Updates to the EC Division Padlet

<u>Statewide Corrective Action - Technical Assistance Items</u>

The original shared Google drive for these items has been disabled. The parent notification letter (English and Spanish), Suspected Disabilities video, and Revisions to MTSS procedures video has been moved to the EC Division padlet for future reference. If you need the password to access this padlet, please contact your Regional Consultant.

Items of Interest

GRANT INFORMATION:

2022 IDEA Grant Budgets

PSUs must have a budget for PRC 060 and PRC 049 (if applicable) in the CCIP platform by July 31, 2021. The IDEA grant cannot be processed without the budget. PSUs enter the budget into the same system they have always utilized and it will upload into CCIP. If there are issues regarding the budget uploading to CCIP contact **Denise Jackson** at DPI (<u>Denise.Jackson@dpi.nc.gov</u>)

PRC 167 Cares Act - ESSERF - Exceptional Children Grant

When submitting a budget amendment for PRC 167, EC Directors and Finance Officers should collaborate to ensure the budget amendment matches the grant Use of Funds. If the budget amendment does not match the grant, then a grant revision must be submitted.

** Updates regarding use of funds will be requested early Fall.

Behavior Support

The CCIP system will close on August 2nd for Behavior Support Grant corrections and revisions. These funds are distributed through PRC 29. Please continue to check the CCIP system to determine if the submitted grant is complete or additional information is needed. The Entrance Tool should have been emailed to the Behavior Support Consultants. The grant will be considered incomplete without the Baseline.

For questions, contact Felicia Goodgion felicia.goodgion@dpi.nc.govor Lisa Taylor lisa.taylor@dpi.nc.gov

Federal Reporting

Note: This message is a repeat of the June 28, 2021, Monday Message. 2020-2021 End of Year Data Submission for Indicator 7

All Public-School Units are responsible for certifying Indicator 7: Preschool Outcomes in ECATS. The Indicator 7 count captures the percent of preschool students with IEPs who demonstrate improved childhood outcomes and is based on data from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The Indicator 7 Count opens **August 2, 2021** and is due by close of business **August 20, 2021**. The training video, ECATS Webinar – Indicator 7 Reporting, along with additional reference handouts are posted in each district's ECATS instance on the main page under Resources > Federal Reporting. Please submit any questions or issues directly to ZenDesk to ensure that problems with data are corrected efficiently.

Note: This message is a repeat of the June 28, 2021, Monday Message. 2020-2021 End of Year Data Submission for Indicator 12

Indicator 12 captures data on students who received Part C services and were referred to Part B during the July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 fiscal year. All students must have an IEP developed within 90 days of the referral and receive services by their 3rd birthday. Indicator 12 will be submitted on spreadsheets by all PSUs and can be accessed by clicking this link: Indicator 12 Spreadsheet or by going to the ECATS site under Resources (https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/ecats/resources). The spreadsheet has a tab with helpful clarifications to assist PSUs on entering their data and can be submitted at any time prior to the due date of October 29, 2021. Charter Schools do not need to submit an Indicator 12 spreadsheet this year. Please email all Indicator 12 spreadsheets to ecindicators@dpi.nc.gov.

Child Find & Transition Calculator: Correction

An error in the Child Find & Transition Calculator was recently noted and the file has now been corrected to support LEAs with collecting information needed to submit in the Indicator 12 spreadsheet this year. For those who have already transferred data into the Child Find & Transition Calculator, please contact Regional Consultant, Katie Lewis, at klewis@unc.edu for instructions on how to make the correction.

REVISED: State Complaint Procedures

As previously communicated in the June 9, 2021, EC Division Weekly Update, the State Complaint Procedures have been revised and posted to the EC Division website. (Note new Website) https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children-division

Each year, the NCDPI EC Division reviews the Dispute Resolution processes as part of our continuous improvement effort to ensure our processes are clear, accessible to parents, LEAs, and other interested parties, and are aligned with the requirements outlined in IDEA.

This year, revisions were made to the NC State Complaint Procedures; however, none of the revisions changed the obligations of the LEA when involved in a state complaint. A new model state complaint form was developed with input from the ECAC. The new form contains the required components in a different format, with additional sections for the complainant to describe each issue, and the supporting facts.

Both the State Complaint Procedures and model State Complaint Form can be found https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/parent-resources#formal-state-complaints

NCDPI>DistrictsSchools>ClassroomResources>ExceptionalChildren>ParentResources>FormalStateComplaints

Due Process - Final Decisions

The EC Division will be monitoring the implementation of all Final Decisions issued as a result of a Due Process Hearing. Both parties will receive a follow-up letter after the Administrative Law Judge issues the Final Decision indicating the involvement of the EC Division in ensuring all requirements are met. This practice will begin with all Final Decisions issued on or after July 1, 2021 going forward.

State Systemic Improvement Plan

The EC Division invites all external stakeholders to participate in a State Systemic Improvement Plan meeting on July 22, 2021 at 6:00 PM. The meeting will focus on infrastructure analysis completed to date, as well as examination of student proficiency data to inform development of Indicator 17 - the State Identified Measurable Result. Please see the link below for access to this meeting:

https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m8bac8196de8ad5c06e8e234100576a56

Honoring a Giant in Special Education

The Exceptional Children Division is saddened to share the news about the recent passing of Dr. Joy Zabala. Dr. Zabala was not a native to North Carolina but took us under her wing as if we were her own. She guided our Assistive Technology work through her SETT Framework and provided us technical assistance. She freely gave her time and knowledge to the educators of North Carolina during the pandemic and many years prior. At the time of her passing she was the Director of Technical Assistance at CAST formerly known as the Center for Applied Special Technology. She also directed the technical assistance efforts of the National Center on Accessible Instructional Materials (NIMAC). She will be greatly missed.

HB 317 Data Collection DUE

The House Bill 317 data collection information is due this **Friday**, **July 16**. If you have questions about this data collection, please contact Tom Page, Thomas.page@dpi.nc.gov, or your regional Consultant for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Nancy Woytowich (NE, SE, NC, SH) Nancy.woytowich@dpi.nc.gov; or Virginia Madorin (PT, SW, NW, W) virginia.madorin@dpi.nc.gov.

BREAKING NEWS: 70th Conference on Exceptional Children

Mark your calendars for the 70th Conference on Exceptional Children November 17-19, 2021, at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. Pre-conference Institutes will be held on November 17 and general conference sessions on November 18-19. This year's theme is, *Going Platinum: Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future*.

The Call for Proposals for general conference sessions (November 18-19) will be released later this week in a separate memo. Please be on the lookout for that and share with your staff.

PK EC Items of Interest

NIEER Seeks Input from Early Childhood Workforce

NIEER is seeking input from the early care and education workforce to inform the design of a future nationwide, state-representative survey of paid workers in early care and education for children birth to age 5.

Results from the future survey will help inform policy decisions made by state and federal early childhood education policymakers.

NIEER wants the broadest possible representation of the workforce in designing the survey, with input not only from teachers and assistants, but also administrators, coaches, speech and language therapists, and other support staff. We are asking every organization that connects with even a part of the workforce to share this information:

NIEER seeks input from everyone working with children under age 5 to inform the design of a future nationwide, state-representative survey of the ECE workforce. This is an opportunity to tell us what you want policymakers to know about the workforce. Your input will influence the scope and content of the survey. Answers are completely anonymous. Please click here for the short 11-question survey to tell us what you want policymakers to know about the early childhood education workforce.

COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION