



Official Newsletter of the Illinois Subdivision of the Division for
Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children

Volume 19, Issue 3

Message from the IDEC President...

Connie Shugart

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Find us on the web at

[http://illinois-
dec.org/](http://illinois-dec.org/)

The *IDEC Newsletter* is a quarterly publication of the Illinois Division for Early Childhood. Please send inquiries, comments, and article submissions to:

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Dear IDEC Members,

As I look out the window I see snow, but the calendar assures me it is spring! What does spring symbolize to you? I think about fresh possibilities and growth. Your IDEC Board has been looking at new opportunities for professional development. Would you be interested in participating in webinars, workshops or book studies? What topics are you interested in? Are you interested in becoming more actively involved with the Board?

We are looking for a Membership Chair, Vice President, and Secretary. Further information on the responsibilities for these positions can be found on page 2. This is the time to plan for next year, so please share your thoughts and your talents. I would appreciate hearing your ideas for our future. Please email me at: c-shugart@wiu.edu

Lastly, do you know someone who has made a difference in the field of Early Childhood? Please think about nominating that person for the Jeanette A. McCollum Award for Service to the Field. This award will be presented at the 2013 Sharing A Vision Conference. More information can be found on page 3.

Please consider a fresh start with your commitment to IDEC this spring!

Sincerely,

Connie Shugart

Plan to Attend Upcoming IDEC Meetings!

April 30, 2013 - 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Holiday Inn and Suites, Bloomington
(prior to Early Childhood Outcomes Illinois Faculty Summit)

Save the Date for IDEC Meeting at Sharing A Vision: October 3, 2013,
11:45am-1:15pm

IDEC Nominations Needed

Looking for a way to get more involved with families and their young children with disabilities or at risk of developing a disability? IDEC has leadership positions available in which **YOU can make a difference!**

Currently, there are two positions that need to be filled by election: **Vice-President** and **Secretary**. The elected officers will begin their terms on July 1, 2013. The IDEC Vice-President cycles through three other positions (President-Elect, President, Past President), thus committing to four years of participation. Although this sounds like a long time, it works to the Vice-President's advantage with regard to working with and being mentored by the other officers currently in these positions.

The **Vice-President** gradually assumes more responsibility for leadership rather than being immediately thrust into the position of President. As outlined in the IDEC By-Laws (available on the IDEC website: <http://illinois-dec.org>), specific tasks of the Vice-President include the following:

- (a) serve in the President's place and with his/her authority in the case of absence or inability of the President and President-Elect;
- (b) accept designated responsibilities that will provide training experiences that offer advancement to the office of President-Elect and President; and
- (c) serve as Chair (or Co-Chair) of a committee on the Sharing A Vision (SAV) state conference planning committee, assisting the President-elect as necessary. The Vice-President also serves as the liaison with the Illinois Council for Exceptional Children (ICEC).

The **IDEC Secretary** serves a two-year term. Per the IDEC By-laws the tasks include the following:

- (a) keep records of all proceedings of the annual business meetings, Executive & Governing Board meetings, as well as copies of SAV meeting minutes and other correspondence as necessary for the operation of the organization,
- (b) archive state conference SAV planning committee minutes,
- (c) maintain archives or designate member to store annually; document who and where this will be on a yearly basis, and
- (d) track & maintain documentation related to amendments to the Subdivision Constitution and By-laws.

If you are interested in one of these positions or know an IDEC member who might be interested, please let Julie Evans know by Wednesday, **May 1, 2013**. You may contact her at jevans@isbe.net.

Search for a New Membership Chair

The IDEC Board is searching for a member to serve as the **Membership Chair** position. This is a fun opportunity to serve your state professional organization. Sharon Doubet is currently serving in this capacity and would like to offer continued support to someone who would like to grow in the area of service to their profession.

This position will begin on **July 1, 2013**.

According to IDEC By-Laws, Article IV, Section 3, the Membership Chair shall:

1. Maintain an active record of members and provide the Executive Board a list upon request.
2. Maintain an active program for the recruitment of new members.
3. Keep a written record of the activities conducted to maintain and increase membership.
4. Support DEC and CEC in their follow-up of membership renewals.

Please contact Sharon Doubet with any questions. sdoubet@ilstu.edu

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
Jeanette A. McCollum Award for Service to the Field
Illinois Division for Early Childhood (IDEC)

You are invited to submit the name of an individual for the Jeanette A. McCollum Award for Service to the Field. This award is given to an individual who meets the high standards of professional practice set by Jeanette A. McCollum. Jeanette is a leader in research and personnel preparation in the field of early intervention/early childhood special education, professor emeritus at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, and has contributed significantly within Illinois and to the International Division for Early Childhood (IDEC).

