

NC SIP Connect

Program Improvement & Professional Development

Fall 2017



NC SIP Website Undergoes Changes!

Don't be surprised when you visit the NC SIP website in October and you see a fresh new look! You will find it contains distinct blue hues and a newly designed logo. In addition, the information has been streamlined into four buckets! We hope you will find this format more user friendly.

The updated NC SIP logo still embraces the shape of our state and the sun rising, both significant symbols to our project. In addition to the color change, if you look closely, you will see the span of our work is represented by the embedded mountains to the sea!

We have thoughtfully placed our information into four categories, Evidence-Based Practice, Partners, Parents, and Events. If you are searching for RR+CP or FoM materials that are deeply rooted in research, you will find them at the Evidence-Based Practice icon. Interested in finding additional information about the LEAs and IHEs that support our work? Check out the Partners link. You will also notice tabs for parents and coaches in this tab as well. Knowing the importance of parents to our work, there is a link specifically for them. Parents will have access to the reading and math surveys, a link to ECAC, and access to videos. The last of the four categories is Events. You will now have direct access to the NC SIP Events Calendar from the NC SIP website. While in transition, the www.ncsip.org link will remain active, but there will not be any additional updates.

Number Knowledge Test and Data Collection

NC SIP grant participants will continue to use the Number Knowledge Test for data collection in mathematics for the 2017-2018 academic year. While we are excited that many LEAs have participated in the professional learning sessions for the NC Early Numeracy Skills Indicator (NC ENSI) and are beginning to utilize this tool for screening and progress monitoring state-wide norms will not be established until the fall of 2018. The state-wide norms will not be established before June 30, 2018 which is the NC SIP student data reporting deadline. Please contact your DPI consultant with questions.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction



Office of Special Education Programs
U.S. Department of Education



Spotlighting our Best Practice Center

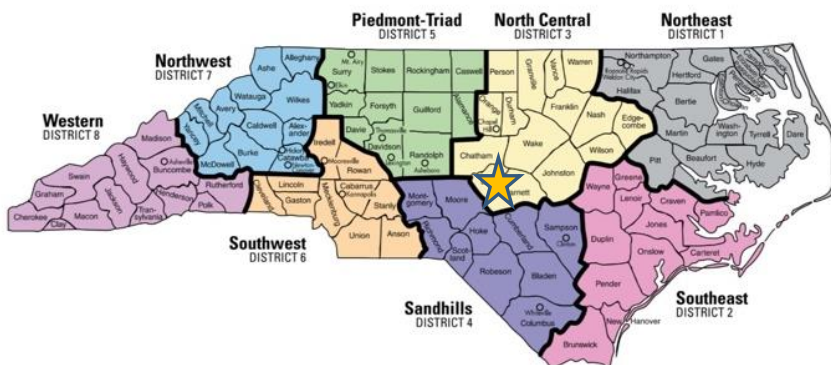
Welcome to the 2017-18 school year! Cumberland County is already busy conducting professional development. We have just completed our first session of Reading Research to Classroom Practice (RRtCP) this school year. Attendees included county level coaches, general educators and EC teachers not only in our identified schools, but throughout the county. We will follow up with Foundations of Math set to begin in late September. Both will be offered again after the New Year, and we

welcome participants from other counties to join us! Our RRtCP is a state level course for those who are interested in instructor certification, as we are fortunate to have an in-county Regional Coach. Cumberland County has added a Dyslexia delegate and the Deep Dive Into Dyslexia training is scheduled for April. A team recently completed the All Leaders Understand, Support, and Collaborate to Provide Evidence Based Instruction session and a date will be determined to share that knowledge. Our NC SIP trainings will be added, and can be found, on the NC SIP Events Calendar.

