

Dear FASP members, the 2010 legislative session is near and as always, FASP is standing by and is ready to work for you to ensure that legislation is enacted not only to protect the children in our state, but also to protect our profession. While our lobbyists are actively monitoring all activity in Tallahassee the most effective and important way to make gains with legislators is by meeting with them personally and expressing our views to them. While many members write letters and call their Senators or Representatives, the value of a handshake and a few minutes “on the Hill” is hard to replace. I invite you all to join FASP during the annual training of the Council for Exceptional Education in Schools (CEES). This yearly event is your opportunity to visit with your congressional representatives, discuss the FASP legislative platform, and make a difference. In addition, you will have the opportunity to help us present various awards to outstanding legislators for their efforts in promoting education and mental health for children during the 2009 session.

You are all cordially invited to attend the CEES Spring Training March 21-23, 2010 in Tallahassee! Many issues related to exceptional students and their families are slated for discussion during the 2010 Session.

Hotel reservations should be made ASAP directly with the CABOT LODGE-THOMASVILLE ROAD; 1653 RAYMOND DIEHL ROAD; TALLAHASSEE, FL 32308; Phone: **(850)386-7500**. **Mention CEES to receive the discounted rate of \$99/night (includes complimentary breakfast and happy hour)**. (You may also stay at a hotel of your choice – contact me if you need roommates or wish to explore other lodging arrangements.)

There is no registration fee for the training, but I need to know who plans to attend so that I can arrange to correct number of materials. To register for the training, simply email your name and contact info to me to jalutz74@gmail.com.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me.

A preliminary agenda appears below, please note that the agenda is very flexible. Looking forward to seeing you in Tallahassee!!

Joshua Lutz

FASP Legislative Chair

Preliminary Agenda

CEES Spring Training

Sunday, March 21

6-8 p.m. Opening Session

Overview of Guiding Principles

Review of Policy Making Process

Monday, March 22

8:00-8:30 – Registration

8:30 –11:30 General Session

Welcome and Participant Introduction

Update by state policy makers of current issues

Review of current budget proposals

11:30-1:00 Lunch (on your own)

1:00-4:00 General Session

Review of proposed legislation

4:00 – 5:00 Special Awards Presentation

Tuesday, March 23

8:00- 9:00 Review of issues

9:00 – 3:00 Attend committee meetings and related sessions with policy makers