

SDAEYC Newsletter

October 2016 General Membership Letter

In This Issue

2016-2017 Governing Board Members

2017 Annual Conference

Letter from the President

Spotlight on Membership

Spotlight on Public Policy

Anti-Bias Education

Spotlight on Accreditation

Local Affiliate Updates

Quick Links

[SDAEYC](#)
[NAEYC](#)

2016-2017 SDAEYC Governing Board Members

President: Mary Bowne

Vice-President: Loretta Leloux

Past President: Sherrie Bosse

Secretary: Carmen Stewart

Treasurer: Ellen Schlosser

Accreditation Chair: Susan Ratkovsky

Public Policy Chair: Kayla Klein

Membership Chair: Alyssa Erickson

Student Groups Chair: Marissa Miller

Student Representative: Emily Hill

Member-at-Large: Angie Haas

Member-at-Large: Jessica Castleberry

BHAEYC Co-President: Susan Ratkovsky

BHAEYC Co-President: Collene Fletcher

DMAEYC President: Tonya Senger

ECAEYC President: Janice White

SAEYC President: Loretta Leloux

MVAEYC President: Dawna Andersen

Register Today!



Make plans now to attend the
[2017 Early Childhood Education Conference](#)
in **Sioux Falls, SD, April 20-22.**

Be sure to join us at the largest Early Childhood Education conference
in the state.



Greetings!

It seems like time slips away so quickly these days, especially when the weather has been so beautiful outside. Enjoy this time with your children and loved ones, as we know the "white stuff" will be coming sooner than we anticipate.

As many of you already know, NAEYC is undergoing a restructuring process, asking State AEYC Affiliates to review their current and future plans referring to finances, governance, membership, and other various items. NAEYC would like State Affiliates to identify if they should remain as independent Affiliates or combine with other Affiliates to form a unified and solid structure that upholds NAEYC standards, values, and strategic directions. One possibility is having the local Affiliates within the state Affiliate change over to a Chapter Model. These Chapters would have strong connections and relationships with their corresponding Affiliate, however, the Affiliate would be viewed more as the overarching overseer to these Chapters.

As SDAEYC reviewed various manners in which we could restructure, the governing board felt it was in our best interest to remain independent as an Affiliate with the local Affiliates within the state becoming Chapters. This is due to the fact that we are stable in various ways, including finances, governance, policy, legal policies and procedures, and membership. There were only a few components we felt we could improve upon which included a more diverse board, advocating more for ECE across the state, and increasing our membership to an even higher level. We submitted our restructuring application in August and will wait to hear back from NAEYC some time prior to January 2017 regarding our request.

You may have also noticed that membership categories and prices will change. NAEYC created these memberships to attract and retain more ECE professionals overall. This change will not take place until September 2017, however, the specific membership categories will include entry, standard, premium, and family levels. More information about each category will be provided on the NAEYC website soon.

Although these transitions will not occur rapidly, we wanted our members to know what was occurring and the reasoning behind them. If you should have specific questions, you may certainly contact me at mary.bowne@sstate.edu.

Regards,

Mary Bowne
SDAEYC President

Spotlight on Membership-Alyssa Erickson

Hello members!

One of the goals we have been working on is retaining our members. We have decided to start a student mentor program for college students going into early childhood. Each student will be paired with a mentor to help them get involved, help with school work, and help them with the job application process. We are encouraging all student members and all veteran members to join as this will really benefit our community of early childhood educators.

To sign up follow the links below:

Veteran members: <https://goo.gl/forms/hZhJ7aATlawH9gX02>

Student members:
<https://goo.gl/forms/Oif62bGTljebOgZA2>

Thank you for considering joining! We look forward to starting this program to help benefit all members!
Happy fall!!

Spotlight on Public Policy-Kayla Klein

A major focus from our national organization, NAEYC, has been on several of the issues we in the early childhood education field have been facing for quite some time, that of low wages to our educators, lack of knowledge to the importance of early education and the importance of a head start for children entering Kindergarten. These and many other factors point to one very important message, we as early educators need to take a stand and advocate for the changes we wish to see in our field. I urge you to advocate both for yourself and our field in general. To read more on the issues being presented, please view pages like 'early ed for president' on Facebook. I would always encourage you to, as an individual or group, to reach out to your local politicians. There is a link below that will lead you to the page of your

current legislatures - remember someone has to start asking the questions and moving towards change, let that someone be you!

[SD Legislature Link](#)

Anti-Bias Education-Loretta Leloux, SDAEYC Vice President

As our world continues to change, so should our thoughts and viewpoints to ensure that we consistently provide an anti-bias curriculum for young children throughout the year. The upcoming months have a number of holidays and traditions honored by families, so as we plan for the "October - December push" be certain the concepts are developmentally appropriate and the focus is on the children's interests.

