

Exceptional Children Information for Parents

July 21, 2021



North Carolina Department of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Your Input is Needed!

North Carolina will be starting a new 5-year cycle of our State Performance Plan in February 2022. The Exceptional Children Division wants to partner with stakeholders—especially parents of students with disabilities—to set the new indicator targets and write our new plan. While several meetings have already occurred, we still have several more meetings scheduled through November to gather input.

To facilitate your partnership in writing the new State Performance Plan, we have scheduled two virtual 2-hour stakeholder meetings per month; one meeting will be on a Tuesday morning and one on a Thursday evening (schedule can be found on the [ECD SPP/APR website](#)). The two meetings each month will be identical, you only need to attend one, so please choose the option that best fits your ability to participate for the entire meeting. Each month we will orient you to our current data for 2-3 indicators, options for new targets, and potential improvement strategies to meet the new targets. Following the orientation, you will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide input, anonymously if preferred. Live captioning and ASL interpreting will be provided for these meetings.

Previous meetings have been recorded and posted to the [website](#) if you'd like to preview a meeting before attending on the "2021 Stakeholder Meetings" page of the website.

Additional Information about the Plan

The NCDPI State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) evaluates our state's efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), Part B. The SPP/APR also describes how NCDPI plans to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

Our SPP/APR includes 17 indicators that measure student and family outcomes and other indicators that measure compliance with the requirements of the IDEA.

You can find previous newsletter in the Parent Newsletter google folder at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ECParentNewsletters>

Important Links

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [N.C. Department of Health & Human Services](#)
 - [Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#)
- [N.C. Department of Public Instruction](#)
 - [Lighting Our Way Forward \(Summary\)](#)
- [No Kid Hungry](#)
- [NCDPI-COVID-19 Responses & Resources](#)

Upcoming Events

- Arc of the Triangle [Events](#)
- Autism Society [Workshops](#)
- Autism Speaks [Information Topics](#)
- CADRE [Parent Resources](#)
- ECAC [Events](#) & [Recorded Webinars](#)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness [Courses](#)
- NC Down Syndrome Alliance [Events](#)
- Special Olympics NC [Events](#)

Virtual Parent Town Hall with the U.S. Department of Education

Thursday, July 29 from 8:00 – 9:00 p.m.

After a year and a half of grappling with the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, students across the country are slated to return to school in-person this fall. However, for many, especially parents, the return to in-person instruction has brought with it a variety of worries, hesitations, and questions:

- Will my child(ren) be safe at school?
- What COVID precautions should I look for in my child's school?
- How will schools take my child's social and emotional well-being into account?
- Is the vaccine safe?
- Should I get the vaccine?
- Should my child(ren) get the vaccine?

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