


Inside this Issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A message from ICEC President
Dr. E. Paula Crowley

GOVERNMENTAL/
LEGISLATIVE CORNER
PAGE 2

CURRENT EVENTS PAGE 3

CONVENTION 2021 AND
STUDENT SECTION PAGE 4

REGION REPORTS PAGE 5

CEC 100TH ANNIVERSARY AND
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN'S WEEK
PAGE 6

RAY GRAHAM PAGE 7

AWARDS PAGE 8

UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE 9

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DR. E. PAULA CROWLEY



Congratulations!

You are reading this Newsletter having lived through an academic year like no other in our lifetime. Our lives have been disrupted unimaginably. The coronavirus pandemic has touched all our lives. No child or adult has been spared in the United States and across the world. We are living through a crisis of a lifetime, and we have yet to observe its full impact.

Global pandemics and a variety of health crises occurred throughout history. We may be sure that they will happen again. What have we learned?

How may we go forward today and every day wiser for having endured this national and international public health crisis?

Elizabeth Farrell (1870-1932), Foundress of CEC in 1922 lived through the 1918 influenza outbreak. This historic public health crisis is documented at length in *The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in History* (Barry, 2018).

Heartfelt life experience shaped Ms. Farrell's wise insistence on the necessity of collegiality and best practice. We endure and prevail when we collaborate and use best practices. Those who do not are at risk.

The scientists among us bring relief and hope to our world. We celebrate, support, and take seriously what scientists observe to be true. If they tell us to wear a mask, we do. If they tell us to get vaccinated, we do. If they tell us not to gather in large groups, we do not gather in large groups. This is responsible collaborative behavior that applies best practices.

We learned and continue to learn the importance of being flexible. We now expect that what we once took for granted may not be possible. We may have to change plans. We may have to learn something new so that we may accomplish essential tasks. We have

President's message continued...

become more creative, inventive, and tolerant. Many of us have increased empathy, flexibility, and even generous concern for the public good.

Today in ICEC we hold Executive Board meetings, Chapter meetings, various committee meetings, and special project meetings virtually via Zoom and other platforms. When we do hold in person meetings, we consider carefully necessary constraints to ensure the health, safety, and protection of all who attend.

We will hold our 2021 ICEC Convention, November 4-6 virtually and look forward to in person ICEC Conventions at the Chicago Marriott Hotel, Naperville beginning November 2022. In the meantime, Dr. Jennifer Stringfellow, ICEC Convention Chair 2021 and Dr. Jennifer Buchter, Program Chair welcome your participation virtually this year. We will facilitate your participation every way we can.

Let us learn from the experiences of this past year of extraordinary challenge. Let us be thankful that we have endured and remain hopeful that we will prevail. We are thankful for the scientists among us who lead the way. We take seriously the guidance of Elizabeth Farrell and apply collegiality and best practices in our daily lives.

Thank you for your continued membership in CEC and ICEC. Our individual and collective professional voices are strong. Today our membership stands at 1,417 and growing! Thank you for the dedicated leadership of members of our vibrant ICEC Executive Board, members of ICEC Committees, Chapters, and special interest projects. Your participation makes all the difference.

Collegially, we seek, find, and apply best practices on behalf of the children and adolescents who rely on us. We do this bravely midst an ever-present global coronavirus pandemic. We continue to search for and develop new ways to do our work. We use new tools, new enthusiasm, new determination, and a new commitment to collegiality and best practice in the spirit of Elizabeth Farrell. Cheers!

Sincerely,

Paula

E. Paula Crowley, Ph.D., President, Illinois Council for Exceptional Children
epcrowl@ilstu.edu

Governmental/Legislative Corner

By: Dr. Vinni Hall



The Illinois General Assembly Spring Legislative Session ended on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. Please note the following highlights:

1. An end to restraint and seclusion in schools – passed – phase out the use of isolated time-out and physical restraints in public schools, charter schools and special education non-public facilities over the next three years.
2. Special Education Maximum Age Extension – Students with disabilities between the ages of 18-21 can continue receiving services until the end of the school year rather than the day before their 22nd birthday.
3. The Right to Play Every Day – starting June 1 – students from K-5 will play for 30 minutes every day. Children cannot be excluded from playtime as a punishment. Students with disabilities must have accommodations to participate in playtime.