Candidates for the Jeanette A. McCollum Award shall meet the following criteria:

1. Be a professional in an agency or an organization in the field of early intervention/early childhood (Birth-8), family member, student or community member, or an area that directly impacts early intervention/early childhood (e.g., government);
2. It is encouraged, but not required, that the candidate be a current member of IDEC;
3. Have made significant contributions on a state, regional, or local level which have improved or will improve the lives of young children with special needs, their families, or those who work on their behalf. Contributions may be in direct services, personnel preparation, leadership, policy development, research, advocacy, or publications and are supportive of the goals of Illinois, IDEC and International IDEC.

An award recipient shall receive a plaque or other commemorative award (trophy, statue, etc.), cash reward, have his/her registration to the Sharing A Vision (SAV) conference waived, one-year complimentary membership into IDEC/CEC, and have details of their award published in the Illinois IDEC newsletter.

Please send nominations (letter of support outlining the three criteria above and any additional supporting documentation) to Julie Evans at the e-mail address listed below **by June 15, 2013**. The outcome of this review process will be determined by August 15, 2013 and the award will be presented at the 2013 *Sharing a Vision* Conference in Springfield, IL in October 2013. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Julie Evans.

Julie Evans, JAM Committee Chairperson
Email: jevans@isbe.net

OSEP Policy Documents Available Online

On October 8, 2012, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) posted its [First Quarter 2012 Policy Letters](#) (January 1 through March 31, 2012) online. These letters address issues related to the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). A [Federal Register Notice](#) published on September 13, 2012 includes brief summaries of the quarterly letters. A [subset of OSEP policy letters](#) related to the early childhood provisions of the IDEA (Part C and Part B, Section 619) can be accessed on the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTAC) website,

<http://ectacenter.org/>



Registration is Now Open For Sharing A Vision Conference!

**Celebrating the Past
Embracing the Future**
October 2-4, 2013
Crowne Plaza, Springfield

Join us at the upcoming Sharing a Vision conference. There will be nine pre-conference sessions to choose from, as well as over 60 regular workshops. We hope you will plan on attending this wonderful professional development opportunity.

Further information and registration can be found at www.sharingavision.org

Keynote Speakers for SAV 2013

Jim Gill, musician and author of children's music CD's and books

Kathy Buckley, comedienne and inspirational speaker



Conference is coordinated by Illinois Division for Early Childhood (IDEC)
and sponsored by ISBE, IDHS, IDEC and Illinois Head Start.

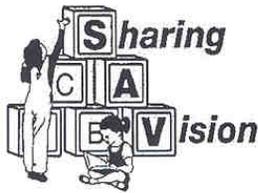
For information on the Children's Art Exhibit and submitting works of art, see page 5.

Showcase Your Unique Work at Sharing a Vision!

Showcasing is an opportunity for participants to present unique features about their programs, innovative ideas or techniques, or share the results of research and evaluation efforts. Complete an application and you may be chosen to display and present your work at Sharing a Vision Conference in Springfield, October 3-4, 2013. Each Showcase session is awarded **one free registration**.

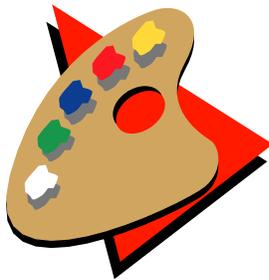
For more information visit the conference website:

<http://sharingavision.org/conf/2013/index.html>



Creative Expressions Art Gallery

The **2013 Sharing a Vision: Celebrating the Past; Embracing the Future Conference** will feature the “exhibition and raffle” of young children’s artwork gathered from around the State of Illinois.



Where: Crowne Plaza Springfield

When: October 2, 3 and 4, 2013

In order to make this a successful event, we are requesting donations from children who are attending early childhood programs, Birth-Age 8. Items will be collected **through August 1st.**

Participating programs will have the chance to **win** new art supplies for their classroom!



PLEASE NOTE

- Select items that show creativity and originality.
- **NO** items will be returned.
- Conference participants will have the opportunity to purchase artwork through a raffle process or “**BUY IT NOW**” option which will allow artwork to be purchased immediately.
- A signed “**Parental Consent Form**” must accompany each item. Your Art Committee Representative will provide you with the consent form.
- Also, please attach a photograph of the child engaged in “creating” their artwork.