Early childhood has a deep belief that all people deserve the opportunity to be successful, and in that belief, educators need to hold true to a comprehensive approach to early education. In the book *Anti-Bias Education for Young Children and Ourselves* by Louise Derman-Sparks & Julie Olsen Edwards, there are fundamental ideas that should be considered for holiday planning. The following list is taken directly from the above stated book: (page 136-137)

- Holidays are only one way to explore diversity.
- There is a difference between learning about and celebrating a holiday.
- Holidays are not universal.
- Every holiday tradition deserves respect.
- Holidays often have deep emotional meaning for people who celebrate them.
- Each family has its own version of holiday traditions, including not celebrating.
- Holidays that have official status usually reflect the beliefs, perspective, and history of the dominant culture.
- Secular or commercialized version of holidays are not culture neutral.
- Changing how a program does holiday activities requires thoughtfulness, sensitivity and patience.

When educators provide children with holiday activities that are anti-bias, it can build their awareness to a diverse world and teach them about similarities and differences. What educators don't want to do is plan a "tourist curriculum" where we oversimplify or stereotype a culture's tradition. This challenges the goals of an anti-bias curriculum.

Read more information regarding this topic by logging on to <http://www.naeyc.org/content/anti-bias-guide-holidays> .

Spotlight on Accreditation-Susan Ratkovsky

Congratulations to the Ellsworth AFB Child Development Center for achieving re-accreditation, they had their assessment visit in July and were awarded their certificate in August. Kudos to that program for all of their hard work to maintain NAEYC Accreditation

Congratulations to the Northern Hills Alliance for Children program, they were awarded a \$500 scholarship from SDAEYC to help offset the cost of preparing for NAEYC Accreditation. There are still funds available for scholarships for programs preparing for NAEYC Accreditation, the application is available on the SDAEYC website.

This was taken from the June 2016 Accreditation E Update
30 Years as the Gold Standard

For 30 years, NAEYC Accreditation has been setting the standard for quality early childcare and ensuring families have access to great learning environments for their children. NAEYC currently accredits nearly 7,000 early childcare programs serving more than 600,000 children.

Why NAEYC Accreditation?

NAEYC Accreditation is important because it ensures that early childhood programs are providing a safe and healthy environment for children and offering instruction from teachers that are well-trained and teaching from a diverse curriculum with effective teaching materials. Early childhood programs that achieve NAEYC Accreditation make a commitment to providing high-quality early learning experiences to their communities.

Celebrating 30 Years of Accomplishments

While this campaign is about looking back and celebrating 30 years' worth of accomplishments, it is also just as much about looking into the future. As we continue to listen to the needs of programs, educators and the field, we are working to increase the reach and impact of NAEYC Accreditation. By working to increase the number of NAEYC Accredited programs and visibility in the early child care field, we will be able to reach as many children as possible and continue to raise awareness of the importance of quality learning environments for our children and communities.

Updates from the Local Affiliates

Missouri Valley AEYC

Missouri Valley hosted a "Loose Parts" workshop on Sunday, September 25th. MVAEYC members who attended received a copy of the book "Loose Parts" by Lisa Daly and Miriam Beloglovsky, and Jamie Barnett was the lucky recipient of a "Loose Parts" door prize. Additional workshops are planned for Yankton and Beresford in the coming months. MVAEYC in conjunction with the USD NAEYC student group will be holding a bake sale fundraiser at the end of October. The proceeds will be used for sponsoring a meal at the local Welcome Table during Week of the Young Child. The next meeting for MVAEYC is scheduled for November 15th at 4 p.m. at St. Agnes School in Vermillion.

Black Hills AEYC

Collene Fletcher, Co-President

The Black Hills AEYC has been meeting once a quarter for the last couple of years, usually at the Rapid City Library from 10:00-12:00. Our membership is hovering a bit below 50 but we discussed at our last meeting ways to possibly reach out to the student community. If possible, at each meeting we provide a training time that helps attendees meet state requirements for annual trainings. At our next meeting scheduled for January 7 we will be having a cookie exchange.

Each year we sponsor a reading booth at the YSF Kid's Fair and host a Stand for Children's Day event in June at Storybook Island in Rapid City. Stand For Children's Day has been our largest yearly outreach event with approximately 300-400 children and families stopping by. We set up sensory tables, face painting, cupcake decorating, story times, and a rabbit petting zoo. The community loves it and looks forward to coming each year. Next year we also plan on joining in on the Kid's Carnival put on at Main Street Square in downtown Rapid City also in June.

If you are interested in more information, please contact Susan Ratkovsky or Collene Fletcher at bhaeyc@gmail.com or find our Facebook group BHAEYC.

Siouxland AEYC

Loretta Leloux, President

Happy Fall from SAEYC! We are excited about starting the upcoming year and the opportunity to work with SDAEYC on the restructuring process. Just recently the Siouxland Board spent time brainstorming ways to increase membership, promote networking and celebrate the WOYC. Through this discussion, the Board planned a membership meeting on September 20th at 6:30 PM on campus of Southeast Tech. This will be an opportunity for all members to share their insight on the upcoming year.

In addition, SAEYC will host a "kick-off" science activity to entice members to sign up for the SAEYC winter book club showcasing Dr. Bob's Big Book-a-trix. For more information, check out the book. More information will be coming regarding this opportunity, so stay tuned!

<http://www.childspace.co.nz/catalog/Dr.-Bob-38/Dr-Bobs-Big-Book-a-trix--108.html>