COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

COURTESY RESOLUTION

KENNETH A. KAVALE

WHEREAS, after teaching for five years at the League School for Seriously Disturbed Children in Brooklyn, New York, and the Minneapolis Public Schools in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in a period spanning more than 30 years, Ken Kavale conducted research and examined policies across many areas of exceptionality, including learning disabilities, emotional and behavioral disorders, intellectual disabilities, and related areas such as attention deficit disorder;

WHEREAS, in work appearing in well more than 200 publications, Ken Kavale examined many contemporary topics including assessment, inclusion, learning styles, medical management, educational policies, process training, reading competence and instruction, response to instruction, social skills training, teaching methods, and more;

WHEREAS Ken Kavale was among the first to apply the methods of systematic integrative literature reviews in special education;

WHEREAS Ken Kavale served on the editorial boards and as a reviewer for two dozen or more scholarly and practitioner publications and was the founding editor for Learning Disabilities Research;

WHEREAS Ken Kavale served as president for the Iowa Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children and, at the time of his death, was serving as president elect of the Division for Learning Disabilities;

WHEREAS, in both Iowa as a charter member of the Iowa Academy of Education and in Virginia as the founder of the Virginia Academy of Special Education, Ken Kavale contributed substantially to the development and implementation of plans for collaboratively connecting leaders in educational practice with leaders in educational research, thereby promoting a focus on delivery of well-informed special education services;

WHEREAS Ken Kavale authored and edited many books examining learning disabilities, intellectual disabilities, and related disorders, including The Positive Side of Special Education: Minimizing Its Fads, Fancies, and Follies and The Nature of Learning Disabilities: Critical Elements of Diagnosis and Classification;

WHEREAS, for the purpose of improving outcomes for students with disabilities, in his publications and presentations Ken Kavale consistently championed implementation of reasoned and evidence-based practices and policies;
WHEREAS, untiringly and collegially, Ken Kavale discussed issues in special education with fellow educators regardless of whether he agreed with others’ views; and

WHEREAS Ken Kavale could laugh at himself just as readily as he could laugh at irony and silliness:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council for Exceptional Children during the Annual Meeting of CEC’s Representative Assembly in Seattle, Washington, the fourth day of April, two thousand and nine, and on behalf of the Division for Learning Disabilities and the Virginia and Iowa Federations, expresses admiration and appreciation for Ken Kavale’s substantial and enduring efforts in promoting understanding of research, practice, and policy in special education and thereby contributing to the improvement of education for students with disabilities.