

Why are you here?

Dear friends of Alabama CEC:

Fall is in the air! We can see it in the trees as they change color, smell it in the air (and our kitchens) and feel it in the stadiums. What a great time to be in Alabama!

As we prepare ourselves for all the joys and challenges this season brings (not to mention the paperwork), I wonder...why are we here? Why in the world are we doing what we are doing? Being a teacher in today's society seems to be getting tougher and tougher with each passing year. And yet we stay...and many others join us. Why?

Perhaps it's because we said to ourselves, years ago, that we wanted to "help children," make a difference," or "do something with our lives." As corny as that might sound, its more than likely true, isn't it? Well, good for you, good for us, and good for the children and families of Alabama who depend on you for your dedication, careful planning and creative delivery.

Your Alabama CEC officers and Board of Directors have been busy putting together plans for this coming year...not the least of which is the annual SuperConference which will be February 6th and 7th .at the Riverchase Galleria Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. We have several keynote speakers already lined up who will address this years' theme, "**Believing, Behaving, and Becoming the Best We Can Be.**" Our call for papers is now posted on our website so be sure to mark your calendars and submit your ideas for a session if you'd like. Your Alabama CEC has "gone green" and we are trying to limit paper usage (and save a tree or two). Be sure to respond to our special Conference Planning Website at:

alabamacec2009@gmail.com

Proposals are due November 21st. No paper copies will be accepted so use the email address above to take advantage of this professional opportunity to share your knowledge, skills and or products!

Also, please take a look at the Teacher Incentive Grants! AFCEC will be awarding grants in the following areas:

- * Preschool \$650
- * Elementary \$650
- * Middle \$650
- * High School \$650

Dr. Carmelita Bivens, chair of this project, has put together a very thorough packet that will help you make a good application. These proposals will be due on or before **November 17th**.

Stay tuned for more updates about Alabama CEC activities and let us know how we can support you in your efforts.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

David M. Finn, Ed.D.
President, Alabama CEC