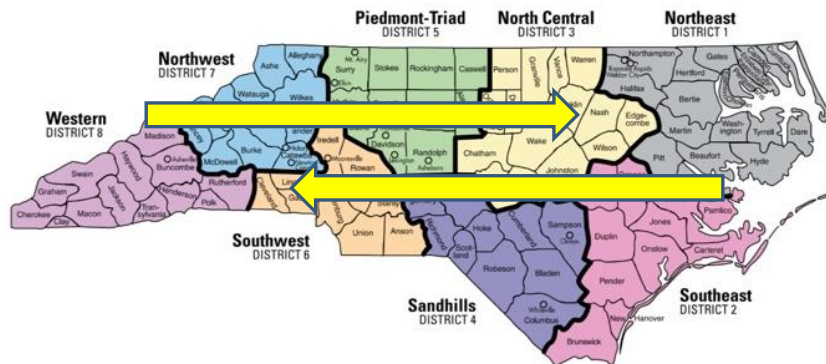
Professional Development in our county has also started this school year for evidence-based programs to include *SPIRE*, *Number Worlds*, and *SRA Reading Mastery*. EC Specialists will

follow up with coaching, fidelity checks, and monitoring of teachers in the respective programs. A co-teaching team of teachers in our identified elementary school attended the introduction to Co-Teaching during Summer Institute, and will implement these new strategies in the classroom this year. We look forward to data tracking for new teachers in our SIP programs and the growth of our students. To address our focus on adolescent literacy, a team attended the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Strategies session in September to work on the installation and initial implementation of best practices in reaching our middle school students. We are working to build a strong fit for our adolescent learners.

The SIP Advisory Team, District Implementation Team, and School Implementation Teams will meet within the first few months of school. We look forward to feedback from NC SIP and our Developmental Review to assist us in the direction and planning of future steps, so that we can continue to provide an effective course of action to support our teachers and see gains from our students.



Getting to Know Our Regional Coaches



Michael Jones - Math Regional Coach

- What LEA do you serve? [Nash Rocky Mount](#)
- What is your role in your LEA? [Educational Specialist](#)
- How many years have you been involved with NC SIP? [I first participated in Math Foundations training 5 years ago](#)
- What is something in your professional development in coaching that has influenced you, and how has it impacted your interactions with the support you provide to the NC SIP grant work? [I have always believed that a teacher's own depth of content knowledge in Mathematics plays a huge role in their ability to effectively teach students. I have seen this from personal experience as a student myself and as I transitioned out of the classroom into a coaching position. I believe the training we provide through Math Foundations is the most effective way for a practicing teacher to increase the knowledge for teaching mathematics that I have ever seen.](#)
- What made you want to become a regional coach? [The Regional Coach role has allowed me to have an influence on the content of the course as well as help other trainers from across the state be more effective.](#)
- Can you provide us with a fun fact about you, a tidbit, or a hobby that is interesting? [I enjoy spending time with my wife and 2 teenage boys. I am an avid golfer and enjoy spending time at the outer banks of North Carolina.](#)

Yonna Acuff – Literacy Regional Coach

- What LEA do you serve? [I serve Cleveland County Schools in Shelby.](#)
- What is your role in your LEA? [I am an EC Compliance Manager where I serve three elementary schools. I am the NC SIP Reading Coordinator in which I conduct fidelity observations for the EC Teachers throughout the district, which also involves instructional/program coaching with new EC teachers to help them implement their reading programs to fidelity.](#)
- What is something in your professional development in coaching that has influenced you and how has it impacted your interactions with the support you provide to the NC SIP grant work? [Cleveland County Schools received one of the initial Coaching Collaborative grants, and through this professional development, I was able to learn coaching techniques to use with our EC teachers. I've had wonderful opportunities to \(elbow\) coach new teachers in their reading program, which has shown an increase in the fidelity of the program.](#)
- What made you want to become a regional coach? [Since I was already involved with the Coaching Collaborative grant with my district and seeing what an impact it had on student growth and achievement, I was excited when the opportunity became available. I love teaching RRtCP and this has been such a rewarding experience to be able to share the knowledge of interventions and best practices with educators. I also enjoy meeting up with others to network and get new ideas for trainings!](#)
- Can you provide us with a fun fact about you, a tidbit, or a hobby that is interesting? [I love to be outside, whether it's dipping my toes in the ocean, floating around in the pool, kayaking down Broad River, or sitting in a tree stand in the fall. However, I get kidded a lot by my husband and son about shooting my first buck out my bedroom window!!!](#)

Reminder that our first NC SIP Coordinator Meeting for the 2017-2018 school year will be held on October 12 for regions 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 8 and on October 10 for regions 3 and 4. Contact your consultant if you are unsure of times and locations.



