

# Exceptional Children Information for Parents



**EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN**  
NC Department of Public Instruction

January 19, 2022

## Welcome to 2022!

### AG Bell Parent Support Chats

*Audience: parents/guardians of children who are deaf or hard of hearing*

Do you have questions that worry you about how to help your child succeed in learning to hear and talk? Every parent does – and it can be incredibly helpful to talk with other parents who have been in your shoes.

AG Bell has been conducting free Parent Support Chats to help parents connect with each other about serious topics they need to understand. Join us for one or more of our Chats, which will focus on school and related topics. During our Chats, you will hear from school professionals and opportunities to ask questions will happen after a short presentation by each guest presenter. Listen and be part of the conversation. Your participation and questions will make a difference and allow you to connect with other parents across the globe!

- Let's Talk About It!: Parent and Student Panel
  - January 23, 4 – 5:15; [register](#)
- Conscious Discipline
  - February 24, 4 – 5:15; [register](#)
- Hear Our Vision: Student and Young Adult Panel
  - March 24, 8 – 9:15; [register](#)
- Mom to Mom: Mother's Panel
  - May 15, 4 – 5:15; [register](#)

### NC ABLE Program

Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts are designed for those with the occurrence of a disability before the age of 26. The NC ABLE was launched in 2017 and allows eligible individuals the opportunity to save and fund a variety of qualified disability expenses while maintaining Medicaid, SSI, and other public supports.

NC ABLE will present information about the program, February 8 from 7 – 8 pm. Make sure to [register](#) for a spot.

### Important Links

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [N.C. Department of Health & Human Services](#)
  - [Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#)
- [N.C. Department of Public Instruction](#)
  - [Lighting Our Way Forward \(Summary\)](#)
- [No Kid Hungry](#)
- [NCDPI-COVID-19 Responses & Resources](#)

### Upcoming Events

- Arc of the Triangle [Events](#)
- Autism Society [Workshops](#)
- Autism Speaks [Information Topics](#)
- CADRE [Parent Resources](#)
- ECAC [Events](#) & [Recorded Webinars](#)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness [Courses](#)
- NC Down Syndrome Alliance [Events](#)
- Special Olympics NC [Events](#)

### NC 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Inclusion Summit

- June 17 – 18, 2022
- Greenville, NC
- Visit [bit.ly/NC6thInclusionSummit](https://bit.ly/NC6thInclusionSummit) for more information

You can find previous newsletters in the Parent Newsletter google folder at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ECParentNewsletters>

Contact: Alexis Utz, Parent Liaison  
Exceptional Children Division, NC DPI  
Email: [alexis.utz@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:alexis.utz@dpi.nc.gov)

