



IDAHO

The voice and vision of special education

# Winter Newsletter 2017

## President's message

Dear Idaho CEC Members,

It is an honor to serve as your president of the Idaho Council for Exceptional Children (Idaho CEC) for the 2017 year. CEC is a professional association of educators with a mission to advance the success of children and youth with exceptionalities, and I am so glad that you have chosen to be part of this association in Idaho. Our Idaho CEC members are incredibly talented and dedicated individuals who are truly leaders in the field of special education, and I look forward to getting to know many more of you this year!

Whether you are a new or a long-time CEC member, please know that your CEC membership is appreciated, and I hope you will take every opportunity to get involved in whatever ways fit your needs. Ever since my first year as a special education teacher, I have valued my CEC membership as a resource for professional development opportunities, professional growth, and up-to-date information.

Some of you have reached out to me recently to express concern or uncertainty about changes that may occur for students with disabilities during this time of political transition. To me, this is a perfect example of one of the benefits of CEC membership. CEC has a strong voice in Washington, D.C. and will continue to watch out for and advocate for the needs of our exceptional learners across the country. In addition, CEC supports those members who may wish to receive more information or be more actively involved. If you are not aware of the CEC Policy Insider digest and the Policy Insider Blog on the national CEC website, I encourage you to visit that site and view the options to stay updated on changes in our field. <https://www.cec.sped.org/Policy-and-Advocacy/Policy-Insider-Blog>

In addition to the national supports that come with your CEC membership, Idaho CEC is also active and working to support you. State activities include our annual conference, subdivision meetings and workshops, Children and Youth Action Network (CAN), state awards, mini-grants, and our state website. Please get involved and be part of the CEC community that supports your important work each day. If you have suggestions of ways that Idaho CEC can support you more, feel reach out to me and share your thoughts. You can reach me by email at [ramonalee27@gmail.com](mailto:ramonalee27@gmail.com), or by phone at 208-573-2967. I truly would love to hear from you.

Looking forward to a great 2017 in Idaho CEC!

Ramona Lee

## 2016 Idaho CEC Mini Grant Recipients



Kipp Riddle  
INSPIRE  
Connections Academy



Brittany Maikranz  
Jerome School District



Holly Hawkes  
Jerome School District



Eric Lichte  
INSPIRE  
Connections Academy

The Idaho CEC awards mini-grants to provide financial assistance to support the activities of exceptional children throughout the state of Idaho. In 2016 the board selected 4 recipients and awarded nearly \$2000 to special educators in 2016.

**Congratulations Mini-Grant Recipients!**

### **From the Past President.....**

Hello, it is somewhat bittersweet that I have now become the past-president of Idaho CEC... We hope that the conference in October was just the ticket to refresh and rejuvenate you in the company of fellow professionals!

I have had a little time to reflect and must thank all of the Idaho CEC members and specifically Kindel Mason, Cyndi Cook, Lisa Perry, Aleksandra Hollingshead, and Bryon Cox – without you the conference would have been impossible to create!

Idaho CEC will continue to develop our partnerships with Idaho Parents Unlimited, the special education department of the SDE, and with SESTA. As I move into focusing on membership, I will work hard to create a CEC support system for you as special educators and improve our services to you. Enjoy the rest of the year, remember that over your career you will affect the lives of thousands of students, we salute you!

Julian Duffey  
Idaho CEC Past President

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## Idaho Division for Autism and Developmental Disabilities

The winter winds of Idaho are sweeping in new board members for your Idaho Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities. Thank you to those who were nominated and to those who voted in the election. The 2017 IDADD board took office on January 1 and are listed below.

Alex Hollingshead - Past President

Karren Streagle - President

Andrea Cox - President-Elect

Renee Miner - Vice President

Jenn Gallup - Secretary

Ling-Ling Tsao - Treasurer



Once elected to be vice president, an officer in CEC begins a four-year leadership journey that culminates in the past president position. Whoever invented the office of past-president must have been a newly elected president. Thank you, Alex, for your strong and capable leadership as our president in 2016. We are fortunate to keep you on the board for one more year. Karren and Andrea are pleased to continue their commitment to the board and are glad to have Renee join in the fun. Jenn and Ling-Ling retain their positions and we appreciate their willingness to serve for another year. We all look forward to serving you.

When we meet in February, we will begin discussing plans for the 2017 Idaho CEC Conference. It seems like a long way off, but it will be here before we know it. We will be developing the IDADD strand, dedicated to supporting teachers and paraprofessionals working with students with autism, multiple disabilities, and intellectual disabilities. If there are any topics you would like to see included in the strand we want to hear about them. If you have some expertise to share with your colleagues around the state, we invite you join us in presenting a session.

The February board meeting will also begin our considerations for the IDADD Achievement Award recipient. We rely on you to tell us about the wonderful accomplishments of your peers and collaborators working with students with autism and developmental disabilities. We cannot make this award without your nominations.

Membership is always on the agenda. Who are the special educators out there who work with students with autism and developmental disabilities, but have not joined us? Who wants to be part of a fellowship of educators who understand the nuances of supporting these students? Who needs some new evidence-based practices to implement in their classroom? Have we got a deal for you! Check out the resources you can access with your membership at the National DADD website.

Please email me at [daddidaho@gmail.com](mailto:daddidaho@gmail.com) to share your thoughts about the conference, nominations for the IDADD Achievement Award, or questions about IDADD. I look forward to hearing from you!

Stay warm,

Karren

IDADD President

## Idaho Division For Career Development & Transition

YEAH!!! DCDT IS STILL HERE!!

It has been three months since the last newsletter and your DCDT leadership is still here ready to help! We are in the process of developing some ideas and programs to support Transition in Idaho. As you may or may not know our numbers are small with only 16 DCDT members state wide. One of the goals that we would like to accomplish is to grow DCDT so that we have the opportunity to network with our cohorts. Since the last newsletter we have begun to investigate ways that we can accomplish this goal. **BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!!** If you work with students who require a Transition IEP please consider joining us and sharing your knowledge. Your DCDT leadership has some ideas and plans for activity in the division. Keep your eyes open for upcoming emails.



Also, please pass the newsletter on to your cohorts. We need support in all of our CEC divisions, pass along ideas to us, and give us suggestions.

I am excited about the potential knowledge and support that we can provide to each other!

This is transition survey passed on to me from Shauna @ Snake River! Thank You!!

<http://www.transitioncoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/New-Parent-Transition-Survey-English.pdf>

Eric Lichte

elichte@inspire.connectionsacademy.org

## Idaho Council for Children with Behavior Disorders

The CCBD board is pleased to announce that we are partnering with Healing Children, LLC for our annual spring conference. The conference will be held March 31st and April 1st at the West Ada training center. Healing Children, LLC will be presenting their workshop entitled "Healing Discipline." It provides educators with a better understanding of children who have suffered from disruptive attachment and trauma which are often the root cause of inappropriate and/or out of control behavior in the classroom. In a fun and interactive way participants will learn that an emotionally healthy environment is created through establishing healthy boundaries as well as building healthy relationships with their students. As the educator develops the skills and confidence in working with challenging students they will feel more joy and success in their job. This leads to a deeper connection between the educator and the student thus enhancing emotional and academic growth. Contact [idahoccbd@gmail.com](mailto:idahoccbd@gmail.com) or check the Facebook page (@Idaho CCBD) for more information.



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CCBD is also currently trying to fill two board positions: vice president and president. If you are interested in filling one of these positions please email [idahoccbd@gmail.com](mailto:idahoccbd@gmail.com) for more information.

## Idaho: The Association for the Gifted

Dear ITAG/SAGE Members and Friends,

I hope 2017 is off to a good start and you're not totally buried in snow! I want to keep you updated on the current state of gifted education in Idaho. It was so nice to see so many of you at Winter Edufest in Coeur d'Alene. There were many great presenters and excellent discussion about gifted kids. I heard many positive comments about programs across the state that are developing, continuing, and striving to meet the needs of gifted students. Good work is happening in districts all across Idaho!



ITAG/SAGE is ecstatic that direct funding for gifted education has been restored and we are grateful for the longtime members and supporters for their instrumental role in restoring this funding. The allocated funds from the 2016/2017 Education Budget are in the process of being disbursed to districts. The money will be made available to all districts that have completed and submitted a 3 Year Plan to the State Department of Education. This money can currently only be used for professional development, such as Edufest, and identification. This was a line item in the 2016/2017 budget.

