



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*
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July 18, 2014

TO: Superintendents
Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Joel Medley, Director, Office of Charter Schools
Dale Armstrong, Division Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Martin Pharr, Superintendent, Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice
Rick Smith, Director of Education Services, Division of Adult Correction
Barbria Bacon, Superintendent, Education Services for the Deaf and Blind

FROM: Tracy S. Weeks, Ph.D. *Tow*
Chief Academic and Digital Learning Officer
Academic and Digital Learning

William J. Hussey, Director *WJH*
Exceptional Children Division

2014 EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN TEACHER OF EXCELLENCE RECOGNITION

The Exceptional Children Division's 64th Conference on Exceptional Children will be held at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro on November 3, 2014 through November 4, 2014. It is our desire to pay special tribute to exceptional children teachers and to present the 2014 Teacher of Excellence Award at the conference.

We will recognize one teacher or related service provider from each of the 115 school systems, one each from the Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Division of Prison Education Services, and Division of State Operated Healthcare Facilities, and one teacher or related service provider per region from charter schools. The teachers will have special seating during the Monday morning plenary session; have their names listed with appropriate information in the conference program; attend a ceremony in their honor on Monday evening; and have their pictures displayed in a prominent location at the conference. Each recipient of the Teacher of Excellence Award will receive a paid registration to the conference and one roundtrip mileage reimbursement to and from the conference. It is the responsibility of the school system, charter school or state agency to reimburse the nominated teacher for lodging and subsistence.

To facilitate the selection process, the Exceptional Children Division requests that:

- local school systems identify one teacher or related service provider of exceptional children.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

William J. Hussey, *Director* | bill.hussey@dpi.nc.gov

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

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- the Education Services for the Deaf and Blind identify one teacher or related service provider of exceptional children.
- the charter schools will identify one teacher or related service provider of exceptional children (one per region will be selected).
- the Division of Prison Education Services identify one teacher or related service provider of exceptional children from the schools under its oversight.

The person selected must hold at least a Class A license if a teacher; at least a Class G license if an audiologist, a speech-language pathologist or school psychologist; or be licensed by the appropriate licensing board if an occupational therapist or a physical therapist. In addition, the person must have at least five years of school experience, maintain a student caseload and deliver daily instruction or therapy/services to students with disabilities, and be recognized as a leader in service to the school and/or school system through innovative instructional programs or methodologies that have demonstrated positive outcomes for students with disabilities. Consideration should also be given to the person whose leadership, dedication, and service in extracurricular and nonacademic activities have improved the quality of education for exceptional children and youth. It is the responsibility of the nominating entity to ensure that the person selected is a positive reflection on the educational profession. Prior recipients of the award should not be renominated.

Details about the person selected should be submitted electronically. The submission should contain:

1. a PDF of a letter that describes the person's contributions as mentioned above (the letter must carry the signatures of the Superintendent and the Exceptional Children Program Director on school system letterhead);
2. a 3" x 5" digital color photograph (facial shot png or jpg) of the person; and
3. the **Nomination Form** with all fields completed.

All packet documents are to be submitted electronically **by Monday, September 15, 2014.**

Please submit nomination by using one of the following links:

Traditional LEAs: <https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=QEk4KiInoyiwT0RTyXyPIA>

Charter Schools: <https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=iaUvZrzcXnmxfDmOJA1ELw>

We look forward to your participation in this event to recognize and honor Exceptional Children Teachers of Excellence. You may direct any questions or concerns to Marie Massengill at marie.massengill@dpi.nc.gov.

TSW/WJH/SHT/gdh