



Amy Zaring holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in education from Georgia State University. She began her teaching career in 1985; her first job in Clayton County was when taking young adults to job sites was a pilot program! Amy's teaching career spans twenty-six years working with students with learning disabilities, cognitive disabilities, emotional/behavior disorders, and pervasive developmental delays in self-contained, resource, and collaborative settings. Amy has been a Related Vocational Instructor guiding many students to participate and place in State competitions. Amy is currently the Autism Intervention Specialist for the Fayette County School System. She manages five Autism programs and supervises two behavior support paraprofessionals. Her responsibilities also include developing behavior plans and educational programs for specific students, working as a liaison with parents, and training faculty, staff, and parents in effectively educating and supporting students with High Functioning Autism and Asperger's Syndrome. Amy led the initiative to develop a County-wide social skills framework, designed the teacher training program, and wrote the coordinating social skills goals and objectives for IEPs. In addition to teaching professional learning classes in her own County, Amy has trained staff and administrators in several other counties across the State. She has also presented in GATAPP regional meetings and the Autism Academy, both hosted by the State Department. Amy consistently delivers the message that the teacher is the force in each child's successful educational experience - academically, socially, and behaviorally.

Amy joined CEC as a college student and has been a member over most of the years of her career. She will be presenting at the 2012 Georgia conference. Amy has been a member of various divisions finding value in the different publications. She uses the timely educational information and instructional strategies from *Teaching Exceptional Children* and *Beyond Behavior* when she works in classrooms and as she trains teachers.

Amy's skill set, experience, and dedication to the art and science of pedagogy make her an excellent candidate to serve as Vice President on the Georgia Executive Board as it continues the CEC tradition of serving special education teachers and students with disabilities.