

## MEETING MINUTES

### NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

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#### **Opening:**

The regular board meeting of NCAD duly called and held on Saturday, September 25, 2021 via ZOOM (online streaming) at 9:00 AM

#### **Present were:**

President – Craig Blevins  
Vice President – Absent  
Secretary – Jaime Marshall  
Western Regional Representative – Dayamarali Espinosa  
Eastern Regional Representative – Mike Lupo  
Social Media Coordinator – Theresa Moss

#### **Absent:**

Central Regional Representative – Linda Nelson  
Treasurer – Treasurer Martina-Moore

#### **Guests:**

Kyle Kiser, NC American Sign Language Teachers Association (NCASLTA) President  
Daphne Peacock, NCSD Representative from the EHDI Committee / NCSD Teacher  
Gina Bailey, Visual Impairment Specialist / parent of NCSD student

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With the approval of the board members present, President Blevins acted as Chairman of the meeting and Secretary Jaime Marshall recorded the minutes.

Meeting Minutes from 2021 were reviewed.

**Motion by:** Social Media Coordinator Moss

**Seconded by:** Representative Espinosa

**Vote Count:** Majority

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#### **Presidents Report:**

President Blevins shares that he has a prior discussion with the President of NCASLTA, Mr. Kyle Kiser in which he has been invited to our board meeting in the hope that NCAD and NCASLTA will collaborate.

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## AGENDA TOPIC: DATA

team.

**SECTION 2.** The Department of Health and Human Services and other State agencies and organizations upon the request of the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) shall make databases containing information on children under the age of 22 who are diagnosed as deaf or hard of hearing available to DPI. DPI shall use this information to develop and maintain a statewide data tracking system for the purpose of coordinating with other State agencies and organizations and ensuring literacy achievement for all such children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall

According to the HB 317, known as the NC Deaf Child's Bill of Rights (NC DCBOR), DHHS is to develop and maintain a statewide data tracking system on all deaf/hoh children, from age 0 to 22.

The law was passed in 2013 and there is no public data from different divisions on their website: NC Vocational Rehabilitation, NC Department of Public Instruction, NC Early Intervention, NC EHDI, NC DHHS, etc.

Thomas Page, a Speech-Language Pathologist, at University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill is the Program Coordinator for the "Outcomes of Children with Hearing Loss" study for the state of NC. NC Association of the Deaf Board has not yet seen a summary of data that has been collected by his office.

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## AGENDA TOPIC: NCASLTA-NCAD COLLABORATION

NCASLTA President Kiser shares his concerns about the quality of educational interpreters within the NC DPI system.

Representative Lupo reminds the NCAD Board that the State Board standards are only recommendations, not mandates. As Deaf adults, we demand the best. Should deaf students who are just beginning to grow intellectually receive the best? 3.5 EIPA score at 60% access to information is not *equal access* to education.

Updates are given on the recent changes in regards to the EIPA (Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment) score:

For over a decade, the minimum requirements for public school interpreters (educational interpreters) for North Carolina:

- a high school degree or a GED
- a minimum EIPA score of 3.0: Educational Interpreter Proficiency Assessment

Effective July 1, 2021

All newly hired interpreters must have:

- Minimum EIPA score of **3.3** before hiring and **3.5** EIPA score by the third year of employment
- AA degree in Interpreting or a related field

All interpreters, between **3.0 - 3.2** EIPA score, who are already employed / contracted in the system:

- have three years to reach a **3.3**
- and an additional three years to achieve a **3.5**, the new minimum standard requirement

Secretary Marshall inquires if there's a possibility that NCASLTA and NCAD could co-host their next conference. NCASLTA President Kiser and NCAD President Blevins are both receptive to the suggestion.

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**Meeting Adjourned: 11:02 AM**