Illinois School Code Amendments:

Local Legislation

Status: Enacted - Act No. 164

Summary: Amends the School Code, provides that with regard to special education joint agreements, under no circumstances may a petition for withdrawal from a joint agreement be presented to other member districts less than a certain number of months from the date of the proposed withdrawal, provides that if a petition for withdrawal is not approved by the other member districts, any petitioning member district may appeal the disapproval, provides that the Trustees of schools of the township having jurisdiction.

Illinois School Code Amendments continue:

Special Education

Status: Enacted - Act No. 220

Summary: Provides that, for an early childhood education endorsement, an individual may satisfy the student teaching requirement of his or her early childhood teacher preparation program through placement in a setting with children from birth through grade two, and the individual may be paid and receive credit while student teaching.

School Code

Date of Last Action: 08/23/2019 - Enacted

Summary: Amends the School Code, provides that a school district must utilize response to scientific, research based intervention or multitiered systems of support as part of an evaluation procedure to determine, if a child is eligible for special education services due to a specific learning disability and may utilize the data generated in an evaluation to determine if a child is eligible for services in another disability category.



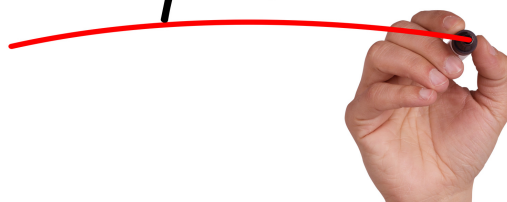
Michael "Mike" Daly is stepping down as Treasurer of ICEC. Mike has been a generous and dedicated member of ICEC for more than 40 years. During these years he served on the ICEC Board, worked at ICEC Conventions, and served as the Chair of Exhibits for the ICEC Convention for many years. He served as Regional Director and as President. Mike served as Treasurer for the past 18 years. We are deeply thankful to have worked side by side with Mike for so many years. We extend our deepest gratitude to him, and we will miss him profoundly. We thank him for his generous service and wish him well as he embraces the next part of journey.

Current Events/ICEC News



Dr. Joan Róg and her sister Barb received their 2nd COVID-19 shot. Dr. Róg stated "When we left the facility at the United Center, look who was there to greet us - Chicago Mayor, Lori Lightfoot and Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health, Dr. Allison Arwady. What a Kodak moment!" (don't look too close- they maybe cardboard figures!). Be vaccinated! Encourage all your family, extended family, friends, neighbors, and everyone your meet to be vaccinated too.

Did you know?



This is an interactive newsletter. Many of the pictures will lead you to forms, websites and emails. Just click on the pictures and links.



ICEC's 72nd Annual Convention



We are in the midst of planning what we hope to be an innovative and supportive Convention for our ICEC members, their friends, and their colleagues. In the interest of keeping everyone safe and healthy, we are planning to have our Convention virtually beginning at 4pm on Thursday, November 4, continuing on Friday, November 5 at 4pm, and beginning on Saturday, November 6 at 9am and ending at 2pm. **We have adjusted the times to assure that K12 teachers may be able to attend and/or present at the Convention as we know that some districts are restricting time away from classes and/or reimbursement for professional development** in the coming school year. We are hoping that you and your colleagues will find some information that will be supportive and helpful in your teaching practice. Cost of the convention is: \$30 for members, \$20 for students, \$40 nonmembers, and retirees are free. Registration will open Monday August 16th. We are seeking to celebrate the 100 year young legacy of Elizabeth Farrell, the first President of the Council for Exceptional Children and an innovator in reaching and teaching children with disabilities in public schools.

Looking forward to celebrating 100 years of CEC and our 72nd Annual Convention in Illinois!

Dr. Jennifer L. Stringfellow, 2021 Convention Chair



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU AND WELCOME YOUR STORY FOR THE ICEC NEWSLETTER, 2021. THE SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SUBMISSION
DATES
AUGUST 2ND

PUBLICATION
DATES
AUGUST 16TH

SEPTEMBER 11TH

SEPTEMBER 27TH

NOVEMBER 5TH

NOVEMBER 22ND

Student Section



Hello, my name is Haley Caulfield and I serve as the Student Representative on the ICEC Executive Board.

I am currently a student at Eastern Illinois University studying special education and elementary education. I will graduate in May of 2022. I am the President of the EIU SCEC organization. I graduated from Okaw Valley High School in 2016. I currently coach color guard at Sullivan High School. I am very excited to represent the special education students across Illinois. I cannot wait to work with all of our student groups. If you have any questions or want to discuss some ideas your group may have, feel free to reach out to me. My email is hmcaulfield@eiu.edu



Spotlight on Regions

Region III

Martha Vaché, Region III Director, reports that during the Spring 2021 she kept in contact with ICEC President, E. Paula Crowley, participated in a virtual meeting with regional directors, updated Region III information for the ICEC Directory, shared membership lists with chapters in Region III, and forwarded ICEC rebate checks to the Region III chapters that were active. She explored interest in reactivating an adult Chapter in the Bloomington/Normal area.

