



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Catherine Truitt, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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August 9, 2021

TO: Superintendents
 Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
 Directors, State Operated Programs
 Directors, Education Services for the Deaf and Blind
 Exceptional Children Coordinators, Charter Schools

FROM: Dr. Catherine Edmonds 
 Deputy Superintendent, Office of Educational Equity

SUBJECT: CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF CONTACT INFORMATION TO NCDPI AND THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND

Session Law 2016-94, House Bill 1030, effective July 14, 2016, requires North Carolina public schools to provide a consent for release of information form to parents, guardians, or custodians of students identified with a primary disability of hearing and/or vision loss, or if the student is identified as multiply disabled and has hearing and/or vision loss. This consent authorizes the release of the parent's name, address, and the student's disability information to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) and the directors of the residential schools for the deaf and blind. The consent must be provided to parents by October 1 and affirmative consent responses only must be reported to the NCDPI and the residential school directors by November 30 of each school year. If no parents in the Public School Unit (PSU) provided consent, the PSU must report that on the survey.

To assist PSUs in making the collection and reporting of information manageable, the NCDPI recommends the following:

Consent form dissemination and collection:

- August 10 – September 30, 2021

Mail, or send home via the student, a consent for release of information form. An English and Spanish version is attached for your convenience and may also be found on the [EC Division website](#).

Data collection and reporting:

- October 1 – November 30, 2021

An electronic submission form is being used to collect and report required information for affirmative consents. The link to this form will be sent in a future communication. When it ready, it may be accessed on the [EC Division website](#). Affirmative consent responses should be reported and must be submitted by November 30, 2021. If no parents in your PSU provide consent, the PSU must also indicate that on the electronic submission form.

For each subsequent school year, the NCDPI will initiate a reminder for the dissemination of the required consent form and reporting of data.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Consenting to the release of parent contact information and child disability information does not mean that a student will be placed at one of the three residential schools for the deaf or blind. Placement of a student at one of these schools is the decision of the IEP Team. Should the Team, including a parent, legal guardian or custodian, wish to consider placement at a residential school, the process outlined on the ESDB Enrollment Flowchart [found here](#), should be followed.

Questions may be directed to Dr. Derrick Jordan, Assistant State Superintendent for Agency Schools, derrick.jordan@dpi.nc.gov, or Sherri Vernelson, Section Chief, Sensory Support and Assistive Technology, sherri.vernelson@dpi.nc.gov.

c: Catherine Truitt
Sherry H. Thomas
Dr. Derrick Jordan
Sherri Vernelson

SD/SV