Hello CAN Coordinators!

Last month we focused on the importance of advocacy writing. With new members in Congress, it is important they are given the very best information you have to offer. You want to be regarded as the trusted source. With policies constantly being developed, revised, and reviewed, it is good practice to keep up with the latest in policies that center around special and gifted education. In this months CAN Do, we focus on the best resources to obtain policy information when communicating with your elected officials, be it a letter to the House or Senate or letter to the editor or meeting in person.

**CEC Resources**

The first stop on your resource search, the CEC Public Policy page on the CEC website! CEC's regularly updating the webpages with new content and information. Remember to check the Policy and Advocacy pages often.

The best place to begin your search for resources is the **Current Special/Gifted Education Issues** page. This page has the most up to date information on policies being discussed by CEC and on the hill.

Under this main content page, please find other pages of note that include important downloadable documents and resources on hot topic areas in special and gifted education policy:

- **Issue Briefs**
- **Elementary and Secondary Education Act** (ESEA)
- **Special Education Teacher Evaluation**
- **Funding**
- **Gifted and Talented**
- **IDEA**
- **International Advocacy**
The Top Resources on Education Policy

Below, we have listed reliable resources on special and gifted education policy. You can never have too many resources!

**CEC Policy Insider**

Everyone should be familiar with this! The CEC Policy Insider Blog which features updated posts throughout the week, providing you with real-time federal special and gifted education policy news. If you have are not subscribed please do so, it's free! CEC disseminates a collection of stories over the course of the week every Wednesday in our Policy Insider digest.

**CEC Webinars**

Another great way to become informed in an interactive and effective way is through CEC's webinars. CEC offers monthly webinars, each with a different subject. If you want to learn more in a certain topic area, chances are one of these webinars is the right one for you! After the webinar you not only will receive the recording to review and to share with others, but you will also have the chance to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Check out some of CEC's upcoming live webinars today!

**CEC Journals**

CEC publishes two journals, one designed for teachers of exceptional children and the other, for a more general audience for those who are interested in in-depth research on specific issues.

Published six times a year, TEACHING Exceptional Children features research-to-practice information and materials for classroom use, as well as current issues in special education teaching and learning.

To read insightful and pioneering research, topical issues, and broad perspectives by leaders in the field, grab Exceptional Children, one of the most well-known scholarly journals in special education.

**CEC Publications**

Don't have a good book to read lately? No Problem! CEC has a number
of featured publications in our store broken down into subjects to browse through. From intervention strategies to co-teaching and collaboration we have it all. Want something in an electronic format? CEC also offers digital ebooks to enjoy on any platform you desire.

**CEC Convention**

This year CEC heads to breezy, beautiful San Diego for its 2015 annual Convention and Expo. If you haven't registered yet, please do so ASAP, time is running out! The convention is another great place to learn and update your special and gifted education knowledge through preconvention workshops, sessions, and networking with other convention goers and colleagues. We also hope to see many of you at the CAN meeting! More details on sessions and meetings to come.

**Homeroom**

This is the official blog of the U.S. Department of Education. The blog articles provide insights on the activities of schools, programs, grantees, and other education stakeholders to promote continuing discussion of educational innovation and reform. On the home page, you can view the top ten teachers that teachers read for the month based on click rate to see what is the most talked about subjects. The blog also allows a free subscription for Teachers Edition where you can be sent weekly digests of the blog stories of the week as well as updates from Secretary Arne Duncan.

**THOMAS**

Want to know everything about special education and gifted legislation? Then check out the Library of Congress's website THOMAS with federal legislative information freely available to the public. The site covers a number of content areas as such:

- Bills, Resolutions
- Activity in Congress
- Congressional Record
- Schedules, Calendars
- Committee Information
- Presidential Nominations
- Treaties
- Government Resources
Don't forget to utilize CEC's Legislative Action Center! Remember, the LAC has a number of useful tools in the way of information such as capabilities to:

- Search for your elected officials (by zip code or name)
- Search current issues and legislation
- Keep up with elections and candidates running
- Find and contact national and local media

Questions? Contact Rosie Haller-Kaplan: rosehk@cec.sped.org or 703-264-9498