Jacksonville Chapter #99

Chapter 99 held four successful free virtual workshops on Zoom with an average attendance of 25 individuals. Topics covered were “Dyslexia”, “Mental Health Issues”, and “Raising the Challenging Child” and “Reactive Attachment Disorder”. ICEC members and nonmember ICEC members who wanted professional development credit paid \$5 and \$10 respectively. The Chapter 99 officers are currently planning workshops for 2021-22. Follow Chapter 99 online at www.cecchapter99.org

Springfield Chapter #102

Chapter 102 held one virtual workshop in October. Due to the pandemic they were not able to have formal meetings after that. They are hopeful that things will get back to normal in 2021-22. Follow Chapter 102 online at www.cec102.net.

Western Illinois Student Chapter #791 – Macomb

Barry Birnbaum, WIU Adviser, has been in email contact with Martha. He is interested in activating their student chapter. All classes were at WIU were held virtually this school year, so it was difficult to activate the chapter. He is hoping to get the group organized in the fall as classes return to normal.

Illinois State University Student Chapter #648 - Normal

This chapter is currently inactive. ICEC President E. Paula Crowley is working on reactivating it.



The ICEC 100th Anniversary Committee

is developing a Virtual Anniversary Series on Zoom whereby every month on the 9th or 10th day we would set aside one hour to address an important topic associated with Elizabeth Farrell and the history of Special Education. CEC was founded on August 10, 1922. Look out for more details about the 100th Anniversary series on the ICEC website.



Elizabeth Farrell

Elizabeth Farrell, Foundress of the Council for Exceptional Children lived through the great influenza pandemic during the winter of 1918. This pandemic raged for up to two years and as many as 100 million people died worldwide. We thank Dr. Kimberly Kode Sutton for her informative presentation on Zoom on Friday, March 19. Dr. Sutton wrote a book titled *Elizabeth Farrell and the history of special education* (2nd ed.) published by the Council for Exceptional Children in 2017. We will be learning much more about the life and times of Elizabeth Farrell as we gear up to celebrate 100 years of special education. The Council for Exceptional Children began on August 10, 1922. Following a meeting with 11 attendees at Teacher's College Columbia in New York City the International Council for Exceptional Children was established and Ms. Farrell was unanimously elected president. The two principles that guided her work in this organization were collegiality and best practice in the education of children and adolescents with special learning and behavior needs. Today her dream is alive and well in Illinois, all over the United States, and across the world.

Exceptional Children's Week

We celebrated Exceptional Children's Week from May 3rd to the 7th 2021 in the State of Illinois #ECW. The proclamation to declare this week as ECW was approved by Governor J.B. Pritzker. Various schools, organizations, and institutions celebrated students' and their accomplishments in Academics, Art, School and Community, Self-Advocacy, Technology, and Transition. We participated in a themed week that involved dress-up days, social media posts, encouragement, and spirit!

Additionally, ICEC's Podcast Chair Michael Arrigoni interviewed Children's Book Author, Lindsey Frank. She discussed important topics related to working with students who have exceptionalities and their families, Social-Emotional Learning, and Mindfulness. You can check this out from anywhere you find Podcasts or Youtube @AdvocacyPrime.

Ray Graham and the history of Illinois Council for Exceptional Children

In 1976 the United States celebrated the Bicentennial. To memorialize this occasion, Illinois Council for Exceptional Children sold a commemorative coin in honor of the Ray Graham. The coin is 1½" in diameter and an accompanying tribute included the following words:

Illinois Council for Exceptional Children: A Federation of Council for Exceptional Children

Ray Graham was the first Director, Division of Special Education, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Illinois. He served in this position from 1943 – 1961. Prior to this time, he had served as a teacher, principal, and superintendent. Ray Graham was the force behind the founding of Illinois CEC and served as a national CEC President.

He was the author of the Illinois Plan for Special Education, an author and lecturer, and a friend to all exceptional individuals. Because of him, CEC is known as the 'society of the concerned.'

