



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Exceptional Children Program Directors
Charter School Directors
State-Operated Program Directors

FROM: Mary N. Watson, Director *MNW*
Exceptional Children Division

DATE: December 9, 2010

SUBJECT: Related Services Support

The Exceptional Children Division is pleased to announce additional support for related services personnel. To better facilitate information sharing, state consultants in School Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech Language Pathology will each facilitate two meetings annually. These meetings will be with the lead therapists/psychologists (or a designee from each LEA/charter school). It is the responsibility of the local Exceptional Children Director to delegate a meeting attendee if a lead psychologist, SLP, OT, or PT is not already identified.

In support, the Exceptional Children Division will provide \$10,000.00 to each LEA and \$2000.00 to each charter school/state-operated program. These funds will be allocated through PRC 118 and are to be used for travel, lodging, and subsistence related to meeting attendance.

Meeting agendas will include some combination of continuing education, LEA reports, work groups, and problem-solving. Attendees are expected to disseminate the information to LEA colleagues to build capacity and promote best practices throughout our state. Attendees may also be needed to participate in collective projects that may take some time outside of the meetings. However, this extra time would be the exception, not the norm. Materials may be provided at the meetings to support training for all the therapists serving the LEA. Remaining funds should be used to supply additional materials, support retention initiatives, training, and capacity-building for therapists at the local level. Some suggestions for expending these funds include:

- Professional development activities
- Reimbursement for state licensure
- Reimbursement for continuing education (specifically NC DPI Conference on Exceptional Children and related service Institutes)
- Professional journals and other relevant resources in LEA professional library
- Administrative supports for itinerant providers (e.g. laptops, pagers,)
- Assessment and treatment supplies

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

Mary N. Watson, Director

6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6356 | (919) 807-3969 | Fax (919) 807-3243

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

If you have any questions related to the funding, please contact Laura Snyder at 919-807-3992 or lsnyder@dpi.state.nc.us.

Questions related to the meetings should be directed to the appropriate consultant:

Caroline Hexdall, School Psychology Consultant at caroline.hexdall@cdl.unc.edu

Laurie Ray, PT Consultant at laurie_ray@med.unc.edu

Lauren Holahan, OT Consultant at lauren_holahan@med.unc.edu

Perry Flynn, Speech Language Consultant at pfflynn@uncg.edu

MNW/LHS/kb

- c Laura Snyder
- Caroline Hexdall
- Laurie Ray
- Lauren Holahan
- Perry Flynn
- Regional Consultants