

Exceptional Children Information for Parents

July 1, 2020



Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

<https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov>

Optional Parent Survey - Reprint

Parents/Guardians of children with disabilities are invited to participate in two research studies. The first study entitled “*Perceptions of IEP Meetings Through the Lens of Parents*” is being conducted by Dr. James Deni, a faculty member at Appalachian State University and Dr. Stephanie Corcoran, a faculty member at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Diane Coffey, Parent to Parent Family Support Network at Appalachian State University. The second study entitled “*A Snapshot of Special Education*” is also being conducted by Dr. Jim Deni and Diane Coffey, Parent to Parent Family Support Network at Appalachian State University, as well as Morgan Brooks, School Psychology Graduate Student.

If you agree to take part in one or both of the research studies, you will be asked to complete a survey, which is estimated to take approximately ten minutes.

This research study is anonymous. No one, including the researcher, will be able to associate your responses with your identity. Your participation is voluntary. You may choose not to participate, to stop responding at any time, or to skip questions that you do not want to answer. You must be at least 18 years of age to participate in this study. Your participation serves as your voluntary agreement to participate in this research project and your certification that you are 18 years or older.

Questions regarding the purpose or procedures of the research projects should be directed to Jim Deni at denijr@appstate.edu. This study has been exempted from Institutional Review Board (IRB) review in accordance with Federal regulations. The IRB, a university committee established by Federal law, is responsible for protecting the rights and welfare of research participants. If you have concerns or questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the IRB Administrator at 229-259-5045 or irb@valdosta.edu. *Perceptions of IEP Meetings Through the Lens of Parents* Survey Link: https://appstate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bNmVEWUf6gHXWPb

A Snapshot of Special Education Survey Link: https://appstate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eeugAnueMMaYNud

Please note: This optional parent survey is being conducted by Appalachian State University; not on behalf of the NC Department of Public Instruction.

Check out previous newsletters for other resources.

<https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/parent-resources/parent-newsletter-2020>

Important Links

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [N.C. Department of Health & Human Services](#)
- [N.C. Department of Public Instruction](#)
- [No Kid Hungry](#)
- [NCDPI-COVID-19 Responses & Resources](#)

2020-2021 Reopening Guidebook

The NC State Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction, in consultation and response to guidelines issued by the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), have developed guidance to support local education agencies and communities in determining their plans and strategies for reopening schools. [Lighting Our Way Forward: Summary Document](#) provides an overview and synthesis of NCDHHS requirements, clear, actionable steps that are advisable before students and employees return to school building, and guidance that is applicable throughout the 2020-21 school year. This Summary Document includes links to the more comprehensive and detailed *Lighting Our Way Forward: North Carolina's Guidebook for Reopening Public Schools*. The Guidebook is a living document that will continue to capture the most current information to help guide districts and communities.

Upcoming Events

Do you have an upcoming event you'd like to share with the community? Please email with information.

Contact: Alexis Utz, Parent Liaison
Exceptional Children Division, NC DPI
Email: alexis.utz@dpi.nc.gov