

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.

Office of Charter Schools Updates

- ***Leadership Institute***

We still have spaces available for you to attend the 2015 Leadership Institute at Sallie B Howard in Wilson, NC. We are extending the registration window to September 18, 2015. That is a week away and we hope to see you there!

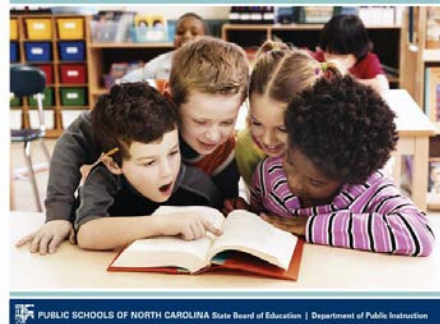
Please click the link below to read more information and to register.

Registration Link:

[2015 Leadership Institute Registration Link](#)

Direct questions to Brian Smith at brian.smith@dpi.nc.gov. The Office of Charter Schools is looking forward to learning with you in October!

Office of Charter Schools



Upcoming Events

October 5 – 7, 2015

*Charter School Leadership
Institute*

October 12, 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>**

- **Training Opportunity**

Board members from charter schools that are opening in 2016 are required to attend 5 face-to-face planning year sessions from September to January. The school leader and some of the board members are also required to attend the New Charter School Leaders Institute in June. As a customer service, the Office of Charter Schools is now opening up these sessions to all charter schools. If you have a new school leader and/or a new board member interested in attending any of the sessions, he or she must register to attend. Please note the schedule below:

Date	Time	Location	Topic
September 29, 2015	8:30 - 4:00	DPI: Room 150	Charter School Governance
October 28, 2015	8:30 - 4:00	DPI: Room 150	Charter School Finance
November 17, 2015	8:30 - 4:00	DPI: Room 150	Charter School Operations & Accountability
December 15, 2015	8:30 - 4:00	DPI: Room 150	Meeting the Needs of All Students
January 27, 2016	8:30 - 4:00	DPI: Room 150	Our School Opens in 7 Months! Now What?
June 14- 15, 2016	8:30 - 4:30	DPI: Rooms 150, 224, 564	New Charter School Leaders Institute

Registration Information & Link:

Registration is now open for the September session. Registration ends on Sunday, September 20th. Please use this link to register: [September 2015 Planning Year Session Registration Link](#)

For questions, please contact Kebbler Williams at kebbler.williams@dpi.nc.gov.

- **Licensure**

The Office of Charter Schools will review the first official licensure report for the 2015 – 2016 school year this month. Please make sure your teacher rosters are entered correctly in PowerSchool and that teachers have students assigned to them. NC General Statutes 115C-218.90(a1) and State Board of Education Policy TCS-U-006 mandates that at least 50% of teachers in a charter school have a clear and current NC teaching license in the grade and subjects taught. Expired, out-of-state, or licenses in processing will not count towards your school's licensure percentage. Failure to comply with policy and statute may result in significant financial implications. For more information, please refer to the OCS Guidance Document 1.1 found at [Licensure Guidance Document](#).

NCDPI Updates

- ***School Administrator Survey on 2015 School Counseling Standards***

A very brief survey has been developed to seek North Carolina school administrator input on what NCDPI staff can do to best support school administrators with effectively utilizing the school counselor professional standards and evaluation to benefit their schools through delivery of comprehensive school counseling services.

This is an anonymous survey of four questions, plus a comment box at the end. Click [here](#) to participate in the survey, which closes **Sept. 21**. If you have any questions, please contact [Cynthia Floyd](#). Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated.

- ***Lowering U.S. and N.C. Flags on September 11, 2015 for Patriot Day***

Governor Pat McCrory has ordered that all United States and North Carolina flags to be lowered to half-staff at all state facilities from sunrise to sunset on Friday, Sept. 11, for Patriot Day.

"We must never forget that Sept. 11, 2001 was not only a tragic day for our country, but for the world," Governor McCrory said. "Although the United States was the target, citizens from 80 other nations also perished during these unspeakable terrorist attacks. This flag lowering is a testament that we will never forget those who died and that their sacrifice will not be in vain."

- ***NCDPI Web Highlights***

[NCDPI Web Highlights Newsletter](#)

Exceptional Children's Updates

- Please see the attached regarding participation in the Augmentative and Alternative Communication/Assistive Technology (AAC/AT) Interdisciplinary Assessment Team Initiative.

If you have any questions, please contact Ronda Layman at ronda.layman@dpi.nc.gov or 919 807-4059.

Attachment: [Memo-AAC Team Initiatives 0915](#)

- Please see the attached regarding Behavior Support Consultants and their Region.

Attachment: [Memo-BSS Regional Cons 0915](#)

- Please see the attached notification of Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs) approved to provide special education. All students with disabilities placed in PRTFs are entitled to the same rights and procedural safeguards as outlined in the *North Carolina Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*.

If you have any questions, please contact Glendora Hagins at 919 910 417-5915 or Glendora.hagins@dpi.nc.gov.

Attachment: [Memo-PRTF Approved 0915](#)

Home Base Updates

- Please find the Home Base Biweekly for this week attached, along with a more detailed message about new items available in Schoolnet!

Attachment: [20150903 Home Base Bi-Weekly](#)

[New Item Message](#)

- Please see the attached regarding the importance and change in focus for the EC Regional Meetings.

If you have any questions, please contact your Regional EC Education Consultant.

Attachment: [Memo-Regional Meetings 0915](#)

PowerSchool and IAM Updates

- As we have reported previously, PowerSchool has been recently experiencing intermittent logout issues related to the integration with the Identity and Access Management (IAM) solution. Both vendors, PowerSchool and IDAuto, continue to work together around the clock, along with NCDPI staff and volunteer LEAs to isolate this issue and provide a permanent solution. The problem, however, proves to be extremely difficult to reproduce in test environments given the intermittent nature of the issue.

We believe that it is time to provide LEAs and charter schools with other options in order to be able to efficiently use PowerSchool. LEAs and charter schools will now have the option to temporarily opt out of IAM integration with PowerSchool for their administrators and teachers and revert back to the PowerSchool native authentication mechanism.

If your LEA or charter school chooses to opt-out of the IAM integration with PowerSchool for administrators and teachers, you will need to log a ticket with the HomeBase support center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov. You will then receive a packet of information on how this can be achieved and you will be assigned to a support center professional who can assist you in this transition.

Please be note the following:

- This option applies only to teachers and administrators, not to students. Students will continue to use IAM to access PowerSchool in order to keep things simple for them. Furthermore, intermittent access for students does not impact instruction. Students only use PowerSchool for checking schedules, attendance and grades.
- Opting out applies only to PowerSchool. All other HomeBase applications and other integrated applications will continue to use IAM for authentication.
- Users will still be able to access PowerSchool from the IAM portal, but when they click on the PowerSchool icon, they will be redirected to PowerSchool where they will be prompted to enter their PowerSchool credentials.
- When PowerSchool and IdAuto resolve the issues, we will coordinate with your district administrators on the best timing to return to the IAM authentication method for PowerSchool for your staff.

We sincerely appreciate your patience and your forthright feedback through the various emails, tickets, office hours, and meetings as we continue to work on this issue. We are particularly thankful to the many LEAs who have volunteered and are working with us for the various levels of testing we are performing.

As always, we will keep you updated. Contact Michael Nicolaides with questions or concerns at Michael.Nicolaides@dpi.nc.gov.