

NC Office of Charter Schools

6303 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-6303

Website: <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/charterschools>

Telephone: 919-807-3491

Please share these updates with appropriate staff at your school.

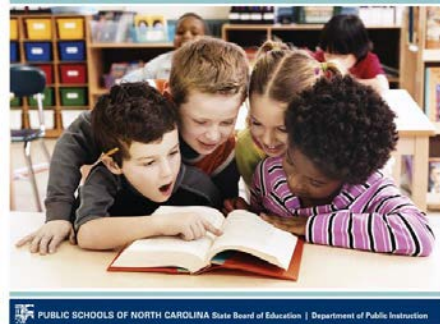
NCDPI Office of Charter Schools Updates

October 16 Planning Meeting Summary

All charter directors were invited to a meeting on October 16, hosted by Ms. Helen Nance at Gray Stone Day School. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss with NCDPI leaders and each other the services NCDPI offers to charter schools and how those services could be improved. Dr. Atkinson, Mr. Levinson, Mr. Martez Hill, and Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith engaged in informal conversation with the 30 or so directors in large and small group gatherings over 4 hours. The directors spent one portion of the meeting discussing how charters could better organize themselves to facilitate peer support and delivery of professional development and training from NCDPI. This constructive discussion produced a number of concrete recommendations that will be distributed to all directors soon, along with suggestions for next steps in moving these ideas forward. The meeting agenda is attached below.

Attachment: [Agenda for Meeting with Charter Directors at Gray Stone](#)

Office of Charter Schools



Upcoming Events

November 16 – 17, 2015

*Charter Schools Advisory
Board Meeting*

Important Announcement

EDDIE is the authoritative source for NC public school numbers and demographic information, and is used by multiple systems including; [Accountability](#), [PowerSchool](#), [NC School Report Cards](#), and is used to meet federal reporting requirements.

LEAs and charter schools are responsible for ensuring data are complete, accurate, and current.

EDDIE is located at: <http://apps.schools.nc.gov/eddie>

Grade Expansion and Enrollment Increase Process

The Grade Expansion and Enrollment Increase process is being revised. An update will be sent soon outlining the details of the revised process.

HB 334 Guidance Document

Attachment: [NCDPI Office of Charter Schools Guidance Document Legislative Update 2015](#)

Other NCDPI Updates

Dissecting State Charter School Funding (Webinar!)

Register now!

This one hour session will explain the State charter school allotment calculation; following the funds from the State Public School Fund appropriations to the local education agency allotments to the charter school base per student allocation. The component parts of what is included in the charter school funds will be illustrated. Join us for a webinar by clicking in one of the options below:

[October 29, 2015 11:30 AM EST.](#)

[November 3, 2015 3:00 PM EST.](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

[View System Requirements](#)

State Board of Education Conference Call

The North Carolina State Board of Education will meet via conference call on Monday, Oct. 26, at 10 a.m. The conference call will be hosted from the 7th Floor Board Room, Education Building, 301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh.

This will be a closed session meeting focused on litigation involving the State Board of Education. The opening of the meeting will be audio streamed as the chairman calls the meeting to order, asks for a roll call, and asks for a motion to go into closed session. The audio streaming will end at that time. The Board will return to open session and then adjourn immediately.

Questions regarding this meeting may be directed to the NCDPI Communications division at 919.807.3450.

NCDPI Finance Officers' Newsletter

Attachment: [Finance Newsletter](#)

ACT Aspire Periodics for C & I Leaders

Below please see a message that was sent to your testing coordinators Tuesday afternoon. Following many comments from the field regarding the difficulty some of you are experiencing in preparing to administer the ACT Periodics diagnostic assessment, we have researched further with ACT. We also are concerned with the unforeseen complexity of the process. The assessment will be available to you and should provide you with valuable information; however, the assessment is now considered optional. We encourage you to make your decision based on the best interest of your LEA, taking into account benefit versus time and resources commitment to make the diagnostic happen.

(Posted on TNN Tuesday, October 21)

ACT Aspire Periodics

As a replacement for the ACT Explore, the Department of Public Instruction implemented ACT Aspire Periodics for all students in 8th grade membership for the 2015–16 school year. This decision resolved a cost issue while also providing an 8th grade assessment with information on students' college and career readiness. It was the Department's understanding that the ACT Aspire Periodics assessment would be easily accessible online, and with its flexible administration window would have low impact on instructional time. As many of you have provided feedback on the logistics required for administering this assessment, it has been noted that the administration requirements are beyond the expectations for such an assessment. We have discussed your concerns, as well as our concerns with ACT, and after much consideration have concluded it is best to offer ACT Aspire Periodics as an option, not as a requirement for the 2015–16 school year. If local capacity supports the administration of the ACT Aspire Periodics, we encourage districts to proceed as planned.

Thank you for contributing to this discussion and for helping to prepare our students to be college and career ready.

ESL Federal Reporting Deadline Issue

Many NC Charter's do not have the "submit" button on the Counts Tab in PowerSchool. A ticket was submitted 10/21/2015 to remedy this known issue. A communication will be sent to the field when the problem is resolved.

Free Textbooks for Charter Schools

The textbook warehouse has FREE books available to any charter school. The only requirement to obtain the free books is sending a representative from the charter school to come inspect the "stock" and make your selections.

Interested parties can call Drew Fairchild at 919.715.5373, or visit the warehouse and ask for Oliver Upshaw or Dan Lovett.

NC Textbook Warehouse

3905 Reedy Creek Road

Raleigh, NC 27607

Student Survey Instrument

Attachment: [Student Survey Instrument Memo](#)

NCDPI Web Highlights

[Teachers' Biweekly Message](#)

[NC Partners Message](#)

[NCDPI Web Highlights](#)

[Principals' Weekly Message](#)

NCDPI Exceptional Children's Updates

New EC Hire Updates

Please see the attached announcements regarding a new literacy consultant for the Western Region and a new Charter School consultant for the Central and East Regions.

Attachment: [New Employee Announcement-Kevin Allen](#)

[New Employee Announcement-Laura Marsden](#)

Medicaid Data Needed

Attached is a request for data from each LEA. The deadline is November 15. (Please select "allow" if you receive a warning box after clicking on the link.)

If you have any questions, please contact:

Lauren Holahan - lauren_holahan@med.unc.edu or (919) 428-7201

Laurie Ray - laurie_ray@med.unc.edu or (919) 636-1827

Attachment: [Memo-Medicaid Data](#)