# The Georgia Council of Administrators of Special Education

## 2017 Fall Conference



# **Everyday HEROES**

Highly Effective Resources and Opportunities for Exceptional Students

November 15-17, 2017

Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel



## **G-CASE Strategic Plan**

#### **Purpose**

G-CASE advocates for improved services for students with disabilities.

#### Mission:

- ➤ Promote professional learning
- > Promote engaged membership
- ➤ Promote effective leadership

#### Vision:

A unified voice promoting excellence in leaders of programs for students with disabilities

#### **Strategy Statement:**

If we offer effective performance-based professional learning and promote the engagement of members, then G-CASE will impact state and national policy and legislation

#### **Strategic Goal Areas:**

Goal 1: To impact legislative and policy

Goal 2: To promote engaged membership

Goal 3: To provide performance-based professional learning

# G-CASE Executive Board 2017-2018

Charlette Green, President Greg McElwee, President-Elect Jimmy Pitzer, Past President Zabrina Cannady, Vice President Katie Lowry, Secretary Leslie Reese, Treasurer MaryKay Berry, CEC Representative Jenny Carpenter, Communications Chair Tris Gilland, Legislative Chair Sarah Burbach, Membership Chair Andrea Pender, Professional Development Chair Laura Melton, Professional Dev Co-Chair Cassandra Holifield, Research and Innovations Chair Kelly King, Strategic Planning Chair Donna Poole, Parliamentarian Sarah West, Executive Director Zelphine Smith-Dixon, DOE Liaison Donna Ann Flaherty, DOE Prof Learning Liaison

# G-CASE Advisory Board 2017-2018

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Mary Day Widner	Stephens County	District 3
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Laura Melton	Putnam County	District 9
Talithia Newsome	Richmond County	District 10
Loranda Holmes	Marion County	Districts 11 / 12
Tonya Brown	Dodge County	District 13
Mary Wildes	Wayne County	District 14
Jennifer Brendle	Bryan County	District 15
Catherine Gossett	Decatur County	District 16
Marcus Richardson	Brooks County	District 17
Belinda Tiller	Pierce County	District 18



TeachTown is proud to partner with the professional membership of the Georgia Council of Administrators of Special Education. We share your ongoing commitment to improve services to children with special needs, and thank you for your continued dedication to and support of these special student populations.



We wish you a successful and enriching experience at your **2017 Fall G-CASE Conference:** Everyday HEROES – Highly Effective Resources and Opportunities for Exceptional Students!

TeachTown would also like to thank our Georgia customers who continue to share with us their successes and suggestions for improvement while using TeachTown's products and services.

The mission of TeachTown is to improve the academic, behavioral, and adaptive functioning of students with disabilities. **TeachTown BASICS** is a blend of computer-delivered and teacher-led ABA instruction proven to increase a student's vocabulary, listening skills, social-emotional development, independence, academics and cognitive skills. **TeachTown Social Skills** complements the ABA instruction in BASICS with a character-based, video-modeling curriculum that supports students in acquiring developmentally appropriate social skills.



#### 2017 Fall G-CASE Conference

The Marriott Savannah Riverfront November 15-17, 2017

# Wednesday, November 15, 2017 Conference Agenda

Time	Event	Room
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM	SELDA Meeting	Pulaski
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	G-CASE Advisory Board Meeting	Oglethorpe AB
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	G-CASE Executive Board Meeting	Oglethorpe AB
12:00 PM	Exhibit Area Grand Opening	Atrium
1:00 PM	Conference Kick-Off  Charlette Green, GCASE President	Ballroom AB

Everyday HEROES

Highly Effective Resources and Opportunities for Exceptional Students

1:15 PM	Dr. Cooper Woodard DBTA and Meta-Play	Ballroom AB
2:15 PM	Kenney Moore State Schools of Georgia	Ballroom AB
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Visit Exhibitors	Atrium
3:00 PM	Mikki Garcia, CEC President	Ballroom AB
3:05 PM	Award Presentations Jimmy Pitzer, Past President	Ballroom AB
3:15 PM	Dr. Zelphine Smith-Dixon Georgia's Parking Lot: Dealing with the Tabled Conversations	Ballroom AB



3:45 PM

# Leveraging Resources for the Whole Child

Ballroom AB

Panel Members

#### **Stephanie Pearson**

GA Dept of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)

#### **Carmen Callaway**

GA Department of Family And Children's Services (DFACS)

