History of FASD
The Florida Association for Staff Development (FASD) has its roots in the Florida Teacher Education Center Act of 1973. This forward-looking legislation established funding for a model collaborative relationship among teachers, school districts, universities, and the Florida Department of Education (DOE).

Beliefs, Vision, and Mission

FASD Beliefs
1. Effective and sustained professional learning is fundamental to student learning.
2. All educators have an obligation to improve their practice.
3. More students achieve when educators assume collective responsibility for student learning.
4. Successful leaders create and sustain a culture of learning.
5. Improving student learning and professional practice requires ongoing systemic and organizational change.

FASD Vision
Excellent teaching, learning, and leading every day.

FASD Mission
FASD builds capacity to establish, support, and sustain highly effective professional learning.
Can you believe it’s already November? With fall in full swing, you’ve probably planned fall festivals, sports activities, and holiday events, but what did you plan for YOU? This is a great time to think about your professional learning! Pause a moment to consider your opportunities to “stretch” during the coming months. Is there a great book that you’ve been meaning to read? A webinar you wanted to attend? An online course you plan to complete? This year offers plenty of options to invest in yourself! Remember to include these opportunities from FASD and from our national organization, Learning Forward.

The **Annual Learning Forward Conference** will be held in Orlando in just a few weeks. Join your colleagues at the Welcome Reception and Affiliate Networking event on Sunday, December 3, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Meet other professionals from Florida, the Southeast US, and around the world during this exciting Sunday evening event, which kicks off three days of learning hosted by our national organization.

The **FASD Spring Forum** will return this year as a face-to-face event, tentatively set for mid-late April 2018. As always, engaging presentations by colleagues and friends will be followed by networking opportunities to learn more during and after the conference. Watch for more information coming soon!

Our **FASD Fall Leadership Conference** always offers stimulating conversations, intriguing ideas, and critical updates in an amazingly tranquil beach environment at the Tradewinds Resort in St. Pete Beach. Mark your calendar for September 24 – 26, 2018 to attend this event.

I look forward to seeing you at one of these information packed events. This promises to be an exciting year for professional learning.

Sincerely,

Barbara Eubanks, President
Even in tough economic times, effective professional learning remains the single most powerful lever for improving educator effectiveness to increase student achievement. Attendance at Learning Forward’s Annual Conference is the best investment you can make to learn about professional learning that advances educator and student performance. The conference offers education leaders the connections, tools, learning opportunities, and resources they need to understand high-quality professional learning and embed it in the school day. However, we know that making the case to attend conferences can be difficult, which is why the staff from Learning Forward has built a justification toolkit that contains tools and tips to help support resource allocation requests, and to clarify how attendance at the conference will help you, your colleagues, and the students your impact.

### Justify Your Attendance at the Learning Forward Annual Conference

Here are a few key tips and points to share regarding how your attendance will benefit to your organization.

Explain specifically what you **plan to learn** by attending the conference and how that will benefit your peers and the students in your school or district.

In addition to your personal learning goals, here are other popular benefits for attendees:

- Network opportunities with other education professionals experiencing similar challenges;
- Learning about best practices from leaders in the field;
- Small one-on-one learning experiences, even though at an international conference;
- The opportunity to take new knowledge and understanding of the latest research back to schools to make change; and
- Experiencing dynamic, interactive learning experiences that rejuvenate and refresh educators at all levels.

**Show how you will share** the learning with your team when you return

- Share session presentations and handouts;
- Write summaries and analyses;
- Create a slideshow presentation or video;
- Develop poster presentations;
- Utilize technology that you learn about at the conference;
- Model learning strategies you discover;
- Volunteer to host mini workshops; or
- Plan sharing opportunities across grade levels, subject areas, and schools.

**Be proactive**

- Offer to share a room to reduce hotel expenses;
- Consider off-site lodging options as a cost-saving measure; and
- Avoid the nonmember registration fee by joining Learning Forward or renewing your Learning Forward membership.

For a comprehensive glimpse beyond the horizon, please visit the conference website at [https://conference.learningforward.org](https://conference.learningforward.org). Hope to see you in Orlando!
FASD Outstanding Professional Learning Practices Award

Adam Azula, Program Development and Training Specialist accepted the 2017 Professional Learning Practices Award for NEFEC: Connect: Regional Learning Communities project. The professional learning is a sustained and supported series where educators learn together through face-to-face meetings, virtually through Zoom, and Twitter charts. Initial sessions for each community include a regional, district, and individual data dive. Content and grade specific teams also create community goals and individual goals for their professional learning. Teacher leadership is planned for and cultivated in each session with educators, teacher support colleagues, and instructional coaches planning for instruction, analyzing student work samples, creating and sharing resources, and problem solving through collaborative work.

