



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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April 15, 2019

To: Exceptional Children Directors
EC Coordinators, Charter Schools
Directors, State Operated Programs
Directors, ESDB Schools

From: Sherry H. Thomas, Director *SHH*

Subject: House Bill 317 Data Collection for the 2018-2019 School Year

The annual data collection for Session Law 2013-119, House Bill 317: *An Act To Improve Educational Outcomes For North Carolina Children Who Are Deaf Or Hard of Hearing*, will be sent to your designated primary contact by Thursday, April 18, 2019. If the contact has not received an email by that date, please have him/her check their spam or junk email folder as a first course of action. If that proves unfruitful, please contact your Regional Consultant for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing listed below for assistance.

The Sensory Support and Assistive Technology Section has been working with a Research Specialist from the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences at UNC-Chapel Hill, Thomas Page, Ph.D., to move the data collection into Qualtrics, an electronic reporting tool. This is a change in format from last year's data collection spreadsheet. Additionally, Mr. Page has recorded a webinar that will review the new Qualtrics reporting tool which can be viewed here, <https://youtu.be/74Mq-zIsspM>. The video is closed captioned and can be turned on by clicking the cc button at the bottom right of the video. Please review the webinar as it may answer any questions that arise as data is entered into the electronic tool. Specific questions about the tool may be directed to your Regional Consultant for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing or to Tom Page directly at Thomas_page@med.unc.edu.

As a reminder, **all data must be completed and submitted within the Qualtrics platform by Friday, July 12, 2019.**

Your compliance with this legislative directive is greatly appreciated. Improving the educational outcomes for children who are deaf or hard of hearing is the primary purpose of this data collection. However, complete and accurate data is necessary to inform decisions that will meet the unique needs of students. Your Regional Consultants for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing are always ready and available to help you review your data and work with you to develop a long-range plan for improving outcomes for students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

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c: Sherri Vernelson

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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