#### **Heather Bond**

GA Department of Public Health (DPH)

#### **Winifred Pierce**

Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

#### **Zelphine Dixon-Smith**

GA Department of Education (GaDOE)

#### Nakeba Rahming

GA Department of Education (GaDOE)



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Thursday, November 16, 2017 Conference Agenda

Time	Event	Room
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Breakfast / Visit Exhibitors	Atrium
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	G-CASE General Meeting Installation of Officers	Ballroom AB
8:30 AM	Carol Geiken 2016 Lillie Moncus Recipient Award Presentations Jimmy Pitzer, Past President	Ballroom AB
9:00 AM	Keynote Speaker  Dr. Tim Elmore  Marching Off the Map	Ballroom AB
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Visit Exhibitors	Atrium



Break-Out Sessions 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM	
Session Description	Room
Avengers Assemble: How to Know When You Need a Little Help from Your Friends Presenters: Beth Morris and Reagan Sauls, Harben, Hartley and Hawkins	Ballroom AB
Facilitator: Andrea Pender, G-Case Executive Board  Deciding when to rely on your own staff and when to bring in outside experts can be a difficult (and often costly) decision. This session will focus on navigating those questions and making both cost effective and legally defensible decisions.	
Sometimes Our Most Super Heroes Look More Like Clark Kent Than Superman Presenters: Jason Byars and Melanie Stansell, Griffin-Spalding	Plaza
County Facilitator: Shelley Goodman, G-Case Advisory Board	
Special Education Administrators are challenged with operationalizing and connecting students with highly effective resources and opportunities for social and emotional needs. Connecting students with supports in Tiers I – IV addresses Child Find, Preventative Science and Social-Emotional Health. Participants will be presented sustainable tools and resources to address the social, emotional and behavioral needs of their students. Instead of creating a new framework to serve students living with a mental health illness, schools can incorporate these services into networks that are already established, such as Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and/or Response to Intervention (RTI).	
Meeting the Needs of ALL Schools	
Presenters: Jennifer Mellor, Mesha Mathis, and Melissa Farmer, Bibb County	Pulaski
Facilitator: MaryDay Widner, G-Case Advisory Board	
In this presentation, Bibb County will share a calculated transformational change in the supports provided to schools. In this session, system leaders will review a change in vision from all schools receiving the same supports to providing leveled supports based on school need.	
This presentation is meant for districts with a special education leadership team - Size group counts,	

# Put a "10" on it! Ordinary People Making Extraordinary Things Happen for Students

Presenters: Robbie Vincent and Trevor Metzger, Rome City

Facilitator: Amy Penn, G-CASE Advisory Board

The presenters will discuss the importance of utilizing an "all hands on deck" approach to providing supports for students. Research identifies that stress and trauma lead to academic and behavioral struggles. These difficulties can be targeted by implementing a team approach and employing not only community resources and agencies, but the expertise and strengths of existing staff members. The Rome City School District has implemented many different supports by partnering with community agencies and community resources, as well as recognizing strengths and leadership within Rome City Schools to meet the needs of the students in our district.

Oglethrope A



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Taking the "Oh NO!" Out of Dispro: Catoosa County	Forsyth
Presenters: Becky Conner, Kim Nichols, Gina Haynes and Shalanda Mohan, Catoosa County	
Facilitator: Jan NeSmith, G-CASE Advisory Board	
In the wake special ed disproportionality, the Catoosa team worked to evaluate and align interventions and existing resources available in the district. Their goal was clear: implement a district-wide instructional model that provides	
- the consistency and flexibility teachers need to plan and lead effective, personalized literacy instruction for all students	
- the visibility into student achievement that leaders need to support and monitor teaching and learning district-wide.	
Learn how focused collaboration and shared vision bring a community together even through dispro.	
<b>Opening Doors to Employment and Independence</b>	
Presenter: Susan Darlington, Forsyth County	Franklin
Facilitator: Marcus Richardson, G-CASE Advisory Board	
Project LIFE is a job training program for the students of Forsyth County Schools ages 19-22 with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities whose post-secondary goal is competitive work. Since its implementation in 2007, Project LIFE has had a high success rate of post-secondary employment and job readiness. Project LIFE's success rate is accredited to a variety of factors including the partnerships of the business community and Vocational Rehabilitation and the teachers who challenge their students on a daily basis. Forsyth County will share strategies of implementation, maintenance and sustaining partnerships with the community and businesses while also discussing obstacles encountered along the way.	

Eliminating Disp	roportionality in Discipline	
Presenters: Lakshmi S Dougherty County; D	Johnson	
Facilitator: Rosie Gw	rinn, G-CASE Advisory Board	
This workshop will be Georgia Department of and GLRS, and Doug presentation will focut the importance of importance of importance and the use interventions to reduct the audience will hear has implemented distributed by successfully address of		
<b>Professional Qua</b>		
ESSA: What Thi	Chatham	
Presenters: Pam Dani		
Facilitator: Jenny Ro		
The Every Student Su teacher requirements assurance that all teac in programs supported certification and licen mean for LEAs and sp will provide participa examples on the profe Georgia's teachers an		
11:45 AM – 1:15 PM	Lunch / Visit Exhibitors	Ballroom CDE



## **Break-Out Sessions 1:15 PM-2:30 PM**

Session Description	Room
Student Voice, Straight Talk, and a Culture of Hope	
Presenters: Leigh Colburn, The Centergy Project	Ballroom
Facilitator: Katie Lowry, G-CASE Executive Board	AB
What happens when warning systems point to barriers outside of the school's control - transiency, family changes, poverty, immigration, addiction, mental health? In this session, learn how one Georgia high school is leveraging community partnerships, as well as state and federal resources to holistically meet the academic, social/emotional, and family needs of students. Through wrap-around services such as college/career coaching, clinical counseling, housing assistance, job skill readiness, classes for parents, abuse and addiction recovery services, and more, the Graduate Marietta Student Success Center is gaining state and national recognition for developing a common-sense, community approach to meeting student needs.	
Get Rid of Data Anxiety for Good! Understanding	
Data Quality and How to Connect Data to	Plaza
Outcomes	
Presenters: Carol Seay, GaDOE; Charlette Green, Cherokee County; Julie Moilanen, Polk County	
Facilitator: Loranda Holmes, G-CASE Advisory Board	
Special Education data reporting is required by the Federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). All data are useful when working to improve outcomes for children. This session will examine specific special education data elements and reporting requirements to enable the participants to develop an understanding of the importance of data quality and the interconnectedness of their data. Also discussed will be details on how to report Dashboard Application data, ideas for improving data quality, and important aspects of the new disproportionality regulation.	

#### **Understanding Psychosocial Rupture** Pulaski Presenter: Dr. John Padgett, Psychosocial Dynamics Facilitator: Tonya Brown, G-Case Advisory Board Attendees will learn what Psychosocial Rupture is and what it is not. This session will focus directly on the six stages leading up to rupture (i.e. attacks): 1) Latent Anger 2) Fragile Personality Obsessive Phenomenon 3) Psychological Leakage (Parapraxis) 4) Aggressive Immersion 5) Formation/Planning/Gathering 6) Emotional Rupture Why Mental Health Matters in Georgia Schools Oglethorpe Presenters: Jill Rogers, Murray County and Jenny Wilhoite, AR GA Hope Facilitator: Mary Wildes, G-CASE Advisory Board This session is designed to give an overview of school-based mental health services in Murray County School District, the process that led to this implementation and next steps. School-based mental health services are being provided in Murray County School District via a partnership with Georgia Hope. Meeting the unmet needs of students with mental health challenges impacts student attendance, behavioral and academic outcomes, and discipline in a positive way. **Concussion Management** Forsyth Presenter: Dr. Dave Marshall Facilitator: Jennifer Brendle, G-CASE Advisory Board Learn about the signs and symptoms of concussions and when students should return to the learning environment. Dr. Marshall will present new research on the management of the concussed student – something every school administrator needs to know.



# They Said What? Tips for Effective Communication and Successful Meetings

Franklin

Presenters: Brooke Ramsey, Newton County and Alan

Satterfield, Walton County

Facilitator: Catherine Gossett, G-CASE Advisory Board

The session will offer tips that can be utilized to ensure effective communication in IEP meetings. Strategies will be offered from the district and school administrator perspective. Further, the session will offer an opportunity for interactive discussion based on real world scenarios.

Johnson

#### It Takes a Village to Plan the Future

Presenters: Diane Vautrot and Kim Cagle, Gilmer County; Tina Duncan, GA Vocational Rehabilitation

Facilitator: Belinda Tiller, G-CASE Advisory Board

Learn about our remarkable collaboration with Vocational Rehabilitation and Workforce Innovative and Opportunity Act (WIOA) counselors to transition students from school to the workforce. Collaboration between agencies and a strong commitment to students, results in a smooth transition for our SWD's to the workforce. We will share services offered by Voc. Rehab and WIOA, along with school based supports, including career exploration, CTAE pathway completion support, Assistive Work Technology, Virtual Job Shadowing, High School High Tech and paid on the job training. Take home tips for networking with your local agencies to help your SWD's transition successfully to the workforce.



# AASD and GVRA – Student Success Through Collaboration

Chatham

Presenters: Helen Malone, AASD and Charlotte Young, GA Vocational Rehabilitation

Facilitator: Michele Sayles, G-CASE Advisory Board

AASD and GVRA have developed a strong partnership that has resulted in students with disabilities being more prepared for post-secondary education and/or careers after high school. Some examples of successful collaboration that will be discussed are: development of work based learning experiences connected to pathways, opportunities provided for students to explore different career options, opportunities for students to participate in CTI Conferences that foster self-advocacy and leadership ability, increased support for students and families regarding benefits navigation and making the right choices about employment.

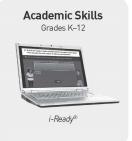
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM

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#### Break-Out Sessions 3:00 PM- 4:15 PM **Session Description** Room Growing Resilience in Today's Teen - What **Leads to Success in School?** Ballroom AB Presenters: Leigh Colburn, The Centergy Project Facilitator: Cassandra Holifield, G-CASE Executive Board Growing Resiliency? Many young people fall off when the going gets tough. How can we develop the attitude and skills of resilience in our students? How can a school transition their School Improvement Plan into a School Diploma Plan? How do we keep our struggling students engaged and connected to school? Leigh will take you through her experiences at the Graduate Marietta Student Success Center, as well as those from her tenure as high school principal. She will challenge you to challenge your teachers and support your students, and to be intentional in your work in building

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#### Get Rid of Data Anxiety for Good (Repeat)

Presenters: Carol Seay, GaDOE; Charlette Green, Cherokee

County; Julie Moilanen, Polk County

Facilitator: Tris Gilland, G-CASE Executive Board

Special Education data reporting is required by the Federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). We report results data (graduation rate, achievement, etc.) and compliance data (timelines, discipline discrepancy, etc.). All data are useful when working to improve outcomes for children. This session will examine specific special education data elements and reporting requirements to enable the participants to develop an understanding of the importance of data quality and the interconnectedness of their data. Also discussed will be details on how to report Dashboard Application data, ideas for improving data quality, and important aspects of the new disproportionality regulation.

Plaza

#### Identifying, Reporting and Investigating Offender Communications to Mitigate Acts of Mass Violence

Pulaski

Presenter: Dr. John Padgett, Psychosocial Dynamics

Facilitator: MaryKay Berry, G-CASE Executive Board

Attendees will be introduced to "pre, during, and post incident offender communications" made by offenders committing incidents of mass violence. Attendees will be provided a basic understanding, via real world examples, of what types of behavior they should be trained in and aware of to recognize and investigate pre- offense communications to mitigate incidents of mass violence. Attendees will also be introduced to historical paradigm shifts in offender pre, during and post offender communications relative to incidents of mass violence.



Effective Evaluation of Instruction in a	0.1.1
Co-Taught Classroom: A District Perspective	Oglethorpe
Presenters: Lakshmi Sankar and Susan Brozovic, GaDOE; Charity Roberts, Kim Bennett, and Lisa Trim, Coastal GLRS; Catherine Gossett and Jennifer Wilkinson, Decatur County	AB
Facilitator: Laura Melton, G-CASE Executive Board	
This session is designed to provide district and building administrators the tools to accurately evaluate general and special education teachers in a co-taught classroom. A district will present how it evaluates co-teachers and the impact of their successful collaboration on student performance. Additionally, the session will provide guidelines on the supervision and monitoring of specially-designed instruction in a co-taught class.	
Concussion Management (Repeat)	
Presenter: Dave Marshall	Forsyth
Facilitator: Donna Poole, G-CASE Executive Board	
Learn about the signs and symptoms of concussions and when students should return to the learning environment.  Dr. Marshall will present new research on the management of the concussed student – something every school administrator needs to know.	
Successful Partnerships: Helping SWDs	
Transition to College and Careers	Johnson
Presenters: Carmen Cates, GA High School High Tech; Stephanie Mireles, Bulloch County; Terri Long, Wayne County	
Facilitator: Leslie Reese, G-CASE Executive Board	
This session will focus on services provided by the Georgia High School High Tech (HSHT) program to high school students with disabilities. HSHT transition services will be outlined, along with information that highlights why these services are critical to students with disabilities. We will discuss strategies to involve Vocational Rehabilitation, education, and community partners in the program. HSHT partners from SE Bulloch and Wayne County High Schools will share the outcomes they desired to meet for their individual student populations which contributed to the development and structure of their highly successful HSHT programs/clubs.	

Taking the "Fish Out of the Tank" with Virtual	
Education	Franklin
Presenters: Maria Sharett and Sabine Claster, GA Connections Academy	
Facilitator: Jenny Carpenter, G-CASE Executive Board	
As Director Zelphine Smith-Dixon presented, a time has come to take the "fish out of the tank." A beautiful fish tank does not guarantee every fish survives. Over the years we have been trying to take the same approach for students within our educational system with minimal progress. Just as fish survive in various bodies of water, our students may need a different learning environment in order to thrive. Virtual education may seem like uncharted waters, but we started the exploration and have only scratched the surface of the vast ocean of opportunities for our students.	
<b>Connecting Through Pictures</b>	
Presenter: Chris Briggs, GNETS Mainstay Academy	Chatham
Facilitator: MaryDay Widner, G-CASE Advisory Board	
This hands-on workshop is designed to provide adults who work / live with youth experience using the arts to promote positive relationships and connections. Working in small groups, participants will be guided through some quick creative arts activities designed to provide positive shared	



experiences, fun, and relaxation.

Break-Out Sessions 4:30 PM- 5:45	PM
Session Description	Room
GO-IEP Demo	
Presenters: LaKesha Stevenson and Phoebie Atkins, GaDOE	Oglethorpe
Georgia Online IEP is a software application developed and maintained by GaDOE available at no cost to districts. All necessary forms including meeting notices, IEPs, amendments, eligivility reports, redeterminations forms, and summary of performance are available. Each form has features designed to increase compliance and accuracy of data. Reports are also available to assist with state and federal reporting as well as local supervision. GA-IEP is in use in about 115 districts. Join us if you are interested in learning more so that your school system can consider joining this project.	AB
GO-IEP Support Session: Redesigned Override	~1 1
Form	Chatham
Presenters: Linda Castellanos, Julie Spires and Dale Rose, GaDOE	
Join us for a review of the redesigned Override form. This form has been merged with the Transfer Form and is designed to increase the ability of local system administrators to address more complex files by asking a series of guiding questions regarding the available due process paperwork and allowing districts to edit existing data. Some benefits include the ability to add exit dates which occurred in the past but were not reported as well as the ability to reopen the Override form when errors are made.	

## **G-CASE President's Reception**

On the Savannah River Queen Boarding at 6:00 – 7:00 PM Riverboat Cruising 7:00 – 9:00 PM Sponsored by



# Friday, November 17, 2017 Conference Agenda Time Event Room 7:30 AM 9:00 AM Breakfast CDE

#### **Break-Out Sessions 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM**

Session Description	Room
Power Struggles Unplugged	
Presenter: Brian Mendler	Ballroom
Facilitator: Andrea Pender, G-CASE Executive Board	AB
From the best-selling author That One Kid this high-energy session teaches specifically how to defuse power struggles with any student, in any situation, at any time with our proven step-by-step process. Discover two words guaranteed to stop mouthy kids in their tracks. Learn exactly what to say when removing a student so they want to return to your class.	
<b>Understanding Emotions from the Inside Out</b>	
Presenter: J. Brock Tarno, Henry County	Plaza
Facilitator: Kelly King, G-CASE Executive Board	
This session will help you understand students with emotional or cognitive impairments. Learn about the growth of the emotional brain, how the brain works, and the characteristics of the minds of males and females. Learn how to create an emotional thermometer for students to access in the classroom or at the school. These Emotional Regulation tools include, but are not limited to the "N.I.P it" intervention, "incredible 5pt scale," and "CHAMPS" classroom management.	

# **How Changing Your Mind Changes Your Outcomes**

Pulaski

Presenter: Tonia Spalding, Community Mental Health of Middle Georgia

Facilitator: Tonya Brown, G-CASE Advisory Board

Increase academic and behavioral outcomes at the school level through partnerships with The Georgia Apex Project and Community Mental Health.

