from dull to dynamic!

1. Parent Collaboration Group
2. Early On “Material Bags” (Materials and Cost Breakdown)
3. Engaging parents in play-based learning (with videos)
4. Zooming together is lasting 30-60 minutes with 1- & 2-year-olds!

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment Level: Basic

Edcamp: Exploring Strategies for Diverse Learners with Communication Needs*

Presenter: Nichole Moore, Director of Special Services, Walled Lake Consolidated Schools

Join us for a phenomenal Edcamp experience that focuses on supporting the communication needs of diverse learners in various educational settings. Edcamps are informal sessions by and for educators. The focus is on collaboration and connections, group expertise, tools, and instructional strategies. The conversation will be driven by participants. The Edcamp model will provide educators with a sustainable model for learning, growing, connecting, and sharing. Everyone’s expertise is honored, and specific, concrete strategies are exchanged.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment Level: Intermediate



Friday Sessions • 10:45am – 11:45am

Connections that Zoom: Providing Mentorship in a Virtual Environment*

Presenters: Holly Hoffman, Professor, Central Michigan University; Joe Wentworth, Program Co-Facilitator, Connections that Count, Central Michigan University

Connections that Count is a mentoring initiative at Central Michigan University partnering college students with area youth impacted by disabilities. Join us as we share how we transitioned to Connections that Zoom during the pandemic. Lessons learned, suggestions, and insights to be shared.

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Basic*

Empowering Students with Autism & Learning Challenges to Reach their Full Potential*

Presenter: Ron Sandison, Presenter with Autism, Author and Founder of Spectrum Inclusion

Educators and parents will learn practical ways to empower students with autism to develop their gifts, handle sensory issues, decode behavior issues, and learn self-efficacy. Sandison gives insight for creating a hope complex, activities to encourage socializing, enhance decision-making ability, learn new skills and broaden interests. Ron shares his own journey with autism and the wisdom he gained from his mom and the forty plus autism professionals he interviewed while writing his third book *Views from the Spectrum* which Kregel Publications, a national publisher is publishing in April 2021.

Topic: *Early Childhood* **Level:** *Intermediate*

Making the World a Bigger Place for AAC Users

Presenters: Carolyn Ohearn, AT/AAC Specialist, Alt+Shift; Sara Pericolosi, AT/AAC Specialist, Alt+Shift

Would you like Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) users to be able to go more places and communicate with the people they encounter? If you answered yes, then you can help make this a reality! Learn practical ways educators and families can expand access to AAC and then plan to take AACtion for your own learners.

Topic: *Culturally Responsive Teaching* **Level:** *Intermediate*

Friday Sessions • 10:45am – 11:45am

Resourceful Resources from Resourceful Resources

Presenters: Kasey Kytola, Teacher, Chesaning Public Schools; Joni Vernia, Teacher, Jackson County ISD

Learning to teach in a pandemic was not part of our practicum classes, however, we lived through it and have the resources available to help you adapt to life that is teaching in a pandemic. Join us for a session full of extraordinary resources including all of the job openings that you can imagine. Hear from administrators around Michigan that are hiring in their schools!

Topic: College Students

Level: Basic

Seamless Transitions: Providing Continuous Instruction Across All Learning Environments for Students with Autism

Presenter: Kathryn Morrow, Training Specialist, STAR Autism Support

Educators have faced unprecedented challenges this school year, including shifting between in-person and remote learning due to ever-changing conditions. In this session, we will discuss how to provide a consistent transition of instruction for students with autism and other developmental disabilities through evidence-based practices.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment

Level: Intermediate



Friday Division Meetings • 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learners (DDEL- Michigan) Annual Meeting

Presenter: Precios Armstrong, Special Education Supervisor, Jackson County ISD

DDEL is one of the special interest groups of the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children (MCEC), the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, including students with disabilities and those identified as gifted. DDEL advances educational opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse learners with disabilities and/or gifts and talents, their families, and the professionals who serve them. It is the only professional organization dedicated exclusively to the concerns of culturally and linguistically diverse exceptional learners. This division meeting will showcase DDEL and solicit engagement from current and future members. YOU can directly impact our next steps.

Topic: Division Meeting

Level: Basic

TED Division Meeting

Presenter: Monica Harris, MiTED President & TED Liaison, Grand Valley State University

The Teacher Education Division (TED) is one of 17 special interest groups of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, including students with disabilities and those identified as gifted. Michigan has a subdivision, MiTED, which strives to support faculty and researchers from teacher preparation programs from across the state to increase the advocacy, evidence-based practices and equity knowledge of our future educators.

Topic: Division Meeting

Level: Basic

DCDT Division Meeting

Presenter: Cheryl Brown, DCDT Liaison, Transition Coordinator, Ann Arbor Public Schools

Division on Career Development & Transition (DCDT) is a division of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) with the mission of promotion national and international efforts to improve the quality of and access to career/vocational and transition services, increasing the participation of education in career development and transition goals and influencing policies affecting career development and transition services for persons with disabilities. Come find out how to become a member of DCDT and learn about Michigan Transition Services Association (MTSA).

Topic: Division Meeting

Level: Basic

Friday Sessions • 2:45pm – 3:45pm

Bridging the Gap Between Students with Disabilities and their Non-Disabled Peers

Presenter: Estella Marshall-Reed, Special Education Resource Teacher, Dearborn Public Schools

Many of the students involved in an inclusive setting range from kindergarten through high school. The social interactions of students has an effect on their learning. This presentation will examine the social interactions of students with disabilities in a 5th grade level inclusive classroom and the effect on academic achievement.

Topic: Social Emotional Learning **Level: Basic**

Preparing Students with Autism for Growth & Transitioning into Adulthood*

Presenter: Ron Sandison, Presenter with Autism, Author and Founder of Spectrum Inclusion

Currently in the U.S 80% of people on the spectrum are unemployed or underemployed only 3% are gainfully employed. Teachers and parents will learn 8 ways to empower individuals with autism for life transitions and growth. Learn to teach skills for employment and independence. How to break transition phases of life into manageable steps for independence. Creating an IEP to prepare a student or child with autism for transitioning into adulthood. Ron shares his own struggles in life's transitions and becoming an author, husband, dad, and having a career.

Topic: Culturally Responsive Teaching **Level: Intermediate**

Teacher Panel

Presenters: Panel of Teachers

During this panel, you will hear from a variety of professionals in the educational field. From first-year to veteran teachers as well as other professionals in the school setting, you will be able to ask any questions or gather some great advice.

Topic: College Students **Level: Basic**

Friday Sessions • 2:45pm – 3:45pm

MDE Town Hall

Presenter: Teri Rink, Director, Office of Special Education, MDE

Join the MDE Office of Special Education Director, Teri Rink and staff, to discuss current issues and initiatives in special education. Teri and her team will also address questions from conference participants.

Topic: Leadership

Level: Basic

What Do/Did We Know About Effective Communication and Collaboration and How Has the Pandemic Changed Our Way of Building Family Relationships?*

Presenters: Cheryl Levine, Program Coordinator, Special Education Mediation Services; Bern Dempsey, Training Coordinator, Special Education Mediation Services

Communication in special education has always played an important role in building collaborative relationships between families and schools. When we communicate with each other we build better teams which result in improved educational outcomes for students. Covid-19 has presented us with a unique opportunity to create and/or improve family-school partnerships. Now more than ever before we need to work together. This workshop will provide you with communication and collaboration strategies and help you learn how to build stronger, more effective family-school relationships.

Topic: Special Education Services in a Remote Environment Level: Intermediate



Friday Sessions • 4:00pm – 5:00pm

A Remote Learning Journey - Providing Elementary Level Special Education Services During a School Closure*

Presenters: Drew Towleron, Principal, Lake Orion Community Schools; Alison Gilreath, Psychologist, Lake Orion Community Schools

In this presentation attendees will learn of the challenges, successes, and cooperative efforts undertaken by an elementary school special education staff as they delivered instruction and ancillary support services to students receiving special education supports in the areas of speech, learning disabilities, and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Intermediate*

Self-Determined Learning for Transition: A Student Curriculum Project*

Presenters: Kate Strater, Assistant Professor, Calvin University; Joslyn Fox, Student Researcher, Calvin University; McKenna Crossley, Self-Advocate, Forest Hills Transition Center

The Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction (SDLMI) is a useful tool for growing employability skills. In this session, you will see an SDLMI case study for a student transitioning to the workforce. You will learn the SDLMI process, hear from the student researcher, examine N2Y tools, and learn from the self-advocate who participated!

Topic: *College Students* **Level:** *Basic*

The Strengthening Family-School Partnerships Project: How Building Bridges Improves The Educational Experience*

Presenters: Carolyn Ohearn, AT/AAC Specialist, Alt+Shift; Sara Pericolosi, AT/AAC Specialist, Alt+Shift

This winter, Michigan educators and families engaged in the Strengthening Family-School Partnerships Project (SFSP), identifying common challenges and proposing practical ideas to build bridges between home and school.

Explore the SFSP resource and learn how you can improve in-person and remote learning experiences with a stronger family/school partnership.

Topic: *Special Education Services in a Remote Environment* **Level:** *Basic*

Friday Sessions • 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Why Do They Keep Engaging in That Behavior? Identifying the Functions of Challenging Behaviors*

Presenter: Lisa Drumb, Assistant Teaching Professor of Special Education, Marian University

In this session, participants will learn the functions of behavior as well as the concepts of operant conditioning. Participants will then practice identifying the function of student behavior utilizing real life scenarios. Participants will also learn about connections between disabilities, trauma, and challenging behaviors during the session.

Lastly, participants will have the opportunity to ask the presenter questions about specific challenging behaviors they are currently encountering for in the moment feedback and support.

Topic: *Social Emotional Learning*

Level: *Basic*

New Administration, New Congress, New Priorities: What's In Store for Education Policy in 2021?

Presenters: Chad Rummel, Executive Director, Council for Exceptional Children; Kuna Tavilin, Senior Policy Advisor, Council for Exceptional Children; Laurie VanderPloeg, Associate Executive Director for Professional Affairs, Council for Exceptional Children

A new administration and change of leadership in Congress and the Department of Education will bring many changes to the federal education policy landscape this year. In this session, CEC leadership and policy staff will update you on how these changes could affect you, what's in store in the coming months for CEC, and how you can get involved.

Topic: *Legal/Compliance/Policy*

Level: *Intermediate*



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