CRITERIA

- 2-Dimensional paintings & drawings cannot exceed: 16”x20” (media: paint, crayons, markers, etc.).
- 3-Dimensional objects cannot exceed: 8½” x 11” base and 24” high (media: clay, paper, wood, metal, plastic, etc.).
- No fragile items (items must be transportable).

Contact one of your local art committee representatives to make arrangements for the delivery of quality art gallery items.

Jennifer Weidner
217/923-5141 Ext. 251
jennifer@erbainc.org

Anna Owen
309/799-9895
Ak-owen@wiu.edu

Ann Curtis
309-333-9404
AL-Curtis@wiu.edu

Preparing Illinois Principals to Lead Educational Communities of Young Children

by Robin Miller Young

In Spring 2011, the state of Illinois legislature changed principal certification from a K-12 Certificate to a P-12 Certificate. With the passage of this law, Illinois became the first state to require principals to demonstrate competencies in leading educational communities along the entire age continuum. Furthermore, all principal preparation programs in Illinois are now required to incorporate new content and field experiences so principals are capable and effective leaders of school communities and programs that address student learning and school improvement for young children (students in early childhood programs), English Language Learners (ELLs), and students with disabilities (i.e., have an Individualized Education Program – IEP). By 2014, all preparation programs must be approved by the Illinois Teacher Certification Board under the new program criteria or face being shut down.

Work supporting the redesign process of principal preparation programs has been provided by the Center for the Study of Education Policy (CSEP) at Illinois State University (ISU) through the Leadership to Integrate the Learning Continuum (LINC) project. The broad goal of the LINC project is to support “Birth to Grade Three” initiatives that will create a “Seamless Learning Continuum” so that children and their families can have their needs met in systems that communicate well with one another along the age continuum and across the various sectors (i.e., public and private). Significant financial support to the project has been provided by the McCormick Foundation, a philanthropic organization that provides support for a variety of early childhood initiatives in Illinois.

At this time, what can the members of IDEC do to support the preparation of principals across Illinois who can meet this ambitious charge?

1. Encourage our best and brightest teachers to seek the new P-12 Principal Certificate. Eighteen (18) higher education institutions have been approved to start enrolling candidates into the revised programs as of February 2012; so, those early childhood and early childhood special education teachers who would be terrific leaders should be coached and mentored into considering the principalship as their next career objective. If we don’t identify the leadership potential within our current teachers and coach them into seeking the rewards and benefits of the principalship, then gradually the leaders of our school-based programs will come from the elementary, middle and high school levels rather than early childhood and preschool programs. Our early childhood schools and programs need a blend of leaders from different backgrounds, so let’s promote attaining the principalship as a goal for those with leadership potential.

2. If you are in higher education, approach the staff member in your educational leadership department who is taking the lead with the redesign efforts about collaborating on the design and delivery of the course content. Model a co-teaching lesson, offer to be a guest speaker and suggest print and media resources that will support mastery of the course content and objectives. One resource is the LINC Curriculum (<http://leadershiplinc.illinoisstate.edu/LINC-Training/>; check with Lisa Hood at lhood@ilstu.edu for access to the training and codes), a set of sixteen (16), one-hour modules developed by members of the early childhood and early childhood special education

here in Illinois, to support pre-service and in-service skill development for promising leaders of early childhood communities. In terms of research you are conducting, think of ways to dovetail your research agenda with that of an educational leadership colleague so that we learn more about developing effective leaders for our early learning communities. In terms of service, look to see how you can get involved in university-based collaborative efforts to support the continuous improvement process to make sure the programs are up-dated and are continually evaluated to meet the needs of young children and their families. Also, look to see where you can provide service to the field to support developing these aspiring leaders into the compassionate and effective leaders our communities need and deserve.

3. If you are in the field, find ways to connect with your current principals around the “field experiences” these principal candidates will be required to have. Let your principal know that you would be willing to serve on a steering committee to create and/or expand your school’s and district’s partnership within the nearby principal preparation programs. Offer to be interviewed on a topic, such as Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS/RtI) models that you are putting into place, family-centered practices that support families in the transition process from EI (Early Intervention) through the preschool program options, and then on to the home elementary buildings for kindergarten, etc. Invite a principal intern to a team meeting and let him/her get to know how you plan intentional instruction that provides scaffolding to meet children’s individual needs within your core program with your speech pathologist and teacher assistants.

