

Parent and Family Updates

[Exceptional Children | NC DPI](#)

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Office of Exceptional Children website contains resources for parents, teachers, and administrators.

www.dpi.nc.gov

Exceptional Children Parent Survey

Research shows students reach higher levels of achievement when families are actively involved in the education system. As a parent, family member, or guardian of a student with a disability, you know firsthand what is working and what is not. Therefore, each year the Office of Exceptional Children (OEC) gathers feedback from families through a survey. Each year, the five largest local educational agencies (LEAs) and select LEAs across the state are provided this survey to pass along to families within their district. The five largest LEAs participate annually while smaller LEAs participate in the survey on a 5-year cycle.

Completing the survey is voluntary. You will not be asked to provide your name or other personally identifiable information. The information is confidential and will not be shared with anyone. The information from all families will be compiled to create a report about your school system, the state, the efforts to involve families in their children's education, and the impact of that involvement on educational results for students with disabilities. The report is shared with districts that participated in the survey so they can make improvements. We hope you will participate.

The survey has already been sent from the OEC to LEAs for distribution to families. If your LEA is listed below and you have not received information about the survey or how to complete it, please reach out to your local [EC director](#):

Alpha Academy
Apprentice Academy HS of NC
Ascend Leadership Academy
Asheville City Schools

Bethany Community Middle
Brunswick County Schools
Carolina Charter Academy: CFA
Central Park School
Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
CIS Academy
Cleveland County Schools
College Prep & Leadership Academy
Cumberland County Schools
Davidson Charter Academy
DPS Prison Education
East Voyager Academy
Elizabeth City/Pasquotank
Endeavor Charter School
Falls Lake Academy
Forsyth Academies
Gaston College Preparatory
Graham County Schools
Greene County Schools
Guilford County Schools
Henderson County Schools
Kestrel Heights School
Martin County Schools
Maureen Joy Charter
McDowell County Schools
Moore Montessori Community
Mount Airy City Schools
Northeast Regional School
Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy
Phoenix Academy
Piedmont Community Charter
Pocosin Innovative Charter
Polk County Schools
Research Triangle Charter
Ridgeview Charter School
Roanoke Rapids City Schools
Robeson County Schools
Sallie B Howard School
Success Institute

Summerfield Charter Academy
Surry County Schools
The New Dimensions School
Tillery Charter Academy
Wake County Schools
Washington County Schools
Wayne County Schools
Wilmington Preparatory Academy
Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools

Meet the new Parent Liaison

Twenty years ago, I started a journey I never anticipated: early intervention, school meetings and disability rights laws. Along the way, I met incredibly supportive parents and professionals who answered my questions with patience and enthusiasm. Once I found my footing, I decided to help other parents navigate paths they, too, never saw coming.

I am Johanna Lynch, and I am delighted to be working with you as the Parent Liaison with the Office of Exceptional Children of the Department of Public Instruction.

I have had the honor of representing parents with state teams that developed guidelines to improve educational outcomes for students in New Hampshire and North Carolina.

I joined BEGINNINGS for Parents of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in 2012. In my role as a parent educator, I mentored parents as they navigated their child's educational career from early intervention to transition into adulthood. I helped parents understand their rights, their children's rights, their role as team members, the law, and how to work with teams and school staff to improve outcomes for their child.

As the parent liaison with the Office of Exceptional Children, I am looking forward to facilitating better communication and understanding for parents and school teams.

Agencies of Interest:

[Office of Special Education Programs](#) (U.S. Department of Education)

[N.C. Department of Public Instruction](#)

Upcoming events:

[Autism Society of North Carolina](#)

[Autism Speaks](#)

[The Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education](#)

[Exceptional Children's Assistance Center](#)

[Family Support Network](#)

[National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)

[NC ABLE](#)

[NC Down Syndrome Alliance](#)

[Special Olympics North Carolina](#)

[Triangle Disability & Autism Services](#)

Do you have an event you would like to share with the community? Please email with information.

Contact information:

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Historical Newsletters can be found in the [Parent Newsletter Google Folder](#)