COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY
Courtesy Resolution

PAMELA K. DE LOACH

WHEREAS, Pamela K. De Loach was a dedicated special education teacher, CEC division and state unit leader, and an advocate for all those with disabilities;

WHEREAS, as a child, Pamela with a diagnosis of cerebral palsy, attended school without the benefits of the educational rights mandated under PL 94-142 and other federal and state legislation for children and adolescents with disabilities;

WHEREAS, this struggle to secure appropriate modifications and necessary assistance continued through her college program where little help was offered to accommodate Pamela’s difficulties with written expression and speech, she persevered receiving an undergraduate degree in mental retardation;

WHEREAS, Pamela’s educational and daily life experiences caused her to develop an acute awareness of the physical, emotional, and educational needs of children, adolescents, and adults facing the challenges associated with their disabilities;

WHEREAS, Pamela, during her 32 years of teaching, was instrumental in the educational change program which was beginning in Florida which moved children and adolescents from state institutions to group homes and from segregated, center-based programs to specialized services within the public school environment;

WHEREAS, Pamela was actively involved in fostering inclusive opportunities, developing community-based instruction, and providing technology-enhanced support to provide access to standards-based instruction for students with severe and profound intellectual and multiple disabilities;

WHEREAS, Pamela prepared and received numerous association and community funded grants to assist her to develop and implement instructional practices that would offer innovative and challenging approaches for her students;

WHEREAS, Pamela was a member of the CEC Board of Directors (2011-2013); served twice as the President of the CEC Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities (2007 and 2008); was elected President of the Tampa Bay Chapter 194 of the Florida State CEC Unit (2000-2001); and co-founded and co-directed the CEC Educators with Disabilities Caucus (2002-2004);

WHEREAS, Pamela served as a reviewer for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and was instrumental in shaping CEC’s Policy on Educators with Disabilities;

WHEREAS, Pamela was honored by the Florida Subdivision of the CEC Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities as Teacher of the Year (2002-2003); the Human Development Center as recipient of the Paraecepter Award (2002-2003); and was the first to receive the Pamela K. De Loach Advocacy Award from the CEC Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities (2018), an award established in her honor for outstanding commitment to persons with physical, health, and multiple disabilities;

NOW, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for Exceptional Children, during the Annual Meeting of the Council’s Representative Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana, the 1st day of February, 2019, and on behalf of the CEC general membership, the Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities, and the Florida State CEC Unit conveys deep appreciation and admiration for Pamela K. De Loach’s contributions to the Council; her positive and optimistic attitude; her life-long advocacy efforts on behalf of children, adolescents, and adults with disabilities; and her earnest endeavors for the advancement of the quality of life for children and youth with exceptionalities, especially those having physical and intellectual challenges.