

The Palmetto

South Carolina Council for Exceptional Children

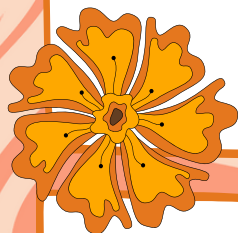
September 2022

President's Message

by: Jamia Thomas-Richmond, President



Greetings and welcome to the start of a new school year! I am Jamia Thomas-Richmond, the 2022-2023 SC CEC president. In this edition of the newsletter, I wanted to share a little about myself and our vision for the year. Originally from Orlando, Florida, I received my undergraduate degree in Learning Disabilities and a Master's in Varying Exceptionalities. I taught in public and private school settings for many years. In 2004, I obtained a Ph.D. in Exceptional Student Education from the University of Central Florida. I launched a business, Richmond Educational Center for Exceptional Students and Supports (R.E.C.E.S.S.), which focused on meeting the needs of exceptional students, their families, and the schools in which they are served. Currently, I serve as an Associate Dean and a Professor of Special Education in the Spadoni College of Education and Social Sciences at Coastal Carolina University. I have been involved with SC CEC for several years. I have also served in numerous roles in various chapters and subdivisions. And I am happy to continue my service this year as the president of this wonderful organization!



What has SCCEC been up to?

by: Jamia Thomas-Richmond, President

Together with the SC CEC Executive Committee over the summer, we have worked to set a course forward for the organization by ensuring officer and committee vacancies are filled, putting accountability measures in place, and establishing relevant goals for the year. SC CEC will continue to improve the conditions of teaching and learning through offering professional development opportunities across the state and at our annual conference in North Charleston in February. We will continue to support the highest quality of services for individuals with exceptionalities through our recognition of outstanding individuals who provide services. We intend to collaborate with chapters and subdivisions to promote growth and diversity in our membership through engagement in these activities and with the assistance of print and electronic media. And finally, the organization is committed to examining policies impacting individuals with exceptionalities and being advocates in our local, state, and national communities.

We hope that you will continue to engage with us in various ways throughout the year. We want to hear your stories of success, as well as challenges you may be facing. Let's stay connected and committed to our profession and to those we serve!

IMPORTANT DATES

Executive Board Meetings

October 8, 11:00 a.m.

March 25, 11:00 a.m.

Newsletter Submissions

October 15

December 11

February 23

April 1

November 1

Award Nominations Due

November 6

Proposals for SCCEC Conference Due

November 30

Nominations for Officers Due

January 27

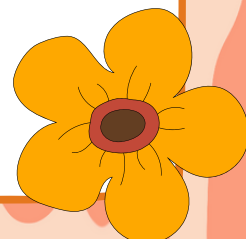
RA Reports and Representative Names Due

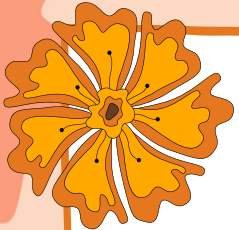
February 15 - 19

2023 CEC Conference

February 18

Representative Assembly





2023-2024 Nominations

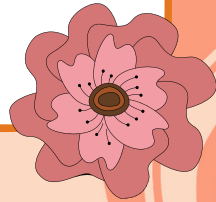
by: Constance Mays, Past-President

SCCEC will hold elections for the positions of
Vice President and Treasurer
vacancies to serve on the SCCEC Executive
Committee and Board. More information
regarding the Call for Nominations will be in the
October 15, 2022, Palmetto Newsletter!

Silent Auction

by: Constance Mays, Past-President

SCCEC will be seeking donations for the
Silent Auction
to be held at the 2023 Annual Conference
in Charleston, South Carolina. More
information will be provided in the next
Palmetto Newsletter!



News from LTI



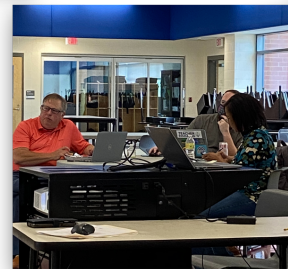
SCCEC held its annual Leadership Training Institute this August. We got ready for a fun day of learning and networking by eating donuts (and fruit!) and drinking coffee!



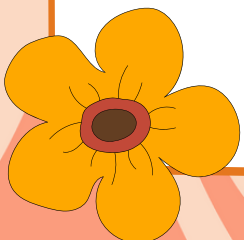
There were a lot of new faces this year! We're excited to welcome new chapter/subdivision Presidents and new volunteers. SCCEC could not function without them!



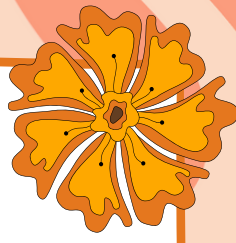
Our President, Jamia, was all smiles as she led the Executive Committee through presentations on officer responsibilities, membership information, conference updates, national CEC information, and ways our Future Leaders can get involved.



