

**EC Division Weekly Update**  
**March 10, 2021**

**Updates to the EC Division Padlet**

**\*No new updated information this week**

**Items of Interest**

**REMINDER: 2021 EC Director Webinars**

All EC Director webinars will be held from 10:00-11:00 am. **Pre-registration is required for each webinar.** Click the individual links below, Choose Register for Event Status, enter the registration password below (specific for each meeting), click submit and enter your Name, Email, and LEA/Charter School name. (NCDPI for DPI staff)

**April 20<sup>th</sup> EC Directors Webinar Link:**

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/onstage/g.php?MTID=e1f999210fa157a2941d822270a7009d8>

Registration Password: BXfQT9EJY26

**June 8<sup>th</sup> EC Directors Webinar Link:**

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/onstage/g.php?MTID=e89dbd5c208e0f30e4b2996e5f8a0fe10>

Registration Password: BXfQT9EJY26

**August 3<sup>rd</sup> EC Directors Webinar Link:**

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/onstage/g.php?MTID=e4273998e2b630844bb013ea4a2afad21>

Registration Password: BXfQT9EJY26

**October 12<sup>th</sup> EC Directors Webinar Link:**

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/onstage/g.php?MTID=e16795cef6affeee7e5e27616999860ac>

Registration Password: BXfQT9EJY26

**December 7<sup>th</sup> EC Directors Webinar Link:**

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/onstage/g.php?MTID=e51724476daa5a74f59fc58a51e7a371d>

Registration Password: BXfQT9EJY26

**NC SIP Network Newsletter**

Please see the latest NC SIP Newsletter. **(ATTACHED)**

**EC Office Hours: REMINDERS**

Topic: Serving Students with Disabilities in Private Facilities (Optional)

Monday, March 15, 2021

1:00pm-2:00pm

Join [HERE](#) -or- <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/glendora.hagins>

Hosted by Glendora Hagins and Elizabeth Millen

Topic: Statewide Corrective Action - General Monthly Check-In (Optional)

Friday, March 26, 2021

9:30am-10:30am

Join [Here](#) -or- <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/carolann.hudgens>

Hosted by: Carol Ann Hudgens, EC Division and IABS Staff

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**Response to State Complaints**

Please be reminded that if your LEA receives a state complaint, a written narrative response to the allegations along with the requested documents is expected within 15 calendar days of receipt of the intake letter from the EC Division. If your LEA has an attorney on retainer to provide the LEA response, the 15 calendar days still apply. Please be sure to monitor this timeline carefully.

The intake letter is addressed to the Superintendent/Head of School and is sent through DPI Encrypted Email with a courtesy copy to the EC Director by Danyelle Sanders, Administrative Assistant in the Policy, Monitoring and Audit Section. If DPI Encrypted Email is delivered to your spam/junk folder as a result of local cybersecurity precautions, please check your spam folder often or investigate whether emails from Ms. Sanders can be identified as a trusted sender. Since complainants are required to submit a copy of the state complaint to the LEA Superintendent/Head of School at the time it is filed with the EC Division, please use this as a signal to watch for correspondence from the EC Division. EC Directors/Coordinators may contact a Dispute Resolution Consultant at any time correspondence is expected but not received.

**REMINDERS - Dispute Resolution: Facilitated IEP Team Meetings (FIEPs) and Mediation**

- Requests for FIEPs should be submitted 10 business days prior to the scheduled IEP meeting date in order to accommodate the date and time preferred by the parties.
- Please notify the facilitator or mediator as soon as possible if the scheduled activity will be cancelled. The EC Division is responsible for the full contracted amount if cancellations occur with less than 24 hours' notice to the mediator or facilitator. The EC Division contracts for these services and makes them available free of charge to parents and LEAs. Since FIEPs are not a required dispute resolution mechanism, please be mindful that cancellations may adversely impact the ability to continue to support this informal dispute resolution option.
- Teresa King, Dispute Resolution Consultant, is the EC Division coordinator for FIEPs and Mediation. She can be contacted at [Teresa.King@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Teresa.King@dpi.nc.gov).
- FIEP and Mediation forms can be found on the EC Division website.  
<https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/parent-resources/dispute-resolution>

**ECATS**

Please be reminded that there are a number of ECATS technical assistance resources available on the EC Division website. Previous Monday Messages and FAQs from implementation are also available. Users are encouraged to search the ECATS webpages using the "Search Site" option at the top of each page to locate content needed. <https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/ecats/>

**Autism Support Team Meetings**

This virtual meeting is for those LEAs who receive PRC 118 AU funding at the Team Support level and is required. The content provided is to support capacity building in improving services to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and will focus on effective data analysis and data-based decision making.

The meetings will be held on **April 15, 2021** from:

- 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. for the Northeast, Southeast, North Central and Sandhills regions. Access registration at [https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_87KbDU3K78uHXM0](https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_87KbDU3K78uHXM0)
- 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. for the Piedmont-Triad, Southwest, Northwest and Western regions. Access registration at [https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cBYIJghwn9GMWqi](https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cBYIJghwn9GMWqi)

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**Registration will close on April 8, 2021.** Participants will receive .2 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) at the conclusion of the meeting. Please contact your NCDPI Consultant for Autism with any inquiries.

**School Social Work Week**

Please see the information at this link to help celebrate school social workers during School Social Work Week <https://sites.google.com/dpi.nc.gov/schoolsocialwork/resources/school-social-work-week-2021>

**Weekly Tips: OCS Work Hours**

See this week's OCS work hours tips document. **(ATTACHED)**

**Weekly Tips: Secondary Transition**

See this week's Secondary Transition Tips Sheet document. **(ATTACHED)**

<b>PK EC Items of Interest</b>
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**Let's Get Ready! A Family's Guide to Support Kindergarten Readiness**

We are happy to introduce [\*Let's Get Ready! A Family's Guide to Support Kindergarten Readiness\*](#), a project of the NC Office of Early Learning. We recognize that children enter school "ready" with what they know and can do upon entrance to kindergarten, and that readiness is shaped through highly diverse early experiences and backgrounds. *Let's Get Ready!* provides support for the natural unfolding of a young child's skills and abilities. *Let's Get Ready!* is a resource for families and caregivers to use as they initiate the process of transitioning their child to kindergarten. The guide is grounded within a whole child approach, building upon the five developmental domains from *NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development*. *Let's Get Ready!* provides family-friendly guidance on age-appropriate developmental skills, support tips, and at-home activities where adult/child interactions are the central focus. A Transition Timeline provides general guidance for the logistical steps a family faces the year prior to kindergarten and additional resources can be found through QR codes on the back cover.

The guide will be coming soon to the [NC DPI Publications Catalog](#) with copies available in full-color (\$5.00/copy) and black and white with color covers (\$3.00/copy). Copies may also be requested by emailing [publications@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:publications@dpi.nc.gov). *A Spanish publication will be available soon.*

**Partnering to Advance Equity**

FPG's North Carolina Early Learning Network is partnering with the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations to provide technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of coaches in advancing equity and addressing bias. This partnership will establish a state demonstration program including resources, tools, and processes that reinforce equity across NC's Pyramid Model implementation classrooms. [Learn More](#)

**Vision Assessment in Special Education for Children Ages 3-8**

The [National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health](#) at [Prevent Blindness](#) is currently trying to understand the role of vision in the assessment process for special education. We are seeking input from Head Start, school nurses, public health, school special education staff, and others who work with children aged 3 through 8 years who are being assessed for special education services. We want to learn about your processes for assessing vision, vision screening training, how referrals to eye care are made, and the kinds of professional education materials that the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health can develop. Please distribute this [survey](#) widely. It should take 15 minutes to complete.

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Additionally, we will be holding focus groups with professionals. The focus group will run for a maximum of 1 hour. Please contact me at [christiejok2020@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:christiejok2020@u.northwestern.edu) to get more information and sign up for a focus group.

<b>COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION</b>
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**\*No new information this week**