



**PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*  
WWW.NCPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG

July 31, 2017

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Directors, Exceptional Children Programs  
EC Coordinators, Charter Schools

**From:** William J. Hussey 

**Re:** Behavior Support Section and MTSS

After a great deal of consideration, the Behavior Support Section (BSS), within the Exceptional Children Division (ECD), will join the Division of Integrated Academic and Behavior Systems (DIABS) (MTSS). The two teams have been meeting over a period of time and integration became the logical response as to how they should be working together. This is an evolving transition, so this will be the first of several emails detailing new changes.

Osmond Lister, Rhonda Harrell, Jennifer Phelps, Leslie Lowery, Nancy Kueffer and Teri Putnam will integrate to the DIABS in the latter part of November or early December. Lisa Taylor and Felicia Goodgion will remain as Behavior Specialists in the ECD and will move to the Supporting Teaching and Related Services Section. Lisa and Felicia's roles and responsibilities will change and once finalized it will be shared through regional meetings. Amanda Byrd will integrate to the DIABS in spring 2018 but will remain with the ECD to help facilitate the PRC 29 process. Joe Simmons will remain in the ECD to work across Divisions to help support a successful move.

The BSS will complete a transition plan by mid-September. Once this transition plan is complete, it will be shared regionally. The impact and the supports provided to each region will/may be different, based on the region's need, and therefore will be individualized.

The PRC 29 allocation process will be reviewed and a new allocation process in place for the 2018-2019 school year. The ECD and DIABS will look more broadly at how the funds are being used and provide suggestions which will be brought to the Directors' Advisory Council (DAC) and other Directors to receive feedback. The ECD has been funding positions with PRC 29 for a great many years without much change in student outcomes. There needs to be a closer look at what can be done to promote better student outcomes and adjust accordingly. This doesn't mean the ECD won't support positions but it does mean that everything is on the table for consideration.

The Division Directors and the Sections Chiefs involved will meet with the BSS and DIABS staff to begin the transition and to work through questions as they arise. As stated above, once the transition plan is complete and the PRC 29 conversation progresses, the ECD and DIABS will communicate with all LEAs and Charter Schools as well as DAC to ensure everyone is kept informed with the changes.

WJH/tb

**EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION**

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

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

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER