

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

Preparing for IEP Team meetings

Here are some tips to assist parents participate in meetings with confidence:

- Contact your student's case manager to request advance copies of draft meeting documents, if available.
- Schedule time on your calendar to read the document, and develop a list of questions, if any.
- Develop the concerns and vision statements.
 - Parent concerns can include information about academic, functional, developmental, and behavioral needs.
 - Vision statements can describe parent goals and hopes for the near and far future, including life after school, and can be specific.
 - If possible, share with EC case manager in advance.
- If you want to discuss changes or add information to the IEP, be prepared to speak about those requests with the team.
- If you have invited a person to attend with you, please let the team know ahead of time. This allows planning for space and seating.
- If that person can take notes on your behalf, ask them to do so.
- If you require an interpreter for the meeting, let the case manager know at least five business days before the scheduled meeting.

Moving to a new school district within North Carolina?

If a child with a disability has a current Individualized Education Program (IEP) that was in effect prior to a family moving to a different Local Education Agency (LEA) within North Carolina, the new LEA must provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in consultation with the parents. The LEA will provide comparable

services to those described in the child's current IEP from the previous LEA until the new LEA:

- Adopts the current IEP from the previous LEA, or
- Develops, adopts, and implements a new IEP that meets applicable requirements.

Steps to take before the move:

- Request a copy of your child's current IEP, if you do not already have one.
- Ensure the IEP is current.
- Notify the current IEP team and school that your family will be moving to another school district within North Carolina.
- Request the contact information for the appropriate school personnel who can work with the new school district to ensure all educational records are shared in a timely manner.
- Obtain the contact information for the principal of your child's new school.
- Share a copy of the current IEP at the time enrollment with the new school principal, and the staff member responsible for the school's special education department. You may also contact the EC Director in the new LEA.
- Communicate your requests for IEP meetings, and documents, in writing.

Website updates

The [Office of Exceptional Children](#) (OEC) is happy to announce we've launched our newly updated website with improved navigation and accessibility.

Parents and family members can find [Resources for Families and Students](#), including policies and procedures, data and State Performance Plans, available programs and services, archived newsletters, and the Council for Educational Services for Exceptional Children. Information about [Dispute Resolution](#) has been moved to a new page.

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](#)

[BEGINNINGS for Parents of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing](#)

[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](#)