# All Educators. Every Child. No Limits. exceptionalchildren.org

# EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

Tips, Tools and To-Dos

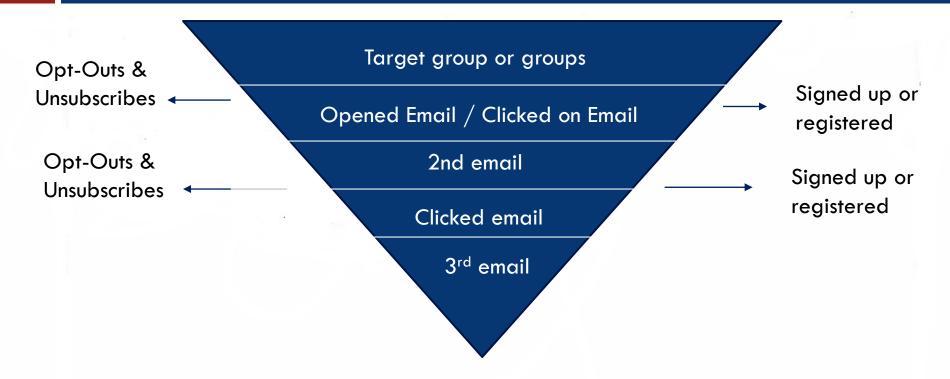
## Essentials

- Reach Your Audiences
  - Target the "need to know"
  - Manage Your Lists
- Communicate with Purpose
  - Personalize
  - Good Subject line
  - 1 or 2 Call to Actions
- Use Your Brand
- Work Smarter, not Harder



# Reaching Your Audience

- 1. Manage Your Lists
- 2. Target the "need to know"
- 3. Minimize to maximize





# Communicate with Purpose

#### **Emails**

■ What is Your Goal?

- □ Focus your message
  - Personalize
  - Good Subject line
  - 1 or 2 Call to Actions

#### **Newsletters**

■ What is Your Goal?

- □ Focus your message
  - Your "Front Door"
  - **□** Good Subject Line

## Clear Call to Action

Need to embed image and link to this <u>Virginia</u>
 <u>CEC Newsletter</u>
 <u>Smore Newsletters for Non-profit</u>





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The Council for Exceptional Children





...Because it matters.



# Working Smarter, not Harder

Content from you

Content from each other

Content from CEC



## **Content Sources**



- Newsletter content from each other
- □ Blog posts from Units & Divisions
- Web Content CEC HQ/U/D sites
- □ Repost Policy Insider or SET articles
- Templates for social, and communications related to renewals and welcoming new members

#### **Email Design Best Practices**



1. Sender Name



2. Subject Line



3. Header



4. Pre-Header



5. Copy



6. Images



7. Colors



8. Call-to-action



9. Footer



10. Personalize



11. Layout



12. Responsive



13. A/B Testing



# 11 Reminders Part 1

- Footers: Address and "unsubscribe" or "updates" options language and links in footer
- Don't buy lists; build your lists and ask others to share your messages
- Editing:
  - spell check
  - verify links
  - confirm dates
  - avoid using underlined font (should only use for linked items)

## Reminders Part 2

#### **Email Design Dos:**

- All emails feature 60% text and 40% visual content
- A maximum of two CTAs are used per email and are kept short and relevant
- All email design elements are mobile responsive
- Easy-to-read fonts are used in all emails designed
- Use alt text for images

#### **Email Design Don'ts:**

- Emails are either text-heavy or filled with too many images
- Multiple CTAs are used within an email
- All email elements are kept the same when designing emails
- Too many fonts are used within an email



### Questions and Discussion

- What templates or other materials do you need/want from CEC HQ?
- What's the best way to communicate and collaborate with each other?
- Other questions and feedback