



OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Superintendent Catherine Truitt State Board of Education Report

April 8, 2021

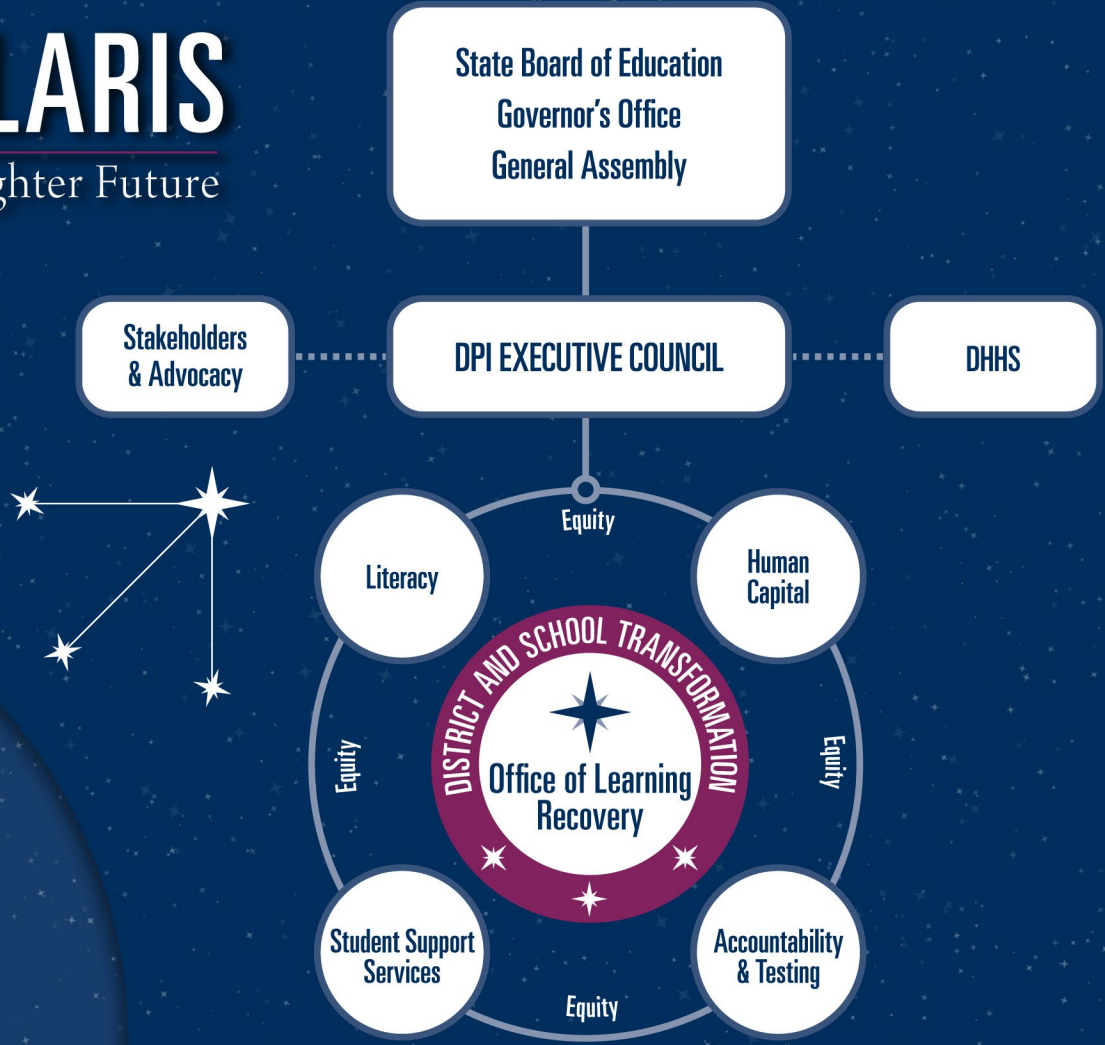
North Star

Every student deserves a highly-qualified, excellent teacher in every classroom.



OPERATION POLARIS

Navigating Students Toward a Brighter Future



Operation Polaris

- WHAT:

Capitalizing on previous groundwork laid by SBE/DPI, we are charting a path forward **that will guide our work over the next four years** to ensure that every student receives a sound, basic education.

- HOW:

Working groups lead by internal DPI staff and alongside external stakeholders as well.

- WHY:

We will address the challenges of COVID, but we must also work towards fulfilling a long-term, forward-thinking vision to transform public education in our state.



Office of Learning Recovery and Acceleration



Lead By: Michael Maher

DPI MEMBERS:

- David Stegall
- Bev Emory
- Cynthia Martin
- Fred Steen
- Robert Taylor
- Catherine Edmonds
- Deanna-Townsend Smith
- Shelby Armentrout
- Julie Pittman

OUTSIDE DPI:

- Denise Tillery-
Principal, Wake Forest
Elementary School
- Anna Egalite-
Associate Professor, NC State
- Lorry Floyd-
Dean, UNC Pembroke School of
Education



Office of Learning Recovery and Acceleration

- Mission:
 - The mission of the OLR is to serve PSUs by providing the research and support needed to make evidence-based decisions to combat learning loss and accelerate learning for all students.
 - The OLR will interface with District and School Transformation and collaborate with each of the constituent units within DPI. The OLR partners with PSUs and other stakeholders to bring needed solutions to long-standing challenges facing NC public education.



Office of Learning Recovery and Acceleration

- Vision:
 - Identify areas of strength and areas for improvement as PSUs address learning recovery
 - Develop and curate programs, policies, and interventions related to learning recovery
 - Provide technical and other assistance to those who need it via our Office of District and School Transformation
 - Develop a research program to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions initiated by PSUs and those initiated by DPI



Office of District and School Transformation



Lead By: Dr. Bev Emory

DPI MEMBERS:

- Alessandro Montanari
- Cynthia Martin
- Catherine Edmonds
- Latricia Townsend
- Julie Pittman
- Fred Steen
- Jessica Swencki
- Chris Triolo
- Michael Maher
- Freebird McKinney

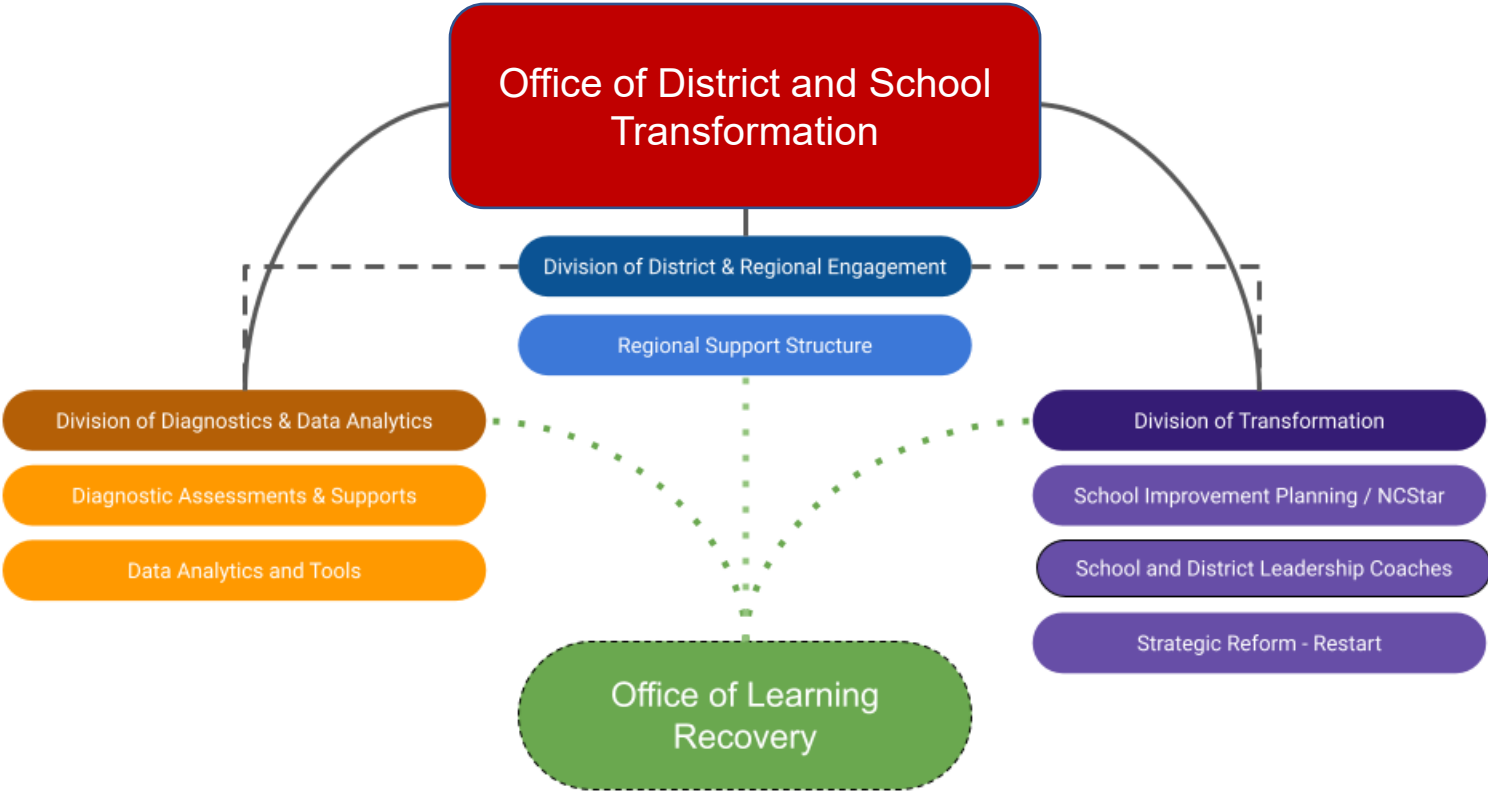
- Tabari Wallace
- Shelby Armentrout
- Deanna Townsend-Smith

OUTSIDE DPI:

- Paula Wilkins-
Principal, Cook Literacy Model
School
- Denise Watts-
UVA Thought Partner
- Tony Jackson-
Superintendent, Vance County
Schools



District and School Transformation



District and School Transformation

- Vision:
 - District and School Transformation will operationalize the work of the Office of Learning Recovery by developing and delivering support to districts and schools.
 - They will diagnose, customize and activate NCDPI support teams to address the critical components of the Operation Polaris workgroups.
 - They will prioritize support for our most challenged schools and districts in coordination with Leandro.



Accountability and Testing



Lead By: Dr. David Stegall

DPI MEMBERS:

- David Stegall
- Kristie VanAuken
- Tammy Howard
- Freebird McKinney
- Michael Maher
- Catherine Edmonds
- Deanna Townsend-Smith
- Fred Steen
- Shelby Armentrout
- Sherry Thomas
- Trey Michaels

OUTSIDE DPI:

- Jill Camnitz-
Northeast Education Region,
SBE Member
- Brenda Berg-
President & CEO, BEST NC
- Don Phipps-
Superintendent, Caldwell
County Schools
- Travis Reeves-
Superintendent, Surry County
Schools
- Kelly Fuller-
President, NC Chamber
- Ashton Clemmons-
District 57 Representative, NC
General Assembly
- Jeni Corn-
Director of Strategic Initiatives,
myFutureNC
- Lynn Moody-
Strategic Advisor, TIP
- Maureen Stover-
NC Teacher of the Year
- Diana Lys-
Dean, UNC-Chapel Hill
School of Education
- Frank Barnes-
Chief Accountability
Officer, Charlotte-Mecklenburg



Accountability and Testing

- Vision:
 - To transform North Carolina's K-12 accountability system to ensure a sound basic education for every student by measuring success based on preparedness for the workforce, higher education and robust civic participation.



Student Support



Lead By: Dr. Robert Taylor

DPI MEMBERS:

- Ellen Essick
- Sara Reives
- Lynn Harvey
- Karen Fairley
- Richard Clifton
- Eliz Colbert
- Robert Taylor
- Nathan Maune

OUTSIDE DPI:

- Helen Roberts-School Outreach Educator, No Kid Hungry
- Department of Information Technology



Student Support

- Vision
 - To coordinate support services to increase student access to high-quality instructional services through a focus on five key areas that impact student performance: socio-emotional, nutrition, school safety, broadband connectivity, and school facilities.



Literacy



Lead By: Dr. Catherine Edmonds

DPI MEMBERS:

- Catherine Edmonds
- Amy Rhyne
- Alessandro Montanari
- Damion Lewis
- Susan Laney
- Sherry Thomas
- Michael Maher
- Deanna Townsend-Smith
- Shelby Armentrout
- Fred Steen

OUTSIDE DPI:

- Johanna Anderson-
Executive Director, Belk Foundation
- Susan Gates-
Special Advisor on Education, SAS
- Anna Spangler Nelson-
UNC Board of Governors
- Tom West-
NC Independent Colleges
and Universities
- Phil Kirk-
NC Independent Colleges
and Universities
- Lisa Eads-
NC Community Colleges
- Laura Bilbro-Berry-
UNC System



Literacy

- Vision:
 - Equip all Pre-K through 5th grade teachers, literacy coaches, and administrators with early literacy instruction methods grounded in the body of research known as the “science of reading.”



Human Capital



Lead By: Derrick Jordan

DPI MEMBERS:

- Derrick Jordan
- Tabari Wallace
- Tom Tomberlin
- Fred Steen
- Michael Maher
- Catherine Edmonds
- Deanna Townsend-Smith
- Catherine Truitt
- Shelby Armentrout

OUTSIDE DPI:

- Brenda Berg – President & CEO, BEST NC
- Patrick Miller – Superintendent, Greene County
- Marci Holland – Sr. Director, Wake County
- Kristi Rhone – Assistant Superintendent, Pitt County
- Lisa Godwin – Teacher, Dixon Elementary
- Brad Richardson – Principal, Forest City-Dunbar Elementary



Human Capital

- Vision:
 - To cultivate people and systems to improve the recruitment and retention of highly-qualified teachers, administrators, and support personnel for every PSU in North Carolina.



Operation Polaris: Alignment

- **North Star:** Every student deserves a highly-qualified, excellent teacher in every classroom.
- **SBE Goals:**
 - Goal 1: Eliminate opportunity gaps by 2025
 - Goal 2: Improve school and district performance by 2025
 - Goal 3: Increase educator preparedness to meet the needs of every student by 2025
- **Opportunity:**
 - ESSER 3 Funding



ESSER 3 Funding Priorities

Extended Learning Opportunities (\$199.5 million)

- a. Extended Learning and Integrated Student Supports Competitive Grant Program
- b. Extended Learning Recovery and Enrichment (Summer)
- c. Extended Learning Recovery After-School Enrichment
- d. Mastery Based Programs and Assessments
- e. ESSER I/II/III Promising Practices Expansion Fund
- f. Diagnostic Assessments
- g. K-5 Learning and Kindergarten Readiness

Specialized instructional support (\$37.5 million)

- a. Social Emotional Learning Programming and Resources
- b. Research Partners
- c. High Impact Tutoring

Data Tracking and IT Projects (\$10,750,000)

- a. Contract, asset, and efficiency management
- b. Lost and disengaged student targeted outreach
- c. Competency-Based Education platform

