



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERPRETERS IN EDUCATION

## Welcome back to the 2016 - 2017 School Year!

The education of children is one of the most important and selfless endeavors of which you can be a part. As interpreters in education, we are tasked with bridging the gap in the educational environment to allow learning to happen. We must function as a team member, understanding the IEP/504 demands, and implement those demands flawlessly day-after-day throughout the school year. Our commitment is often so great that we sacrifice aspects of our personal lives for the benefit of a few more minutes to support our students' success.

This week I have had the chance to listen to many stories about past years and the successes interpreters have experienced with their students. I have also heard stories of grief and dismay of the challenges the students that we serve face in their lives. One common thread in these stories is the vigilance and dedication of each interpreter.

The position you hold is not one for the timid or the weak. You will be challenged every day, whether by a student going through puberty or trying to figure out how to visually represent the locomotion of a Trilobite. One thing is certain; you hold a vital position with the team of educators that will enable a brighter future for our students.

You are all professionals and are amazing at what you do. You are also part of a unique organization that promotes collaboration, continuing education, and professionalism. Take advantage of the upcoming opportunities that are available to you through the NAIE and engage in our online discussions - Feel free to ask for support or share your helpful resources. We all have the same goal in front of us, to provide the best possible access to education while presenting ourselves as professionals and knowledgeable about our work.

I wish you all a wonderful and rewarding school year!

Korry Cross

NAIE Vice President