ECATS
Project Kick-off

April 6, 2017

NC
Department of
Public Instruction
Agenda

- Introductions
- ECATS RFP History
- ECATS Goals
- Background & Experience
- ECATS Services
- ECATS Rollout Strategy
- Project Management Methodology & Approach

BREAK

- Development Methodology
- Development Life Cycle
- Project Integration & Data Flow
- Risk Mitigation & Key Decisions
- Upcoming Next Steps
- Questions
Exceptional Children Accountability Tracking System (ECATS)
ECATS RFP History

- DPI is partnering with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to provide a statewide platform for Exceptional Children case management, Medicaid documentation, and Multi Tier System of Support for student support and planning, and data analysis and reporting.
ECATS Goals

- **Improve** student success and better prepare students for graduation and beyond

- **Provide** integrated multi-module system which meets requirements and provides a user-friendly experience

- **Deliver** an ECATS system on time and within budget

- **Provide** establish robust training and support models

- **Establish** sound communication and project management protocols to ensure transparency and shared focus

- **Maintain** cross-functional goal setting practices which ensure sound and sustainable technology, security, function, and work streams
Background & Experience

PCG Facts

- Founded in 1986
- 62 U.S. & International Offices
- 2,200+ employees
- 27 state agency clients
- 14 statewide education data systems
- 25% of U.S. special education population

North Carolina Facts

- 5+ years with NCDPI
- 20+ years with NCDHHS
- 60 NC LEAs
Background & Experience (cont.)

- Tennessee
  - 2004 – Present
  - 180,000+ Special Education Students

- New Hampshire
  - 2005 – Present
  - 30,000+ Special Education Students

- D.C.
  - 2008 – Present
  - 11,000+ Special Education Students

- Indiana
  - 2010 – Present
  - 175,000+ Special Education Students

- Oklahoma
  - 2015 – Present
  - 100,000+ Special Education Students

PCG recently won the statewide special education engagement with the Virginia Department of Education.
ECATS Services

- Special Education Data Collection & IEP Process
  - Progress Monitoring
  - Record Review
  - Compliance Review
  - Behavior Support
  - IEP Due Process
  - Special Funding
  - Paperless Storage
  - New State IEP Forms/Process

- Multi-Tier System of Support
  - Intervention Planning
  - Early Warning System
  - CEIS Reports

- Fee-for-Service Documentation
  - Supervision Sign Off
  - Plan of Care
  - Medicaid Billing Fee Discount

- Data & Reporting
  - 75 Standard Reports
  - Advanced Reporting Module
  - Operational Data Store
  - Historical Data Migration

- Project Support
  - Service Level Agreement
  - Full Service Implementation
  - Train-the-Trainer, Videos, Webinars
  - Tier 2 & 3 Support
ECATS Rollout Strategy As Initially Proposed

**Track 1**
- IEP & FFS
  - Configuration & Customization
  - Data Integration & Uploads
  - Systems Testing
  - Reporting Setup
  - Deployment Planning
  - Pilot
  - Statewide Rollout

**Track 2**
- MTSS
  - Readiness Survey
  - Configuration & Customization
  - Data Integration & Uploads
  - Systems Testing
  - Reporting Setup
  - Deployment Planning
  - Pilot
  - Statewide Rollout
Project Management Methodology & Approach

**PCG Project Management Methodology**

- **Project Initiation**
- **Planning**
- **Execution**
- **Control**
- **Project Closeout**

*Integration, Scope, Time, Cost, Quality, HR, Risk, Communication*

_Understand the goal._

_Be proactive and stay on task._

_Deliver results._
Project Management Methodology & Approach (cont.)

Plan Management and Tracking
- Charter Development
- Plan Development
- Plan Updates
- Progress Monitoring and Reporting
- Resource Analysis

Change Management
- Modify Plan Based on CM Analysis
- Project Management Process Review
- Analysis and Corrective Actions Recommendation
- Change Management Reporting

Project Risk Management
- Ongoing Project Management Review
- Meeting Monitoring and Facilitation
- Issue Tracking and Resolution

Communication Management
- Communication Plan
- Status Reporting
- Documentation Control and Administration
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Weekly Data Team</td>
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*Timeline illustrated here is based on initially proposed timeline and not representing final delivery plan.*
Break
Development Methodology

This project will follow the standardized PCG EDU Solution Development Life Cycle (SDLC) and Project Management Methodology outlined in the PCG PMO Guidebook. This includes two approaches:

- Waterfall Model – Traditional Approach
- Agile Development – Rapid Application Development

[Diagram of the SDLC process]
Development Life Cycle

IEP Process Development

Vision

Team

Goals

Services

LRE

Continue

Implementation & Developer Testing

Design & Analysis

Detailed Requirements

Evaluation / Prioritization

QA / Acceptance Testing

Deployment
Project Integration & Data Flow

SIS

NCEdCloud Identity and Access Management (IAM) Service

ECATS Single Data Entry Point

PBIS

MTSS

Special Education

Medicaid

ECATS Data
Accessible via BI Tool

External Medicaid Data sources (Input)
• Claim Submissions (Output)

External Data Sources

External MTSS Data Sources

State ODS

CEDARS

Aggregate Data Only

LEA Self Assessment

LEA Reporting

EC SEA Activities
Risk Mitigation & Key Decisions

- Finalize new IEP state forms and process
- Load historical data in a timely manner
- Meet project plan timelines
- Establish data integration and integrity
- Integrate with large scale systems and enforcing authoritative sources
- Provide MTSS readiness supports for adoption while end users simultaneously learn ECATS technology
- Balance local LEA customization desires with the requirement for a uniform statewide platform
- Provide Tier 1 DPI support that addresses ECATS requirements
- Establish clear, effective statewide communication methods
Upcoming Next Steps

- Immediate: Approve PCG Delivery Project Charter
- April 10: Begin requirements verification, elaboration for base code requirements
- April 14: Approve PCG supporting project documents
- April 14: Finalize and approve IEP Form changes
- April 28: Detailed ECATS delivery project plan
- Upcoming Tasks: Security Review, Architecture Review, and Baseline Plan
Questions & Answers
ECATS Communication Source

Website: http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ecats/
Thank You

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