ECU faculty and students have been busy this summer and fall with the NC SIP grant. The Reading Research to Classroom Practice content is being integrated into two courses for special education and general curriculum majors during their junior year. Special education interns have had multiple opportunities to attend professional development training to gain experience using research-based practices and build confidence in teaching students with disabilities. Over the summer, three students completed the Foundations of Math training. In August, eight interns learned how to use *Reading Mastery* from Literacy Consultants, Bridget Bilbro and Beth Gilchrist. Dr. Melissa Hudson from ECU worked with three interns on how to teach with *Early Literacy Skills Builder*. In September, several interns will be learning how to use Reading Mastery and Corrective Reading alongside teachers in Pitt County or Lenoir County Schools. Several interns will be using these programs with supervision from their clinical teachers during their internships. The NC SIP team at ECU, led by Dr. Stacy Weiss, includes special education faculty members Dr. Tosha Owens, Dr. Sandra Warren, Dr. Melissa Hudson, Ms. Debbie Metcalf, Dr. Marsha Tripp, Dr. Jennifer Williams, and elementary/middle grades faculty member Dr. Christine Joseph.



- Meet ECAC’s new Executive Director Laura Weber, Ph.D. Laura takes over the position vacated by the retirement of Connie K. Hawkins, ECAC’s founder, and long-time Executive Director. Laura spent more than 20 years working to foster collaboration between service systems and the families they serve. Her connection with ECAC spans well over a decade. Laura was employed by ECAC as Manager of Mental Health Contracts. In this role, she worked with young people to develop and implement Powerful Youth Friends United, a statewide advocacy and support group for youth with mental health challenges. Prior to accepting the role of Executive Director, Laura was ECAC’s Director of Planning and Evaluation followed by the role of ECAC’s Co-Director (Interim). You may reach out to Laura directly at lweber@ecacmail.org.
- The IEP Trainer of Trainers session planned for the annual Exceptional Children’s Conference in November has been postponed and will be rescheduled. More information will follow at a later date.
- The first “Parents as Leaders: Telling Your Story” training was held on Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at NC State’s McKimmon Center. This is a collaboration between NC SIP and ECAC to create a network of parents who will share their experiences with students in teacher preparation courses. Research supports that when parents of students with disabilities share their story, it impacts how effectively future educators collaborate with families. Parents will have multiple ways to share their story: in person, via Skype or by video clip. If you know of any parent who might be interested in participating in this project, have them contact Beverly Roberts @ broberts@ecacmail.org.
- For more information or to request materials contact Beverly Roberts at 1-800-962-6817 ext 323 or by email at broberts@ecacmail.org.

Regional Consultants and Coaches

Project Director Paula Crawford	Literacy Consultant	Math Consultant	Literacy Coach	Math Coach
1-Northeast	Bridget Bilbro	Carol Moffitt		
2-Southeast	Beth Gilchrist	Carol Moffitt	Teresa Anderson	Anna Jarrett, Corey Kick
3-North Central	Melissa Towery	Melissa Towery	Ann Cuzzocrea, Ginger Starling, Jenny Brown, Sharon Hopper	Jane Green, Jenny Ainslie, Michael Jones, Richard Stover, Mark Lunsford
4-Sandhills	Laura Dendy	Melissa Towery	Carol Gillespie	
5-Piedmont-Triad	Doria Sullivan	Doria Sullivan	Megan Rives, Robyn Varga, Stephanie Stephenson	Alandous Hawkins, Krista Boyd, Marty Erskine
6-Southwest	Teri Queen	Teri Queen	Crystal Douglas, Rachael Varriale, Yonna Acuff	Cindy Farmer
7-Northwest	Melanie Sharpe	Melissa Towery	Cynde Gilmore	Heather Highman
8-Western	Laura Marsden	Melissa Towery	Carla Melton, Karen Sumner, Teresa Queen	