Learn how to develop family and community engagement within the school district in three-fold parts: (Dialectical Behavioral Therapy Model)

- 1. Increase positive behavioral outcomes by an effective and efficient implementation of Life Skills Groups at the school level.
- 2. Provide parent workshops to strengthen and support continuous overall student success.
- 3. Ensure families and the community are active participants in creating and maintaining a school culture conducive to learning through education and training of district and school level staff.

# CEIS – Building a Foundation for Positive Change

Oglethorpe AB

Presenters: Bonnie Brown, West GA GLRS; Bari Geeslin and Joseph Kegler, Stewart County

Facilitator: Mary Wildes, G-CASE Advisory Board

A disproportionate determination for any State Educational Agency resulting in mandated Coordinated Early Intervening Services can be distressing. Conducting a comprehensive data analysis and using problem solving to address core issues is essential. Selecting and implementing appropriate interventions with fidelity can build a strong foundation for positive change. Stewart County Schools with guiding support from West Georgia GLRS utilized Leveled Literacy Intervention: a daily, intensive, small-group reading intervention to address targeted skill deficits of struggling readers in Grades 1-3. The growth and results were nothing less than astounding. This session will follow the journey from disproportionality determination to intervention results.

# A District's TEAM Approach to Disproportionality in Discipline

Forsyth

Presenters: Pam McKinnon, Anne-Marie Jones, and Leslie Forcina, Glynn County

Facilitator: Shelly Goodman, G-CASE Advisory Board

In Glynn County, we were determined to be disproportional in discipline and needed to develop CEIS and Corrective Action Plans. The plans involved implementation of the Why Try program to teach resilience, and included exploring "real" alternatives to OSS/ISS. We also knew we needed to educate our school administrators on the difference between subjective and objective discipline referrals so they could educate their staff to improve classroom management and improve the appropriateness of discipline referrals. We collected a mountain of data during the 16-17 school year in the areas of perception, attendance, behavior and academics. The results for 180 student participants were amazing!

Franklin

# PBIS Supports Using Fidelity Implementation Checklists and Coaching

Presenters: Cassandra Holifield, Yayoi Kitta, and Carrie Kane, North Metro GNETS; Janet Goodman, State University of West Georgia

Facilitator: Loranda Holmes, G-CASE Advisory Board

The presenters will review the North Metro GNETS BIP implementation checklist, results of inter-rater reliability using a fidelity implementation checklist and use a MTSS PBIS Coaching Process to implement systems change. The presenters will review the BIP implementation checklist from the North Metro GNETS program and identify positive behavior supports throughout the checklist. Using individualized data from a BIP implementation checklist directly connects a student to home, school, and his/her community through the use of PBIS supports that are generalized across environments unique to the student.

Changing Scho Ambassadors Presenters: Suzanno Osborne, Douglas of Facilitator: Laura Learn about the interest Middle School has developed school accepting culture wo of exceptional studisabilities. Over the been developed and that can be presented state.  Strengthening	Johnson	
Presenters: Constar and Michelda Wats Facilitator: Jennife Parent involvement achievement. Studi students whose par are more successfu barriers in ways to we have navigated serve families acros parent involvement of resources to reac Georgia.	Chatham	
Time	Event	Room
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<u>Keynote Speaker</u> Brian Mendler  The Teacher That Changed My Life	Ballroom AB
12:00 PM	Ballroom AB	

#### After Conference Break-Out Sessions 12:15 PM-1:30 PM

Session Description	Room
GO-IEP Demo  Presenters: LaKesha Stevenson and Phoebie Atkins, GaDOE Georgia Online IEP is a software application developed and maintained by GaDOE available at no cost to districts. All necessary forms including meeting notices, IEPs, amendments, eligibility reports, redeterminations forms, and summary of performance are available. Each form has features designed to increase compliance and accuracy of data. Reports are also available to assist with state and federal reporting as well as local supervision. GA-IEP is in use in about 115 districts. Join us if you are interested in learning more so that your school system can consider joining this project.	Oglethorpe A
GO-IEP Support Session: Timelines Report  Presenters: Linda Castellanos, Julie Spires and Dale Rose, GaDOE  Join us for a review of the Timelines Report available inside GO-IEP. This report has been designed to allow systems to continuously monitor Indicator 11 and 12 timelines. It will provide accurate and up-to-date information saving district administrators time. The relationship between the timelines report, the local calendar, and the pending evaluations reports will also be reviewed.	Oglethorpe B

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## **Keynote Speakers**



**Dr. Zelphine Smith-Dixon** is the State Director for the Division for Special Education at the Georgia Department of Education. For the past ten years, she has worked diligently to improve outcomes for Georgia's children. Prior to being an educational leader in Georgia, Dr. Smith-Dixon worked for the South Carolina Department of Education in a leadership capacity supporting low performing schools.

During her career, she has been recognized as Tri-County Special Educator of the Year, Vance-Providence Elementary Teacher of the Year, Orangeburg Consolidated Three Alternate District Teacher of the Year and Georgia Department of Education's Employee of the Month. Zelphine has delivered numerous keynotes, motivational speeches, and national presentations. Her commitment and passion for supporting adults and students are contagious!



Cooper Woodard, PhD, BCBA-D is a licensed clinical psychologist and Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), Dr. Woodard is the creator of the Dynamic Behavior Theory of Autism (DBTA) and the Metaplay Method, which is derived from this theory. He is the author of a number of books on this topic, as well as book chapters on the treatment of self-injury, optimism and other positive traits, and the construct of courage in daily living.

Dr. Woodard lives in Providence, RI where he is the Vice President of Clinical Services and Training at the Groden Center. He created the first hospital diversion program for persons with autism and developmental disabilities, the RITE program. The Groden Network is an internationally-known continuum of services that has been providing innovative and high-quality supports for children and adults with autism since 1976.



**Dr. Tim Elmore** is a leading authority on how to understand the next generation and prepare tomorrow's leaders today. He is a best-selling author, international speaker, and president of Growing Leaders (www. GrowingLeaders.com), a nonprofit that helps develop emerging leaders under the philosophy that each child is born with leadership qualities.

Tim believes that "every kid can be a leader, because leadership is about influence." He trains high school and college students with skills to serve at school, work, home, and the community. Since founding Growing Leaders, he has spoken to more than 350,000 students and staff on hundreds of campuses across the country.

Preparing tomorrow's leaders today means equipping young people to do things without help, which translates into well-balanced adults and successful professionals at work. He is committed to developing young leaders, Tim has written more than 25 books, including the best-selling, Habitudes: Images that Form Leadership Habits and Attitudes®, Artificial Maturity: Helping Kids Meet the Challenge of Becoming Authentic Adults, Generation iY: Our Last Chance to Save Their Future, Life Giving Mentors, and Nurturing the Leader Within Your Child.



**Brian Mendler** has extensive experience working with challenging students in general ed, self-contained, and inclusion settings. He provides staff development training for K-12 educators throughout the world with the focus on how to be successful with even the most difficult students. He trains tens of thousands of educators every year and is a highly regarded dynamic speaker.

Brian Mendler has extensive experience working with challenging students in general ed, self-contained, and inclusion settings. You will find that Brian has a unique prospective that he teaches from, that of a former student who struggled with a learning disability and severe ADHD. Educators love his seminars, because he is able to provide strategies that work immediately for today's youth.

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2006	Mrs. Rae Ann Gerhardt	1991	Dr. Ann Considine
2005	Mrs. Rebecca Kelley	1990	Ms. Bonnie Bell Davis
2004	Mr. Victor Morgan	1989	Ms. Barbara Boyer
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#### **SAVE THE DATES 2018**

#### 2018 CEC Special Education Convention and Expo

- Tampa, FL
- Wednesday, February 7 Friday, February 10, 2018

#### LEArn and LEAd Drive-In Conference

- Barrow County
- Wednesday, February 14, 2018
- Thursday, February 15, 2018

#### Spring 2018 G-CASE Legal Forum

- The Classic Center, Athens, GA
- Monday, March 5 Wednesday, March 7, 2018

#### **Annual CASE Fall Conference 2018**

- Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS
- Wednesday, November 7 Saturday, November 10, 2018

#### **G-CASE 2018 Fall Conference**

- · Marriott Savannah Riverfront, Savannah, GA
- Wednesday, November 14 Friday, November 16, 2018

#### Spring 2019 G-CASE Legal Forum

- The Classic Center, Athens, GA
- Monday, March 18 Wednesday, March 20, 2019

## **NOTES**

## The Marriott Savannah Riverfront

