

The Council on Educational Services for Exceptional Children 2023-24 Annual Report

Chair: Diane H. Coffey
Vice-Chair: Aimee Combs

Purpose

Advisory Council to the State Board of Education, established under IDEA and NC General Statutes:

Advise State Board of Education on unmet needs of children with special needs and the development and implementation of policies related to the coordination of services for students with disabilities, developing evaluations, reporting on data, developing corrective action plans to address findings in federal monitoring.

Membership

Council consists of minimum of 24 members

- 20 appointees and 5 ex-officio
- Appointed by Governor, President Pro Tem of Senate, Speaker of the House, and State Board of Education
- Diverse population representing parents, teachers, higher education, public and private schools, business/ vocational, community, and charter schools

2023-24 Membership

Members

Chair: Diane Coffey (NW)

Vice-Chair: Aimee Combs (state)

Opal Blair (P-T)

Joanne Caratelli (SE)

Abby Childers (SW)

Erin Crites (NE)

Peyton Davis (P-T)

Pamela Day (S)

Tifini Ferrell (SW)

Christy Grant (NC)

Kristen Hodges (P-T)

Christy Hutchinson (SW)

Kelly Kelley (W)

Megan Parsons (NW)

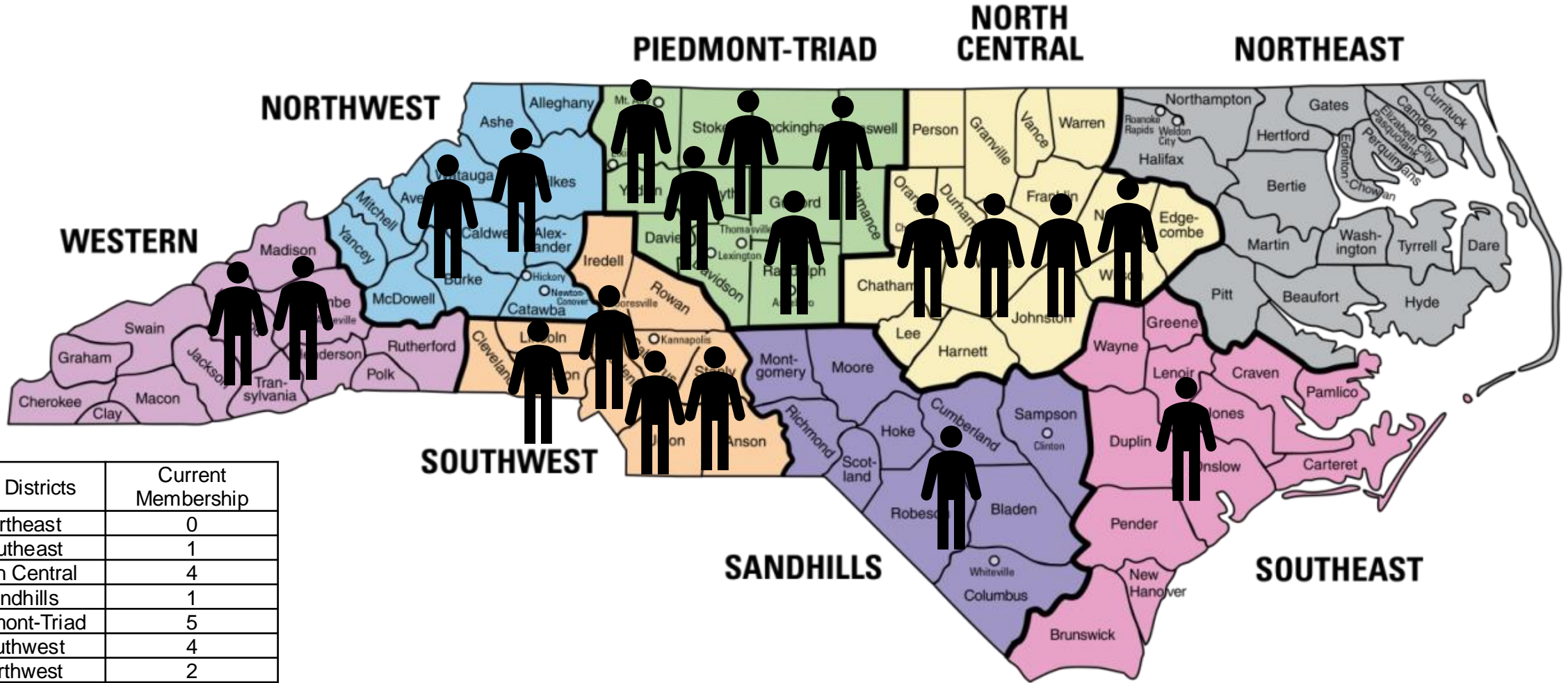
Shanna Steinert (NE)

Pamela Watkins (P-T)

Tameeka Williams-Burchette (NC)

Maegan Wilson (SE)

Current Membership Appointed by the NC State Board of Education



SBE Districts	Current Membership
Northeast	0
Southeast	1
North Central	4
Sandhills	1
Piedmont-Triad	5
Southwest	4
Northwest	2
Western	2

2023-24 Membership, continued

Executive Appointments

Matthew Potter (P-T)

Linda R. McDonough (NW)

Legislative Appointments

Sen. Ted Alexander (W)

Elizabeth DeBiasi (SE)

Rep. Larry Strickland (NC)

Chris Wall (NC)

State Agencies

Carol Ann Hudgens (DPI - OEC)

Kimaree Sanders (DHHS)

Adam Johnson (Safety)

Kenya Beyah (Juvenile Justice)

Lisa Von Dohlen (DPI- Foster Care)

Lisa Phillips (McKinney-Vento)

Jill Camnitz (NC BOE)

Olivia Oxendine (NC BOE)

Meetings structure



September

December

March

June

Recommendations

- Consider funding and support for students who will study education in Institutes of Higher Education (IHE).
- Consider salary increases for exceptional children's teachers, reinstate longevity pay, and increase salaries based on years of experience. Teacher pay in North Carolina is ranked at 40th in the nation.
- Consider reinstating the pay incentive for obtaining a master's degree.
- Consider removing the cap on teacher pay at Year 15.
- Consider paying preservice teachers for internships / student-teacher supervision.

Recommendations, cont'd

- Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) could create a video on various options for processes available for parents.
- Consider encouraging the creation of an Exceptional Children's Parent Advisory Board in each public school unit.
- Ensure OEC staff, ECAC, and experts have access to videos required by House Bill 142.