

**EC Division Weekly Update**  
**May 5, 2021**

**Updates to the EC Division Padlet**

**Items of Interest**

**NC Governor's School -Summer Positions**

The North Carolina Governor's School has several vacant positions for instructors and support staff for the upcoming summer session, which is anticipated to be in-person with robust safety measures at its two campuses (*Governor's School East* at Meredith College in Raleigh; *Governor's School West* at High Point University in High Point). This is a unique opportunity to instruct and interact with some of North Carolina's brightest and most talented high school students in an enriching learning community, free from the pressures of tests and grades. All employees receive a modest salary and the option for full room and board on campus. Please share details with teachers and support staff in your school/school system.

Visit <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/students-families/enhanced-opportunities/governors-school-north-carolina/employment> for specific vacancies and the employment application. Vacancies will be filled on a rolling basis as applications are received; interested individuals should not delay applying. Contact Tom Winton, Coordinator, for more information.

**Assistive Technology Expo**

The NCDPI Assistive Technology team is calling for proposals for the 2021 Assistive Technology Expo. This year, the AT Expo will be held virtually on August 3, 2021, from 8:30 until 4:30. We are searching for professionals willing to present for one hour about an Assistive Technology topic. Topics for these one-hour sessions can range from a single subject success story to how Assistive Technology processes affect student outcomes. Interested parties can submit a proposal to the link provided below. This form will ask: Name, email, place of employment, title of presentation, description of session and preferred time slot(s).

<https://forms.gle/XZJBy1842sRQ793Y8>

**Course: Extended Content Standards-Economic and Personal Finance**

The Extended Content Standards Economic and Personal Finance (EPF) Course 9344AX0 is available for the 2021-22 in PowerSchool as well as included in the latest Course Code Master List. It can be found on the SIS Resources. The latest version is indicated here:

9344AX0	Economics and Personal Finance	1	0	9-12
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<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/educators/home-base/powerschool-sis/nc-sis-resources#courses>

**Spring Statewide OT Representatives Meeting**

The **Spring Statewide OT Representatives Meeting** will be held on **June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9am – 12 pm**. ONE representative from each LEA/Charter School may register and attend. The representative should share information from the meeting afterward with other practitioners in their LEA/Charter School. Please register by **May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021** at the link below:

[https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3pAhJqJrqFpZNUG](https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3pAhJqJrqFpZNUG)

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**CHANGE: Per Reporting Period in ECATS**

“Per Reporting Period” (PRP) will be removed as a frequency option for special education and related services in ECATS on **July 1, 2021**. It is highly recommended that IEP Teams consider the sunset of this frequency option as IEP Team meetings are held this Spring, particularly if “PRP” is being used to document special education services. However, no immediate action is required at this time.

The reason for this decision is “Per Reporting Period” introduces a level of ambiguity with the frequency of specially designed instruction or related services.

- “PRP” was never intended to be used to describe special education; however, this option is being used
- “PRP”, when monitored, is most often used for administrative convenience
  - Availability of staff
  - Accommodate itinerant service provider schedules
  - Flexibility in scheduling for service provider
- “PRP” creates the potential for inconsistent implementation as students transition between schools, districts and out of state where reporting periods may be longer or shorter
- “PRP” raises additional questions when services do not occur during the entire reporting period
  - i.e., for a nine week grading period service frequency is documented as seven or eight per reporting period rather than nine

The removal of “PRP” is important because:

- Specially designed instruction and related services should be more clearly articulated to families and instructional staff
- Daily or weekly frequencies are more easily scheduled in order to establish routines and consistent support with accessing or receiving services
- Complies with state statute that services must be determined on a weekly basis
  - § 115C-106.3. Definitions. The following definitions apply in this Article:  
Child with a disability. – A child with at least one disability who because of that disability requires special education and related services.  
(3a) Educational services. – All of the following:

- (a) The necessary instructional hours per week in the form and format as determined by the child's IEP team and consistent with federal and State law. The instruction shall be delivered by an appropriately qualified teacher to the extent required by federal and State law, which requires a free appropriate public education and the opportunity for a sound basic education.
- (b) Related services included in the child's IEP.
- (c) Behavior intervention services to the extent required by federal law.

For providers using “PRP” to describe services, consider the following alternatives:

- daily frequency
- weekly frequency
- itemized weekly services according to specific time frames
  - i.e., 4 specific weeks identified (8/23-27/2021; 11/8-12/2021; 2/14-18/2022; 4/25-29/2022) for 1x/week service delivery
- reference the ECATS Tip Sheet: “[Documenting Related Services Support Descriptions](#)” for additional options **[ATTACHED]**

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*Please note: The EC Division has considered the addition of “monthly” to the options for frequency in service delivery. However, at this time, “monthly” presents similar challenges when some months include weeks when schools are both in and out of session [i.e. August, December, March/April, June, track-out/ins]. In these cases, the monthly services would be required to be implemented regardless of the month’s duration.*

*This information will be repeated in the ECATS Monday Message*

**REMINDERS: Statewide Corrective Action**

As communicated previously, a revised *LEA Written Assurance (5.5.21)* document is being provided. This document has been simply streamlined with the list of required activities and a checklist column. Additionally, a “NOTES” version of the LEA Written Assurance is also being provided. This document is a duplicate of the required LEA Written Assurance, however, it now includes a column with the hyperlinks, both to the specific item used to meet the requirement or website link if hyperlinking to the EC Division or IABS/MTSS websites.

[ATTACHMENT #1 - 20-043 LEA Written Assurance.5.5.21]

[ATTACHMENT #2 - 20-043 LEA Written AssuranceWITHNOTES.5.5.21]

All activities remain the same with the exception of an addition to Action #12. This action now includes a note regarding an error on SLD Fact Sheet #2 that has been corrected and re-posted to the EC Division website. If LEAs linked to this location rather than the specific fact sheet, it is unlikely that further action is needed because the location remains the same on the EC Division website. If an LEA linked to the specific pdf, please refresh the link with the revised SLD Fact Sheet #2 dated April 9, 2021. As a reminder, if LEAs did not link to this document previously or post on its website, there is no expectation to do so at this time.

**NOTE:** For LEAs that have already submitted the signed LEA Written Assurance, the updated (5.5.21) LEA Written Assurance does not need to be re-submitted. However, please be advised that the corrected SLD Fact Sheet #2 will now be understood as included within the original requirement “Action #12: LEA will link local MTSS documents to the revised SEA MTSS LiveBinder and EC Division website as appropriate.”

**FINAL EC Office Hours - Statewide Corrective Action**

Friday, May 21, 2021 - 9:30am to 10:30am

<https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/carolann.hudgens>

**The signed LEA Written Assurance must be submitted to the shared folder on or before June 15, 2021.** This is the only item required from LEAs. Any local artifacts verifying the completion of corrective action should be maintained locally until June 15, 2022, in the event there are further questions or disputes that require evidence related to this statewide activity.

**Note:** The LEA Written Assurance document is formatted best for editing when downloaded as a word document from the shared GoogleDrive or by using the attached word document.

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**PK EC Items of Interest**

**Resources within Reason Resources to Support Observation, Documentation, and Assessment Practices**

Do you or your colleagues use observation, documentation, and assessment resources on an ongoing basis? These may be part of the teaching or professional development you provide, or they may be part of the repertoire you use to support students, professionals, and families to adjust their lenses and focus. Here are some resources that may help you to do that work.

**COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION**