

Exceptional Children Information for Parents



EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
NC Department of Public Instruction

April 5, 2023

Message from State Superintendent Truitt and Deputy State Superintendent Jordan:

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Carol Ann Hudgens as the Senior Director for the Office of Exceptional Children (OEC) at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), effective April 3, 2023. Dr. Hudgens has spent nearly a decade working at NCDPI in the OEC, where she is currently the Section Chief for Policy, Monitoring, and Audit. In addition to her experience in North Carolina, Carol Ann has also served as a regular and special education teacher, and as a school- and district-level administrator. She has over 24 years in public education.

Dr. Hudgens said of her new appointment, *"I look forward to this new leadership role as it provides an opportunity to continue advocating for children with disabilities, their families, local leaders of EC programs, and the exceptional children teachers and service providers statewide, while supporting the hard work of staff inside the NCDPI Office of Exceptional Children. It will be important in the days ahead that we review what is going well and prioritize the areas in which our collective impact can achieve the greatest gain as we plan our work for the upcoming school year. I am thankful for the work we have done and the work we will continue to do for the students of North Carolina."*

State Superintendent Catherine Truitt noted, "Dr. Hudgens' extensive experience in education and as Section Chief for the agency will enable her to be an incredible advocate for students with disabilities, while working to help ensure they are successful in the classroom and beyond!" Congratulations to Dr. Hudgens, and we look forward to her leadership!



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Important Links

- [Office of Special Education Programs](#) (U.S. Dept. of Ed.)
- [N.C. Department of Public Instruction](#)
- [Office of Exceptional Children](#) (NC)
- [No Kid Hungry](#)

Upcoming Events

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

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