

Meet The 2024 Candidates For SECA President Elect

Why do you want to be the President of SECA? What attributes and strengths would you bring to the position?

Dr. Jeffrey Leffler, MS



As someone deeply committed to the advancement of early childhood education and the well-being of children and families, I am motivated to pursue the position of President of the Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA). With nearly 30 years of experience in the early childhood field, I have dedicated my career to serving in diverse roles that directly impact the lives of young children and their families.

Throughout my professional journey, I have gained invaluable insights and developed a deep understanding of the unique and complex issues facing young children and families in the South. From my hands-on experience working directly with children and families to my involvement in public policy advocacy and systems change initiatives, I have honed a multifaceted approach to addressing the needs of the early childhood community. My strengths lie in my ability to lead with empathy, integrity, and a commitment to equity and social justice. I bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise in early childhood development, program management, and policy analysis, which I believe are essential for guiding SECA in fulfilling its mission and advancing its goals.

In addition to my extensive experience, I possess strong leadership skills and a collaborative spirit that empowers me to work effectively with diverse stakeholders, including educators, policymakers, and community leaders. I am passionate about fostering collaboration and building partnerships that drive positive change and improve outcomes for young children and their families across the Southern region. If elected as President of SECA, I am committed to leveraging my experience, skills, and passion to advocate for the needs of early childhood professionals, promote high-quality early learning opportunities, and champion policies that support the well-being of children and families. I am eager to collaborate with SECA members and stakeholders to advance our shared vision of a brighter future for all children in the Southern region.

Dr. Judy Prine, MS



As a multi-decade member of SECA, it has been my goal to serve the organization and its members. I believe that the President of SECA sets the tone and direction for the organization. I like to think that my attributes and strengths include the ability to establish long term goals and short-term objectives to support the long term. I am a believer that organizations that continue to operate in the mind set of “we have always done it that way” are destined to lose relevance and influence.

I also like to think that my personality allows me to be open minded and inclusive of all individuals and organizations. This attribute is critical in the accomplishment of all short-term and long-term goals. Inclusiveness allows all members to participate in the growth and success of the organization.

We'll periodically publish candidates bios, articles, videos on the SECA website at www.seca.info/presidentelect. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order.

Copyright © 2024 Southern Early Childhood Association
All rights reserved.