Thank you to National CEC staff for sharing a warm welcome for us to begin the new school year.



SAVE the Date for the 2023 SCCEC Conference



by: Jennifer Watson, President-Elect

We are so excited to be LIVE and IN-PERSON this year!!!

SCCEC Conference has always been the best place to gather together and learn from each other, while celebrating all that is Council for Exceptional Children!!

This year's theme is STRONGER TOGETHER and we know that we truly are stronger when we all come together.

More information about registration and links to the hotel reservations will be coming soon!

Can't wait to see you in Charleston!!



February 15th - 19th
**5055 International
Boulevard**
N Charleston, SC 29418



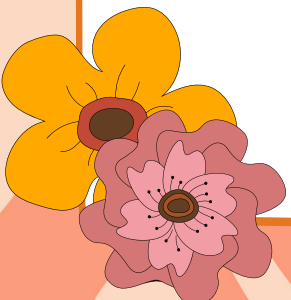
5055 International Boulevard, North Charleston, SC 29418 www.mccassaysouthcarolina.com

Save the Date

*Hosted by the SC CEC Executive Committee
at Embassy Suites Charleston Area Convention Center*

2023 SC CEC Conference

Registration and Proposal
information coming soon



AWARDS!

It's time to nominate your colleagues for awards!

Please nominate your colleagues who have worked so hard these past few years. Please see our [website](#) to review the nominating criteria.

We have awards for teachers, paraprofessionals, principals, students, and undergraduates. We also have a training grant for students and instructional mini-grants for teachers.

Nominations are due November 1, 2022.

Nomination link -

<https://forms.gle/4Bkkw8QBgwDyGfAD6>



News from Around the State

Challenges with working with difficult parents

by: Markeida Singleton

Mrs. Johnson is a 4th-grade teacher who works in a self-contained classroom. She stays after school a few days throughout the month to call parents. She avoids calling parents she finds challenging and argumentative. Although she knows her concerns need to be addressed, she lacks the desire to reach out to these parents.

Many teachers and administrators spend hours after school making phone calls to parents and guardians. Conflicting schedules, lack of transportation or internet access, and cultural disconnects make it difficult to address concerns with attendance, behavior, and grades. A lack of understanding and trust can also create additional barriers to bridging disconnects.

Researchers in education have long reported that when school and home work together, positive outcomes can be achieved. Working with parents to address concerns can improve student engagement, attendance, and academic performance. Finding the right strategies and support can improve the chances of collaborating with parents.

Go to Markeida's Twitter to join in the conversation:

[What works for you?](#)



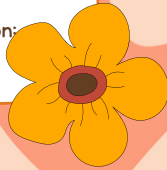
Off To College... Our Students Can Do It, Too!

by: Sharon Taylor

I know parents are worried about the future of their students with disabilities. Students in general have difficulty with the transition between high school and becoming an adult. Special education students have many more hurdles to overcome, but they can have positive experiences after high school. Students can get a sense of normalcy by attending college just like their peers.

Clemson University had a special day (August 21, 2022) for Clemson Life students moving in. The smiles on their faces said it all!

You can see more [here](#) and follow
Clemson Life @clemsonlifel



SC Superintendent of Education Election

by: Amanda Walkup, Governmental Relations

Mid-term elections are right around the corner! Mark your calendars for November 8th, as there are several important offices up for grabs, including one US Senate Race, all of the US House races, Governor, state house, school boards, and even ballot measures about increasing the state's Reserve Funds.

For this issue of The Palmetto, I wanted to focus on the Superintendent of Education election. Lisa Ellis, Ellen Weaver, and Patricia Mickel are vying for the position. Please take a few moments to view each of their websites linked below to get up to speed on where they stand on education issues.

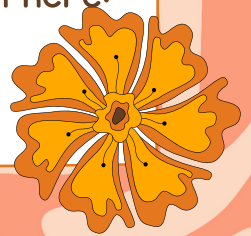
Lisa Ellis: <https://www.lisaforsc.com/>

Ellen Weaver: <https://ellenforeducation.com/>

Patricia Mickel: <http://www.scgreenparty.org/>

Early voting starts October 24th! You can check your registration here:

<https://scvotes.gov/voters/>



2022-2023 Officers

President - Dr. Jamia Thomas-Richmond

President-Elect - Dr. Jennifer Watson

Vice President - Dr. Tiffany Hollis

Past-President - Mrs. Constance Mayes

Recording Secretary - Dr. Matt Collier

Corresponding Secretary - Dr. Nicole Uphold

Treasurer - Mrs. Darlene Stowe

Parliamentarian - Mrs. Amanda Walkup



/SouthCarolinaCEC



@MySCCEC



southcarolina.exceptionalchildren.org