

**1.0 Participation  
Justification Form 2017-18**

1.

<b>3-Digit LEA/Charter Code: 830</b>	<b>District Charter Name: Scotland County Schools</b>
<b>Contact Name: Angeline Cotton</b>	<b>Contact Title: Director of Special Education</b>
<b>Contact Phone No.: (910)276-1138</b>	<b>Contact Email: acotton@scotland.k12.nc.us</b>

**2. Enter a description of how the district/charter school will assure that Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams are adhering to the eligibility criteria as outlined in the Testing Students with Disabilities publication when determining student eligibility for participation in the alternate assessment.**

In our district when determining if a student will participate in an alternate assessment, our IEP teams consider the following:

- Student participation in an appropriate curriculum (NC Extended Content Standards) in one or more of the academic areas. IEP Teams consider whether the NC Extended Content Standards is appropriate for students?
- IEP teams explain to parents the most appropriate assessment students will participate based on curriculum he/she is receiving instruction.
- IEP Teams should also consider whether students (once they enter high school) will follow a Certificate or Diploma Track.
- IEP Teams will look at the nature and impact of student's disability on his/her academic and functional performance when determining the curriculum and/or course of student students will follow.
- Level of supports/assistance needed daily for student to access NC Extended Content Standards Curriculum successfully

Our EC Teachers during our Curriculum and Instruction Week receive specific training on the NC Extended Content Standards (and objectives). Pacing Guides, Lesson Plans and Benchmark Test Items are developed for the first and second nine weeks. Upon review of an internal folder audit (conducted during the Summer), our EC Leadership Team determined that additional training needed to be offered to address who the NCEXTEND 1 Assessment is meant for; the training focused on NCEXTEND 1 Eligibility Criteria (Appendix D NC Alternate Assessment Decision-Making Chart). Teachers are encouraged to utilize chart and review eligibility criteria during meetings with parents. During our upcoming year, EC Leadership Team will continue to provide refresher training, monitor and follow-up with school staff as new data (Benchmark Test, weekly assessments, evaluation results) collected throughout the year.

**3. Enter a description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined and plans for how that disproportionality will be addressed. •**

**Description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined:**

During the 2016-2017 school year we had a total of 43 students participating in the Alternate Assessment; of the 43 student, 34 were males (20 African American (AA); 4 American Indian (AI) and 10 White (WH)); 9 females (5 AA and 4 WH). Data shows that of students participating in Alternate Assessment more than half are African American and overall males make up 79% of our Alternate Assessment participants. Further review of the data shows that Scotland County Schools was 1% and/or exceeded the 1% participation in the NC EXTEND 1:

**Scotland County Schools**

<b>Subject and Grade(s)</b>	<b>Numerator</b>	<b>Denominator</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Reading Grade 3	5 2F(1AA/1WH) 3M(2AA/1WH)	480	1.0%
Math Grade 3	5 2F(1AA/1WH) 3M(2AA/1WH)	481	1.2%
Reading Grade 6	9 9M(5AA/1AI/3WH)	381	2.4%
Math Grade 6	9 9M(5AA/1AI/3WH)	381	2.4%
Reading Grade 8	8 3F(2AA/1WH) 5M(4AA/1WH)	443	1.8%
Math Grade 8	8 3F(2AA/1WH) 5M(4AA/1WH)	443	1.8%
Science Grade 8	8 3F(2AA/1WH) 5M(4AA/1WH)	443	1.8%
Reading Grade 10	7 2F(1AA/1WH) 5M(3AI/2WH)	368	1.9%
Math Grade 10	7 2F(1AA/1WH) 5M(3AI/2WH)	368	1.9%
Science Grade 11	5 1F(1WH) 4M(2AA/2WH)	400	1.2%
All 3-8 Reading	30 6F(4AA/2WH) 25(16AA/7WH/1AI)	2634	1.1%
All 3-8 Math	31 6F(4AA/2WH) 25(17AA/7WH/1AI)	2364	1.2%
All 5-8 Science	10 2F(1AA/1WH) 8M(7AA/1WH)	913	1.1%

• Plans for how disproportionality will be addressed:

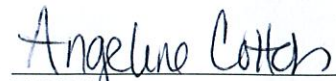
- Review of policy and practices when determining eligibility for Special Education Services as well as appropriate curriculum and assessment Criteria (consistent use of Appendix D-NC Alternate Assessment Decision-Making Chart)
- Review of internal audit data
- Progress Monitoring and review of student progress and classroom performance in all academic areas (curriculum) to determine if participation in the NC SCOS with supports is feasible or continued participation in NC Extended Content Standards
- Monthly Review of MTSS data (number of students in each Tier (to include race, gender and exceptionality)/possible referrals to EC)
- Professional Development for Teachers on NC Extended Content Standards and Eligibility Criteria for NC EXTEND 1

**4. Enter additional justification of variables not covered but deemed essential to understanding why the district/charter school has a higher rate of alternate assessment participation.**

- In reviewing student progress report/progress towards IEP goals, classroom performance and participation in the NC Extended Content Standards, it was determined that two students participating in the Alternate Assessment during the 2016-2017 school year. Although, both students are performing at least two grade levels below their peers, it was determined that the NC Extended Content Standards and NCEXTEND 1 were not the most appropriate curriculum and assessment for these students. Students are now receiving instruction in the NC Standard Course of Study Curriculum and assessed on regular EOG with accommodations.
- Data also shows that there are multiple siblings living in the same household who are participating in the NCEXTEND 1.
- 18% of student population is identified as a Student with Disabilities
- 66% of Students With Disabilities in Scotland County are male
- Scotland County Demographics: African American 45.68%, American Indian 15.68%, Asian .83%, Hispanic 3.53%, White 29.58%, Other 4.7%. The district is 100% free and reduced lunch, with an unemployment rate of 7.9% (Bureau of Labor Statistics, November 2017), one of the highest in the state.

  
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Superintendent

5/1/18  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EC Director

5/1/18  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LEA Testing Coordinator

5/1/18  
Date