CASE excellence through collaboration
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March 10, 2023

Countywide Institute Day Events

Jimmy Casas delivered an inspirational County-Wide Institute Day presentation to approximately 500 attendees from CASE member districts. Based on his latest books, Recalibrate! and Culturize, Jimmy challenged the audience to look at the important work in education through a new lens to bring about system-wide change and cultivate a healthier culture.

Bridgette Nicholson, Occupational Therapist and Assistive Technology Consultant spoke on a research-based approach for body-brain integration and effective use of technology for all classrooms.

Robyn Maciejewski, CASE SLP, spoke on A Cognitive Linguistic Approach to Speech-Language through a Trauma-Informed Lens.

Recruitment & Hiring

CASE attended several job fairs this month to recruit new talent for a few opening positions for next year:

2023 Illinois State University Spring Educator Career Fair

2023 IASPA Virtual Job Fair

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DHH Learning

Sufia Khan earned her black belt in Taekwondo. She is a 4th grader at **Manor Hill D44**. She is deaf with bilateral cochlear implants. Sufia receives services from Emily Anderson, CASE Hearing Itinerant)

CASE Wellness

As part of the CASE Wellness initiative, Erin Lescher (D15 Social Worker) and Kathryn Caccamo (D16 Speech Language Pathologist) lead yoga sessions twice a month for CASE staff. New this year, CASE utilizes the Mindful Movements Studio in Glen Ellyn for this important wellness initiative.

Glenbard Parents as Teachers Doula Grant

In exiting news, this month, Glenbard Parents as Teachers/CASE was awarded a grant for $332,710 to add to our existing $674,356 home visiting program. This addition is to specifically add the option of doula service for families in the home visiting program. Research consistently shows an improvement in birth outcomes, fewer C-sections, more immediate parent-child bonding, and ALL of these things lead to stronger school success. That's why ISBE chose to target doula service as the next improvement in improving child outcomes.

For many years, doulas were only accessible to programs funded by the IL Dept of Human Services. Now, ISBE has joined forces with DHS to roll out doulas within programs, like ours, that primarily support school districts. We know that many of our moms have had to labor and deliver completely alone, as their husband might not be able to get off work without risking his employment or he is needed at home to stay with older children. Having emotional support during labor and birth is essential for a safe, healthy, and positive experience. We are thrilled to join other local programs in adding doulas to our GPAT team (the ROE PAT program and the District 15 and District 25 programs in Palatine/Arlington Heights are sister-home visiting programs that we already work with closely—they also were awarded the additional doula grant money).