

# Weekly Message – State Superintendent June Atkinson

North Carolina Public Schools <NCPublicSchools@public.govdelivery.com>

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Inbox

To: Lynda Fuller <Lynda.Fuller@dpi.nc.gov>;

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**Oct. 12, 2015**



At its recent meeting, the State Board of Education reviewed its strategic plan, which focuses on student learning and well-being, educator excellence and modern financial, technology and business systems. The Board's draft revisions to its strategic plan and goals are [online](#) as part of the October agenda materials that will likely to be finalized in November. At that time, the new plan and goals will be posted on the State Board of Education's regular website.

Where possible, I encourage you to align your strategic plans with the State Board's as it relates to goals, objectives and benchmarks. I have had the opportunity to be a part of some school district's rollout of strategic plans and am pleased to see that alignment is taking place in school districts.

On another matter, in meetings of several small groups of superintendents, several of you have asked for more details about student surveys. We will send you more information about that initiative shortly.



## Multi-Tiered System of Support Update

Partnering with colleagues in the Division of Educator Effectiveness and the Division of Digital Teaching and Learning has enabled the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Professional Development team to create online modules housed in NCEES.



Cohort 1 District Teams began this online component of the MTSS professional development last week. The first module extends until April, which allows the district teams to work collaboratively to intentionally and systematically install a MTSS.

In addition to including skilled stakeholders in planning, it also is important to build the infrastructure to communicate and work with families and other partners. These practices increase the likelihood that innovative practices will be implemented and sustained.

For more information about MTSS follow us on Twitter @ncmtss or visit the MTSS [wikispace](#).

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## 2015-16 Reward Schools' Recognition

The United States Department of Education continues to sponsor a differentiated system of recognition, accountability and support for schools. As a result, NCDPI staff have identified the state's [top-performing Title I Schools](#), also known as Reward Schools, for the 2015-16 school year.

The top ten percent of all Reward Schools are North Carolina's 2015 nominees for the National Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program. North Carolina will be permitted to select a Title I school to proudly represent the state at the national level in one of two categories. Over the next few weeks, one school will be selected for high performance and one school will be selected for high progress. Congratulations to the directors, principals, staff and students on this great accomplishment.

Questions about Reward Schools may be directed to [Freda Lee](#).

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## District Principals of the Year are Invited to POY Summit 2015

District Principals of the Year are cordially invited to the third annual Principal of the Year Summit. The Summit will be held on Thursday, Oct. 22, at the Durham Hilton Hotel, 3800 Hillsborough Road, Durham. The theme for this year's Summit is *Using Social Media as an Engagement Tool*.

Through the generosity of IBM, principals will be equipped with tools to engage themselves, their leaders, their parents and their community in their school's mission and vision.

NCDPI will pay for the hotel meeting space, lunch, breaks and materials. Districts would be responsible for travel and hotel rooms. The Durham Hilton is offering a special rate for the Summit. Registration is now [open](#).

Principals are asked to register and make hotel reservations by **Friday, Oct. 16**. Thanks in advance for

your support of continuous learning for your principals.

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## Global-Ready District Designation Intent to Apply

LEAs interested in applying for the Global-Ready District designation for the 2015-16 school year need a Word version of the application form to complete and submit. Complete the [Intent to Apply](#) form and the contact person listed will receive a Word version of the current year application, along with direct updates regarding the application, resources and webinars. Receiving the Word version of the application does not obligate the district to apply. District applications are due **Dec. 4**.



Additional information on the Global-Ready District or School designation is available on the NC Global Education [website](#) or by contacting Special Assistant for Global Education [Helga Fasciano](#).



## Superintendent Vacancy Announced: Roanoke Rapids Graded School District

The Roanoke Rapids Graded School District Board of Education is seeking a superintendent to lead the school system in its continuing pursuit of excellence. Candidates must have or be qualified to hold a North Carolina superintendent license. Central office and building-level experience are preferred. A doctorate degree or progress toward a doctorate degree is preferred but not required. The individual chosen will be required to live in the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District. The application deadline is **Jan. 11, 2016**.

An electronic version of the application is available by going to the N.C. School Board Association's website at [www.ncsba.org](http://www.ncsba.org) and clicking on the appropriate link. Inquiries and requests for applications also can be directed to Allison Schafer, Legal Counsel/Director of Policy, North Carolina School Boards Association, PO Box 97877, Raleigh NC 27624-7877, telephone 919/841-4040, fax 919/841-4020, e-mail [aschafer@ncsba.org](mailto:aschafer@ncsba.org). All inquiries will be kept confidential.

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## Have You Registered for Fall Principal READY 2015?

The fall Principal READY meetings are currently scheduled regionally in November and December. The 2014-15 Educator Evaluation System data, new legislation, Analysis of Student Work, and student surveys are topics covered in these sessions.

Participants will interact with various data points including EVAAS and student growth data using a PLN framework. Breakout sessions are differentiated and focus on needs of principals in each region based on feedback shared with Service Support Teams. Registration is now [open](#).

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## Literacy Credit Now Available in Home Base PD System

Preparation for Foundation of Reading Licensure Exam provides an excellent resource for teachers wanting to refresh their knowledge on the foundations of reading development and comprehension.



For a full description of the course, please visit [www.rt3nc.org](http://www.rt3nc.org). This self-paced module is worth 1.0 Literacy Credit.



## NCVPS Releases Scorecard

The North Carolina Virtual Public School has released its 2014-15 scorecard. District scorecards will be coming soon. Scorecard details are available on the NCVPS [website](#).

## Enhance your High School STEM Content and Delivery

Are your schools and programs into robotics, web-based applications, and looking for new innovative ways to invent? Then check out The Construct.

The [Construct](#) is the place in the cloud for the creation of robotics simulations using the most popular simulators in the market. Just log into their system, select a simulator and start simulating.



Or, are your schools and programs involved in agriscience, aviation and robotics? If so, visit the [Real World Design Challenge](#) for an overview and full proposal on the Getting Started page. This challenge focuses on unmanned systems and precision agriculture through the design and implementation of a UAS and other robotic systems to support precision agriculture, specifically the detection of moisture around a local food production crop (regional to your area).

Take the challenge and implement concepts from Engineering Technology; but you must register by Nov. 20.

Contact [Tina Marcus](#) for more information.



## Latest Messages Online

Oct. 8, 2015 [Teachers Biweekly Message](#)

Oct. 9, 2015 [Finance Officers' Newsletter](#)



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