The 2017 Legislature is currently in session. Education Week is wrapping up today. Again, there is a line item in the proposed budget for gifted education this session. ITAG/SAGE would like to see the language of the bill revised to allow the funding to be used for more than just professional development and identification, such as curriculum, testing, and program development. We would also like to see additional accountability for districts through required reporting of how the funds were distributed. I encourage you to contact your legislators on the Education Committee (Senate & House) and express your appreciation for the line item and their continued support of gifted education.

The winner of the GEM Award for 2016 was Dianne Bevis, from the Boise School District. Dianne has been a tireless advocate for gifted students and ITAG/SAGE was extremely pleased to honor her with this deserving award. Dianne was nominated by colleagues and parents that witnessed the impact she had on gifted students. Congratulations to Dianne!

Please take the time to nominate a deserving educator for the Gifted Educator Milestone (GEM) Award. Visit our website for more information and to complete a nomination.

Looking ahead to Summer 2017, please save the date for the 21st Annual Summer Edufest in Boise. It will be held from July 24th through July 28th. It is Idaho's foremost professional development conference. Last year, ITAG/SAGE awarded two full scholarships for Edufest, including room and board, to teachers in rural Idaho. We will offer these scholarships again this year. Stay connected with ITAG/SAGE through social media for updates on opportunities like this, such as mini-grants and events!

Thank you for all you do for gifted students and your continued support and membership in ITAG/SAGE.

Sincerely,

Ingrid Jungen  
ITAG/SAGE President

[ingrid.jungen@boiseschools.org](mailto:ingrid.jungen@boiseschools.org)



Greetings Fellow DEC Members!

Idaho has had quite the winter season and, like me, I am sure you are ready to see green grass, hear birds chirping and feel the sun on your face. Your DEC Board has had a few changes over the last couple of months. We want to wish Laura Smith, our previous secretary, and Becky Parker, Past-President, the best as they transition out of the DEC Board. With that change comes new board members, as Ling-Ling Tsao will be nominated for the President-Elect position, and Megan Yarnell has been nominated for the Secretary position. We are excited to have both Ling-Ling and Megan join your DEC Board!

In case you missed the 2016 Idaho CEC Annual Conference back in October, we were honored to host Dr. Kristie Pretti-Frontczak, a nationally known expert in early childhood special education, as the keynote speaker. One piece of her presentations that continues to stick out for me is teaching “soft skills,” which is related to emotional development and comes from natural relationships. We need “soft skills” to have social awareness of others and ourselves. Another piece that rang true for me is the idea of “shark music.” “Shark music” is that doodoo, doodoo, doodoo that gets faster and louder the closer it gets. “Shark music” starts when something occurs that tests our own regulation and acceptance of undesirable circumstances. For information, blogs, and podcasts from Kristie, visit her website at <https://prekteachandplay.com/>.

We plan to have breakout sessions at the upcoming 2017 Idaho CEC Annual Conference on October 5th and 6th, so plan on attending!

Thank you for all you do for young children and their families. We hope to see you in October!

Emily Malek  
Idaho DEC President

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## Idaho CEC Members!

Looking for professional development opportunities? Want to get involved in advocacy for exceptional children? Are you interested in tools and resources to use in your classroom? Do you seek more education? Idaho CEC can help! Subscribe to [www.idahoceec.org](http://www.idahoceec.org) for updates on special education related events in your area.

## TICKETS:

### General Admission: \$250

*Idaho CEC members can get \$25.00 discount. Enter your member number in the promotional code space.*

### Early Bird: \$200

*Early Bird special ends February 15th, 2017. Idaho CEC members can get a \$25 discount. Enter your member number in the space for promotional code.*

**To get promotional code, CEC members email:**

[idahoccbd@gmail.com](mailto:idahoccbd@gmail.com)

## Where can I contact the organizer with any questions?

You can contact Healing Children at:

1. email - [info@healingchildrenllc.com](mailto:info@healingchildrenllc.com)
2. Phone - 1-888-311-1883

Healing Children, LLC website: [www.healingchildrenllc.org](http://www.healingchildrenllc.org)

You can contact Idaho CCBD at:

1. Email-[idahoccbd@gmail.com](mailto:idahoccbd@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.idahocec.org/subdivisions/ccbd/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IdahoCCBD/>



## Healing Discipline: Finding Joy in Working with Challenging Students

### Conference is two days:

- March 31, 2017 from 8:30 to 5:00
- April 1, 2017 from 8:30 to 5:00.

**LOCATION:** West Ada Building  
1303 E Central Dr.  
Meridian, Idaho 83642

### Why this course?

Today's educators have more responsibilities than ever before. Teachers are increasingly accountable for student performance while trying to manage difficult behavior in the classroom. Many good educators are leaving the profession due to feelings of hopelessness and helplessness.

### Course Description

This two-day seminar is based on years of experience working with children with challenging behaviors and finding success using research based strategies. This seminar provides educators with a better understanding of children who have suffered from disruptive attachment and trauma which are often the root cause of inappropriate and/or out of control behavior in the classroom. In a fun and interactive way participants will learn that an emotionally healthy environment is created through establishing healthy boundaries as well as building healthy relationships with their students. As the educator develops the skills and confidence in working with challenging students they will feel more joy and success in their job. This leads to a deeper connection between the educator and the student thus enhancing emotional and academic growth. Although the seminar is geared towards educators, mental health professionals and parents will also benefit.

### Educational Goals and Learning Objectives:

- Participants will gain an understanding of healthy versus unhealthy childhood development and the impact it has on behavior.
- Participants will gain a better understanding of the underlying causes of severe behavior, which includes trauma, attachment, temperament and entitlement.
- Participants will have a better understanding of how their own personal history impacts interactions with others as well as the students/clients they work with.
- Participants will learn how good relationships, healthy boundaries and effective communication can improve behavior and foster emotional healing in their students/clients.
- Participants will learn practical strategies and healthy discipline techniques that they can immediately implement in their classrooms.

To purchase tickets and sign up for credit, go to:  
<https://cechealingchildrenspring-break2017.eventbrite.com>



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Idaho chapter of CCBD is dedicated to supporting the professional development and enhancing the expertise of those who work on behalf of children with challenging behavior and their families. CCBD is committed to students who are identified as having emotional and behavioral disorders and those whose behavior puts them at risk for failure in school, home, and/or community. CCBD supports prevention of problem behavior and enhancement of social, emotional, and educational well-being of all children and youth.



Healing Children, LLC provides consultation and in-service training to adults (parents, educators, mental health providers, etc.) on how to effectively work with and build healing relationships with children who have severe emotional and behavioral challenges. We believe that through these relationships life long healing can occur.

Our mission is for all children to be emotionally healthy and happy. We believe as adults establish healthy relationships and appropriate boundaries children are more likely to grow and prosper. When adults understand the impact of trauma and development they are better able to create healing environments for children.

# Presenters

**Leena Martin-Weaver, Ed.S., NCSP**



Leena completed her Education Specialist Degree in 1999. She became a Nationally Certified School Psychologist in 2009. Leena has worked

as a school psychologist since 1999. She is a Love and Logic School Wide Discipline Facilitator. Leena has a passion for understanding how trauma impacts the brain and child development. She loves working with children who have severe emotional and behavioral difficulties and seeing their growth. She received the School Psychologist of the Year Award from the Idaho Association of School Psychologists in 2011. She is a wife and mother of three. She loves being on her 7 acre ranch, spending time with her family, gardening, canning, and quilting.

**Traci Glover, M.Ed., LSW, LPC**



Traci has been a Licensed Social Worker since 1994 and a Licensed Professional Counselor since 2009. She has worked as a school counselor since

1999. Traci is trained in EMDR Therapy (Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing) and in Attachment Therapy. She is a Love and Logic Parent Education Facilitator as well as a Love and Logic School Wide Discipline Facilitator. Traci loves helping children face their critical issues and as a result seeing them grow and become more confident. She received the Friend of the School Psychologist award in 2007 from the Idaho School Psychologist Association and the Elementary School Counselor of the Year award in 2010 from the Boise School District. In her free time Traci loves to be with friends and family. She also enjoys shopping and dancing.

# Spring Break Conference!

Healing Children, LLC  
and  
Idaho Council  
for Children with  
Behavioral Disorders

Present:

**Healing Discipline:**  
Finding Joy in Working with  
Challenging Students

*College Credit Available!*



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Kuna, Idaho 83634-0421  
(888) 311-1883



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