There are endless possibilities for supporting the development of caring and compassionate, skilled and knowledgeable leaders who can move our programs and schools forward into evidence-based practices that meet the needs of all children and their families, as they move along the age continuum. IDEC plans to stay connected to the Center for the Study of Education Policy (CSEP) and will continue serving as a liaison between the CSEP and the IDEC membership to support leadership development that benefits families and children with disabilities, and those children who are at-risk of developing disabilities.

The CSEP also operates a terrific listserv to keep members up-to-date on leadership news and resources; EDUCATOR-L@LISTSERV.ILSTU.EDU. You can join the list-serv by e-mailing Erika Hunt at ELHunt@ilstu.edu who serves as the listserv moderator.

Robin Miller Young retired in June 2012 from her position as Student Services Coordinator and EI Transition Coordinator at Prairie Children Preschool, Indian Prairie SD # 204 ECE/ECSE Program in Aurora. She currently works with the Illinois Resource Center (IRC) and the RtI in EC Steering Committee to assist programs who are moving into RTI practices.

Early Childhood/Preschool Leadership Opportunities

Community Consolidated School District # 93, Bloomingdale - Principal

On-line application: www.ccsd93.com Email for more information: cbrennan@ccsd93.com

Richton Square Early Childhood Center, Richton Park - Assistant Principal

Online application: www.sd162.org Email for more information: lstanton@sd162.org

St Charles School District (# 303) - Assistant Director for Early Childhood

[https://www.applitrack.com/d303/onlineapp/_application.aspx?
posjobcodes=1369&ref=www.k12jobspot.com](https://www.applitrack.com/d303/onlineapp/_application.aspx?posjobcodes=1369&ref=www.k12jobspot.com)

New RTI Position Paper Available

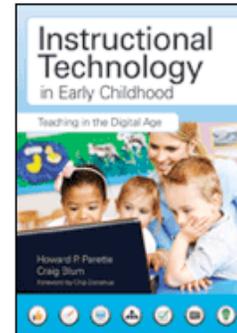
Frameworks for Response to Intervention in Early Childhood: Description and Implications

This joint position paper developed by the Division for Early Childhood, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and the National Head Start Association provides response-to-intervention frameworks as they relate to early childhood programs. The document can be downloaded at:

http://www.dec-sped.org/uploads/docs/about_dec/position_concept_papers/DEC_NAEYC_NHSA%20Joint%20Paper%20on%20RTI%20in%20Early%20Childhood_final.pdf

Integrating Technology Into Today's Classrooms

Instructional Technology in Early Childhood: Teaching in the Digital Age, is a new resource, edited by Drs. Howard P. Parette Jr. and Craig Blum, that presents a framework for using diverse instructional technology options to improve student outcomes and engagement. Using the “EXPECT IT-PLAN IT-TEACH IT-SOLVE IT” model, early childhood teachers can use the practical strategies to easily integrate instructional technology to enhance planned classroom instructional activities. By weaving technology into every part of the school day, the book strengthens inclusion for young children with disabilities, and supports emergent reading, writing, positive behavior, and social communication. The model has been field tested for several years in *Technology and Young Children with Disabilities*, an early childhood course taught at Illinois State University. A cadre of recent publications provides support for the conceptual model, and reviews from experts in the field attest to both the soundness and pragmatics of the connections made between standards and benchmarks, selection of technology, instructional strategies, assessment approaches, teaching, and assistive technology consideration. The textbook will be available in April 2013. Further information can be found at the following link:



<http://products.brookespublishing.com/Instructional-Technology-in-Early-Childhood-P672.aspx>

IDEC MEMBER MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Dr. Maribeth Lartz



What do you get when you cross one very determined IDEC member, one great idea, and an available grant? Hundreds of changed lives!

Seven years ago Dr. Maribeth Lartz wrote a grant with the intent to address the need for training in the area of cochlear implants and development of listening and spoken language skills in infants and toddlers who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. That grant was funded and the impact was felt throughout Illinois. Tracy Meehan was hired to coordinate the project in 2008. She explains, “A second grant was funded in 2010 and the newest one began January 1, 2013.” The grant was funded by the U.S. Department of Education, (OSERS), CFDA 84.325K, and is called *AIM TO BE AHEAD: An Interdisciplinary Model to Offer Babies Early Auditory Habilitation, Education and Development*. As a result of their efforts through the project “... 40 providers have received the Developmental Therapy/Hearing or Speech-Language Therapy credential in early intervention and are serving families across the state,” says Mrs. Meehan. Dr. Lartz reflects, “I think the area of impact that I am most proud of is starting collaboration and communication across the state with professionals serving children in early intervention. People across the state are now co-treating and teaming with professionals and agencies that they never had relationships with before. And, of course, children who never would have received appropriate services from someone trained and experienced in working with hearing loss are now getting services. It is wonderful to be part of that.”

Dr. Lartz has been in the Deaf Education Teacher Preparation program at Illinois State University (ISU) for 30 years. Her passion and love for her work is certainly evident as she talks with excitement about her current projects. When speaking of her career at ISU, she admits it has been “...quite a journey...[and she’s] loved every minute of it!” It is no wonder she was named Outstanding Professor of the Year for the College of Education in 2004.

Casey, her husband of almost 32 years, is her life inspiration for his tireless support in getting her to, “finish [her] dissertation all those years ago when [she] wanted to quit.” Today they live in Bloomington where they are active in their church and are the parents of three daughters. Their oldest daughter lives with her husband in Champaign. The second daughter is at Washington University in the Doctor of Audiology program in St. Louis. And their youngest is a freshman in high school. Dr. Lartz reports that she lives by the wisdom of her youngest: YOLO, You Only Live Once!

We recognize and thank Dr. Maribeth Lartz, Professor and Principal Investigator, as an inspirational **IDEC MEMBER MAKING A DIFFERENCE**. One last piece of advice from this outstanding member, “Always try to find a project coordinator who is as good as Tracy Meehan!!”

Submitted by Mindy Ely, IDEC Publications Committee Co-Chair

Illinois State University Receives Grant for Deaf Education

U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services has granted funding to Illinois State University for *AIM TO BE AHEAD: An Interdisciplinary Model to Offer Babies Early Auditory Habilitation, Education and Development*. This grant will operate for five years and will train professionals in four cohorts of students.

Applications for the first cohort are being accepted through mid-April of 2013, and classes will start in summer 2013. All courses and supervised practicum experiences will be offered tuition free to accepted students. Each academic year, a cohort of 10-12 deaf education teachers, speech-language pathologists and audiologists will complete a five-course sequence of courses and fieldwork/professional practice including two practicum experiences. Upon successful completion, candidates will have earned a graduate certificate: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Listening and Spoken Language Professional from Illinois State University as well as having completed the core knowledge competency areas needed to apply for the early intervention credential in Illinois. The program will address the needs of existing personnel to improve their knowledge and skills in two primary areas:

1. Enhancing the auditory and spoken language skills in the child; and
2. Developing the competencies specific to working with infants, toddlers and their families

Those interested in more information about the project should contact Tracy Meehan, Project Coordinator, at tmeehan@ilstu.edu.



DEC's 29th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families

October 16-18, 2013

Hilton San Francisco Union Square
San Francisco, California

<http://www.dec-sped.org/Conference>



CHICAGO
BOTANIC
GARDEN

**FROM OUR NOSES TO OUR TOES:
Exploring Nature With All Our Senses**
A workshop for early intervention providers and parents

**Wednesday, August 7, 2013
at the Chicago Botanic Garden
1000 Lake-Cook Rd., Glencoe, IL 60022
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Fee: \$85**

Grade level: Teachers of Infants – Pre-K



Join us for a fun-filled day open to anyone who works with infants and toddlers. Learn techniques for introducing nature to little people through sensory exploration and hands-on learning “stations.”

This class is designed for early intervention providers, day-care providers, parents, and anyone who works with infants to three-year-olds, and it is adaptable for pre-K educators.

**Approved by the Early Intervention Training Program for 6.5 Hours
(1 Hour Typical Development, 4.5 Hours Intervention Strategies
and 1 Hour Working With Families)**

Additional Credit: 7 CPDUs

**Register at [http://www.chicagobotanic.org/ctl/teacherprograms/
summer.php](http://www.chicagobotanic.org/ctl/teacherprograms/summer.php)**



New Resources from the Illinois Early Learning Project

Blog by Susan Fowler

Starting Kindergarten? Help make it a good experience! Adaptations for children with special needs and their families.

<http://illinoisearlylearning.org/blogs/sf-kinder.htm>

Blog by Lilian Katz

Documentation: The Basics, Part 1

<http://illinoispip.org/blogs/katz/2013feb16.html>

Revised Resource List

Encouraging Literacy Development in Preschoolers

<http://illinoisearlylearning.org/reslist/literacy-ps.htm>

Helping Your Child Learn in Two Languages - tip sheet in Arabic!

