



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Directors, Exceptional Children Programs  
Lead Administrators, Charter Schools

**FROM:** Sherry H. Thomas, Director

**DATE:** October 21, 2019

## STRETCHING THE ELA EXTENDED CONTENT STANDARDS

NCDPI is providing a unique opportunity for professionals across the state to utilize their expertise to enhance the education of students with significant cognitive disabilities. In a collaborative effort to support our English Language Arts (ELA) instruction for students on the North Carolina Extended Content Standards (ECS), NCDPI is looking to recruit educational teams consisting of ECS teachers, ELA general educators, and ELA content specialists. NCDPI will create 11 teams of three to create learning progressions of ELA ECS from engagement to mastery for grade spans k-8, 9-10, and 11-12. The learning progressions is a concept of task analyzing each standard from engagement to mastery. Upon completion, the learning progressions can be used as a tool for educators to determine student strengths and areas of need within the ELA ECS. In addition, the learning progressions can support teachers in content understanding and enhance skills to plan and deliver instruction for each student.

NCDPI is seeking assistance to create the work groups required to complete this task. Please share this information with teachers and ELA content specialists. Applicants for the work groups must have a thorough knowledge of the standards and task analysis of academic skills. Participants will be systemically selected via a rubric-based review of applications. Attendance for all three work dates is mandatory along with approximately 2 hours a week working within the assigned team of three. NCDPI will cover travel expenses to the three meetings. Participants will receive 5.0 CEUs for their active engagement with this project. NCDPI is asking interested applicants to complete the attached form, gain approval for travel for the three mandatory dates, and be willing to devote up to two hours a week to the team. The deadline to apply is November 4, 2019. Participants will be notified of acceptance by November 15, 2019.

## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

Sherry H. Thomas, Director | sherry.thomas@dpi.nc.gov

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

### Important Dates

Applications due November 4, 2019		
Applicants selected November 15, 2019		
December 16, 2019 First Meeting	Training and Establish Work Group Timelines. Learning progressions Foundational Skills	Site TBD
February 26, 2020 Second Meeting	Peer Review of Literature and Writing and Learning progressions Speaking and Listening	Site TBD
April 29, 2020 Final Meeting	Peer Review all Standards	Site TBD

Please have applicants complete the attached application and submit to Matthew Martinez at [matthew.martinez@dpi.nc.com](mailto:matthew.martinez@dpi.nc.com). Thank you for your continued support.