



Connecticut Association of
Private Special Education Facilities



FEBRUARY 25, 2019

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 4

You are receiving this Newsletter because you were a CAPSEF member within the past year. If you haven't already continued your membership, please do so to continue receiving this valuable content!

CAPSEF's Annual Professional Development Conference

Evidence Based Practice: Differentiating Strategies for Common Issues

Contact Info...

CAPSEF
701 Hebron Avenue,
3rd Floor
Glastonbury, CT
06033

Tel: 860.525.1318
Fax: 860.541.6484

Email:
info@capsef.org

Keynote Speakers

Mary E. "Betsy" Donovan, BS, MS
Kitty Clemens, LCSW
Cedarhurst School

Plus:

9 Breakout options with two sessions
Apple Awards
Continental Breakfast & Lunch Provided

Wednesday, March 20th, 2019
Farmington Marriot
15 Farm Springs Rd. Farmington CT

Please see that attached packet for more information!

Recap of our most recent event...

On February 14th, 2019, Oak Hill hosted a panel discussion and workgroup session regarding how we define and collect data regarding meaningful outcomes. We were joined by CSDE members who gave their perspective on how we may determine effectiveness, and then we broke off into sub-groups dependent on the populations we serve. Participants reported that they appreciated the opportunity to brainstorm with comparable programs, and we will continue to collaborate on this process.

Connecticut's Legislative Session

Connecticut began its new legislative session January 9th 2019 and they are actively considering legislation that may impact fellow stakeholders and us. We encourage you to contact your local State Senators and Representatives to let them hear your concerns regarding education and the challenges we face as Approved Private Special Education Facilities. Members from both your own home district, and the district your school is located, should be happy to hear your voice.

Here are a few tips to consider:

- Know your representative --- Personal contact is powerful (Senate, House, local). Invite them to your school, ask them to read to students, enjoy a cup of coffee, let them see your program as an asset to their district and you as a leader with expertise.
- General Assembly --- cga.ct.gov = Excellent Resource. Timely information in minutes. You can follow bills – content, status, sponsors, and testimony. You can track any committee work – such as the Education Committee Meetings, hearings. You will know which committee members are essential to your issues.
- Sit in on an Education. Committee Meeting; take in a Public Hearing; watch a broadcast from the Capitol; it can be worthwhile.
- Keep all verbal and written communications and testimony clear and concise --- need to represent that which is most important. Try to limit your priorities to the top three or four; fewer is better. Written communication should fit on one page for any presentation.

If you do not know who your legislators are, please visit:

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp>



Get Involved!

If you are interested in working with the CAPSEF team on any of the following committees, please contact Allyson Deckman at info@capsef.org

*Legislative
Committee*

*Professional
Development
Committee*

*Membership
Committee*

*Communications
Committee*

Finance Committee

*Strategic
Planning*

Save the Dates: Upcoming CAPSEF Events

March 20, 2019 – Annual Professional Development Conference
7:30 AM– 3:30 PM
Farmington Marriot

April 25, 2019- Preparing for State Mandates
8:00 – 10:00 AM
Raymond Hill School – New Britain

Don't Forget! Services and Benefits of Belonging to CAPSEF include:

- Aggressive lobbying efforts at the State Capitol in Hartford, CT
- Access to our website (www.capsef.org) and links to hot topics in special education
- Leadership mentoring
- Consulting for the State Department of Education approval process
- Technology support and training opportunities
- Annual conference and professional development opportunities (including CEUs)
- Networking and information sessions on current topics and issues (i.e. Restraint and Seclusion, Suspension, Motivation, ED/LD Guidelines, Medicaid and Certification)



Who we are...

CAPSEF is an association of private schools which provide quality, cost effective, special education and related services to the special needs children and adolescents (birth-21) of CT who benefit from individualized academic, behavioral, social and vocational programs designed to enable them to succeed in the latest restrictive environment.