<http://illinoisearlylearning.org/tipsheets-ar/bilingual-ar.pdf>

IEL has a new Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/illinoisearlylearning?ref=ts&fref=ts>

Little kids, big impact

GET A GRADUATE DEGREE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

With our master's degree in early childhood special education, you'll make a difference in families' lives when it matters most—when their children are small.

You'll specialize in both early intervention (birth to age three) and early childhood special education (ages three to five). The challenges of graduate school will be made easier as you learn and grow with a cohort of fellow grad students who start and stay together across the entire program. This two-year, part-time program is the only one in the Chicago area that blends the important fields of early intervention, early childhood education, and special education.

*Meeting you where you are.
Taking you where you want to go.*

Information Sessions

Wednesday, April 24, 6:00 p.m.
Frick Center, Founders Lounge
Elmhurst College

[Learn more and reserve your space.](#)

Visit: www.elmhurst.edu/chooseElmhurst
Call: (630) 617-3300
Email: oaga@elmhurst.edu

Follow us on

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 twitter.com/SPSelmhurst



**Illinois School for the Visually Impaired to Hold
30th Annual Parent Infant Institute: Opening Doors
June 5-8, 2013 - Jacksonville**



The Illinois School for the Visually Impaired will be holding its 30th Annual Parent Infant Institute, called “Opening Doors,” June 5-8 on their campus in Jacksonville. This event is open statewide for up to 25 families of children with vision loss, aged birth to five. Families stay free of charge on the school campus for the four days. Parents are provided a rare opportunity to meet and network with other parents of children with vision loss. Many say they develop lasting friendships with fellow parents while at Opening Doors. Parents attend informational sessions throughout the days and evenings on topics such as early literacy, sports for children with vision loss, dining and sleep issues, orientation and mobility. While parents attend session, their child is in a small classroom setting where they have opportunities for developmentally appropriate activities and social interaction with other children, and are provided functional vision and orientation and mobility consultations by professionals.

Special presentations will be given on a wide range of topics specific to this age range. There will be a special “Ask the Doctor” session where parents will be able to ask Dr. Michael Zost, an Optometrist from Chicago, specific questions about their own child’s vision loss. Staff and consultants for the event are from the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired, in addition to experts from around Illinois in the field of vision loss and early intervention.

Assistance to families related to transportation and transportation expenses is available.

For more information, contact Gail Olson at gail.olson@illinois.gov.

**Conference for Parents of Children with Hearing Loss
South of Seventy
April 13, 2013 - Mt. Vernon**

Conference topics include:

Assistive Technology; the IEP; Literacy; Sibling Issues; Deaf Culture

CPDU and EI credits are available.

Financial assistance may be available for parents to help with travel, lodging, and childcare costs.

To register:

By phone, call toll-free 1-877-339-2686

By fax, 1-217-479-4328

Online, go to: http://morgan.k12.il.us/isd/outreach_events.html

JOINING DEC IS FUN, EASY AND IMPORTANT!

If you are interested in joining the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and the Division of Early Childhood (DEC), go to www.cec.sped.org and click on Membership. Follow the directions to join or print out the Membership Form and mail it. If you are already a member, you can renew your membership online also.

Cost for membership varies according to your position.

For example, if you wish to join as a Professional: First join CEC, the CEC dues for Illinois as a Professional are \$122; then choose to add the Division of Early Childhood (DEC) which is \$35 for Professional. Total cost is \$157.

If you wish to join as a Student, first join CEC. The CEC dues for Illinois as a Student are \$71. Then choose to add the Division of Early Childhood (DEC) which is \$15 for Students. Total cost is \$86.

The chart below lists other types of membership choices. Please review the descriptions for each on the cec.sped.org website.

Organization Dues	Premier	Professional	Retired	Student/Family
IL CEC Dues	200	122	71	71
IL DEC Dues	35	35	35	15
TOTAL Annual Dues	\$235	\$157	\$106	\$86

If you are already a member, please invite and encourage a colleague to join.

Technology in Early Childhood Center Offers Webinar Series



Early Childhood Investigations is hosting a series of **free webinars** offered through the TEC Center at Erikson Institute.

Digital & Media Literacy - Practical Pedagogy Behind Successful Technology Integration in ECE - Faith Rogow - April 17, 2013

Using Developmentally Appropriate Practice with Early Learners to Evaluate Apps - Gail Lovely - October 16, 2013

ECE Tech Trends in 2013 and New Directions for 2014 - Warren Buckleitner - November 17, 2013

For a complete list of upcoming webinars and to register, visit

<http://www.earlychildhoodwebinars.com/>