Participating districts and NEFEC staff using data profiles are able to connect student achievement across three years to MCMS data, professional learning data, and school grades. The data profiles allow participating districts to pinpoint areas of strength and areas of opportunity within their district or across a region.

NEFEC: CONNECT has enabled regional professional learning communities that are teacher owned, teacher supported, and teacher facilitated. The project focuses on educators working collaboratively with varying perspectives, resources, and learning experiences. All experiences are tied to authentic, relevant implementation allowing teacher practice to continually grow with students as the benefactor.

Distinguished Contribution Award

Dr. Debra Elliott, the Executive Director for Heartland Educational Consortium, accepted the FASD Distinguished Contribution Award for 2017. The Heartland Educational Consortium is comprised of the following districts in Florida: DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee. Dr. Elliott has served as a FASD Board member for many years and has taken on many different roles within our organization. She has kept the board apprised of new legislation, served as unofficial historian and worked tirelessly with our vendor sponsors for FASD conferences. She is always the first to welcome a new board member into the ranks and her leadership and support will be missed by the Board and all FASD members. We wish her much love and happiness as she moves on to new adventures and travels in her retirement.
In Memoriam

Mr. Jim Coe

A man of substance, compassion, and commitment to making a difference, Jim “Cupcake” Coe served the FASD Board and Membership since the formation of FASD in September, 1981. He was a charter member.

As a staunch supporter of FASD, Jim served in leadership roles such as President, President-elect, and Treasurer. He served on the nominations and election committees and was a member of the President’s "kitchen cabinet" for numerous presidents. Even after his retirement, Jim stayed involved to ensure the membership received quality conferences, programs and services. He began the social committee and served as its chair for more than 30 years (officially and unofficially).

In Hamilton County and throughout Florida one could always depend on Jim for leadership and telling it like it was. From negotiating teacher contracts, administrative decision making, and leading the charge for quality Professional Development, Jim was known by his colleagues and friends as one to be counted on, whatever the task.

His love for his profession was only seconded by his love for his beautiful wife, children and grandchildren.

Jim passed on May 27, 2017 but will forever live on in our hearts.
Meet the 2017 FASD Board

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<tr>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>District Role</th>
<th>FASD Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Eubanks</td>
<td>Coordinator, Beacon Educator</td>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alyson Adams</td>
<td>Clinical Associate, UF</td>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
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<td>Joanna Johnson</td>
<td>Sr. Coordinator, Learning Intervention, Polk County</td>
<td>President-Elect</td>
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<td>Cathy Starling</td>
<td>Project Director, Beacon Educator</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Glenna Wyatt</td>
<td>Director, Professional Development, Orange County Public School</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Kay Brewton</td>
<td>Consultant, PAEC</td>
<td>Director, Region I</td>
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<td>Michelle Surman</td>
<td>Learning Resource Specialist, FDLRS Springs</td>
<td>Director, Region II</td>
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<td>Lynn Conroy</td>
<td>Coordinator, Certification and Professional Development, Brevard County</td>
<td>Director, Region III</td>
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<td>Mary Leonard</td>
<td>Director, Professional Development Charlotte County</td>
<td>Director, Region IV</td>
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<td>Isela Rodriguez</td>
<td>Teacher Director, Professional Learning, Miami Dade County Public Schools</td>
<td>Director, Region V</td>
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<td>Carmen Concepcion</td>
<td>Instructional Supervisor, Professional Learning, Miami Dade County Public Schools</td>
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<td>Amanda March</td>
<td>Professional Learning/Coach Coordinator, USF</td>
<td>Director At-Large</td>
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<td>Mary Ann Ahearn</td>
<td>Director, FDLRS Admin</td>
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<td>Cele Oldham</td>
<td>Program Specialist Professional and Personal Learning, Lake County</td>
<td>Director At-Large</td>
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<td>Shane Fairbairn</td>
<td>Supervisor, Curriculum and Instruction, NEFEC</td>
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<td>Elaine McCann</td>
<td>Florida Inclusion Network</td>
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<td>Shane Syfrett</td>
<td>Director for Professional Learning, Leon County</td>
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<td>Eileen McDaniel</td>
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