



Alexis Cox

Cross-Categorical Resource Teacher
Wake County Public School System
Wendell, North Carolina, USA



REMEMBER TO VOTE!
Oct. 3 – Oct. 19, 2022

Learn directly from Alexis what inspired her to apply for the Board of Directors.

[Watch the video.](#) [Read the transcript.](#)

Biographical Information:

Alexis Cox is a Spring 2020 Graduate of NC Agricultural & Technical State University from Clayton, Nc. While at NC A&T, Alexis earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education and licensure in Special Education. In 2018, Alexis became a Project CREED Cohort III Scholar at North Carolina A&T State University. The grant-funded program, Project Creed, was founded by Dr. Cathy Kea and aimed to cultivate Culturally Responsive Exceptional Educators for Diversity. The cultural experiences and knowledge rewarded through Project Creed ignited Alexis’s passion for providing culturally responsive teaching and materials for her students and the community.

In 2019, after her student teaching experience, Alexis started a small business making individualized interactive learning resources for young learners in her community. Later, she began her teaching career as a 2nd grade General Curriculum Teacher with Guilford County Schools. Alexis was named the 2020-2021 Rookie Teacher of the Year at her school for her hard work, dedication, creativity, and culture-based teaching. Alexis went on to present for the CEC Pioneers Division and the Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learners, where she discussed practical strategies for infusing cultural responsiveness through children's literature.

Alexis is now in her third year of teaching as a 6th and 7th grade Special Education teacher for Wake County Public Schools. She aspires to be a professional General & Special Education Educator to help students grow in all areas of their lives. Alexis believes children need educators who will build on their strengths to accommodate their weaknesses, see who they truly are beyond the labels, and show them success is a reachable goal. She will do so, one child at a time.

Candidate Statements:

What makes CEC’s mission meaningful to you? (Limit 150 words)

CEC's mission is to provide high-quality education to individuals with disabilities alongside supporting the education professionals who work with individuals with disabilities. CEC's dedication to advocating for individuals with disabilities and education professionals makes CEC's mission meaningful to me. Through CEC's mission, educators are given the support and the voice to make changes and implement effective and meaningful practices which lead to success for our individuals with disabilities. As a first-year special

needs educator, the CEC community has supported me in advancing my professional practice and has helped me stay up to date with the changes in the field of education.

Provide three specific examples of how your leadership experiences, including professional and volunteer, have had an impact on fostering change or moving an organization/entity forward. (Limit 300 words)

Describe an idea you have to help CEC achieve one of the strategic plan goals, and explain how your knowledge, skills, and expertise will be applied to this idea. (Limit 250 words)

One of CEC's goals that stands out to me the most is: "Intentionally embed diversity, equity, inclusivity, and accessibility with CEC."

One idea to help CEC achieve this strategic plan is to host an in-person or virtual culturally responsive resource fair named "Just For Me." The resource fair will teach educators how to be culturally responsive and look through the lens of the students they serve to make education meaningful for all students. During, this event there would be CRT (Culturally Responsive Teaching) experts who would present on how to connect instruction with students' life experiences, cultures, and languages to support their learning. The idea is to have these presenters also bring some examples of CRT material and give the audience some examples/ resources to take with them.

Since 2018 I have been a part of a grant-funded program, Project CREED, which prepares educators to design and deliver culturally responsive instruction in urban classrooms. Project CREED stands for Culturally Responsive Educators for Diversity. Through Project CREED, I have been awarded cross-cultural experiences, which include a week stay in Costa Rica and a week stay with a host family with a different cultural background than mine. Additionally, CREED has given me the opportunity to be a part of ongoing professional development to support me with infusing cultural responsiveness into my teaching. My experiences connections and skills gained through my involvement with Project CREED would greatly impact the effectiveness of the "Just For Me" Culturally Responsive Resource Fair.

What methods do you suggest would assist CEC to recruit more diverse members into volunteer and leadership positions, especially within units and divisions? (Limit 250 words)

To help recruit more diverse members into volunteer and leadership positions could start by asking the current board members how they feel about diversity within CEC and what changes would they like to see. Developing written materials that reflect diversity would help as well. This can be done by creating social media platforms that reflect diversity in age, gender, disabilities, and race. Lastly, CEC could offer internships for underrepresented college students and individuals with disabilities who have recently graduated or are in their final year of college.

Professional Position and Education:

Primary Professional Position:

6th & 8th Special Education Teacher
Wake County Public School System
North Carolina

Highest Degree:

B.S.Ed., Elementary Education, K-6 Special Education Licensure, K-12 Adaptive & General Education Setting, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, 2020

CEC Membership Information:

Years of CEC Membership: 2 years

Division Membership(s): N/A

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