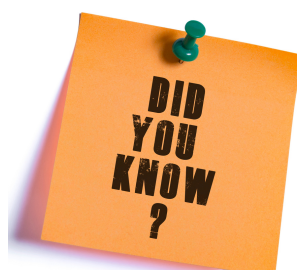
At the time of his death, the Springfield CEC Chapter #102 established the Ray Graham Memorial Fund in memory of his work in special education. Since 1962, the Illinois CEC Federation has maintained this fund in his honor. The fund is maintained by contributions from CEC members and chapters and other individuals.

This commemorative coin is in acknowledgement of your generous contribution to the Ray Graham Memorial Fund.

Mr. Graham's full name was James Ray Graham (1898-1961), who was survived by his second wife Bessie, his son James R and two grandchildren. He is interned at Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, IL. Plot – Block 42B.

James Ray Graham received an honorary doctorate degree from Monmouth College. Today several schools across Illinois honor him with his name. How many of you have received a Grant from his Memorial Fund?

Submitted by Dr. Joan L. Róg, Region I Director and ICEC Finance Chair



ICEC has a full array of social media including:

Facebook



Instagram



Twitter



and YouTube



Recognizing Excellence in ICEC

ICEC recognizes excellence in the work of our members and of distinguished professionals who advocate for children and adolescents with special needs. The due date for professional awards is **September 15**. It is easy to nominate an outstanding professional you believe deserves recognition. See the ICEC website for details <https://www.illinoiscec.net>

The Clarissa Hug Teacher of the Year

Do you know an outstanding special education teacher? See the ICEC website for details and nominate an outstanding special education teacher to be recognized for his/her outstanding work.

Meritorious Service Award

Nominees for this prestigious award have a record of distinguished service and leadership in CEC/ICEC or in a local chapter.

The Dean S. Hage Student of the Year Award

This award honors student members of ICEC. The recipient of this award demonstrates outstanding service and leadership in ICEC and/or in a local chapter and/or to children and adolescents with disabilities.

ICEC Legislator of the Year

Honors an Illinois Legislator who has served in the Illinois General Assembly or United States Congress for at least one term. The award nominee must have demonstrated advocacy, sponsorship, and support of legislation that improves the welfare and education of exceptional children.

The ICEC Outstanding General Education Teacher of the Year Award

Honors a general education teacher certified by ISBE in the state of Illinois, who has shown exemplary performance in directly providing educational services to students with exceptional learning challenges or behavioral disorders.

ICEC Robert E. Abbott Outstanding Contributor

The nominee must be a long-standing member of ICEC (minimum 5 years). The nominee has demonstrated outstanding service to the organization and/or to the exceptional children of Illinois.

Additional Awards

The ICEC Lesley P. Graham Post-Secondary Scholarship

Applicants must be 2022 graduates from high school and Illinois residents with disabilities who plan to further their education in a higher education setting. See more details on the ICEC website <https://www.illinoiscec.net>. The due date for applications is (TBD), Spring 2022.



15 % of
students in
Illinois have
an IEP

Additional Awards Continue...

The ICEC School-to-Work Scholarship

Applicant must be 2022 graduates from high school and Illinois residents with disabilities who plan to transition into a career setting. See more details on the ICEC website <https://www.illinoiscec.net>. The due date for applications is (TBD), Spring 2022.

Ray Graham Memorial Grant

The Ray Graham Memorial Grant provides seed monies for innovative activities supporting lifelong learning of children that are exceptional. See more details on the ICEC website <https://www.illinoiscec.net> Due Date: October 23, 2021

Pioneers Subdivision Student Award

The Pioneers Subdivision of ICEC offers a monetary award of \$1,000.00 to an undergraduate or graduate student pursuing licensure toward a career in special education. The applicant must be a current member of the Illinois Student Council for Exceptional Children. For additional information download the application see the ICEC website for more details <https://www.illinoiscec.net> and download the form at the following link <https://www.illinoiscec.net/ilcec/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Pioneers-scholarship-form-2022-1.docx> Application due date is January 1, 2022.

Please continue to consult the ICEC website for updates on summer deadlines

<https://www.illinoiscec.net>



Upcoming dates for ICEC

- **August 6, 2021--Virtual Summer Institute-Illinois Council for Children with Behavioral Disorder**
- **Monday August 16th, 2021 ICEC Fall Convention registration opens**



- **November 4-6, 2021--Virtual Convention of the Illinois Council for Exceptional Children**

Special Education Convention & Expo



- **February 4-5, 2022--Drive In Conference of the Illinois Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders--Lisle, Illinois**
- **February 11-12, 2022--Teach to Lead Conference, an opportunity open to school district personnel all over Illinois on Teacher Leadership--Bloomington-Normal, Illinois**