

MEETING MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Opening:

The regular board meeting of NCAD duly called and held on Saturday, August 9, 2025 at CSDHH (Communication Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing), 1175 Revolution Mill Drive, Suite #15, Greensboro, NC 27405 at 10:21 AM.

Present were:

President – Mike Lupo	Western Regional Representative – James Ledford
Vice President – Sion (Sam) Moss	Central Regional Representative – Tina E. Hanford
Secretary – Jaime Marshall	
Social Media Coordinator – Theresa Moss	

Not Presented:

Treasurer – Martina Moore-Reid
Eastern Regional Representative - Linda Nelson

Guest: William Thompson

With the approval of the board members present, President Lupo facilitated the meeting and Secretary Marshall recorded the minutes. Meeting Minutes from the last board meeting (5/3/2025) was reviewed.

Motion by: Representative Ledford

Seconded by: Representative Hanford

Vote Count: Majority

President's Report:

President Lupo serves on the NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. He explains that he is involved with the education committee. The main topic covered the 0-5 age program.

Vice President's Report:

Vice President Moss manages the organization's website, OurNCAD.org. He explains he has made a donation of approximately \$150.00 for the domain and the website service.

Western Regional Representative Report

Representative Ledford, who is the NCSDDA President, shares an upcoming event at the North Carolina School for the Deaf Alumni Association Luncheon on Saturday, October 4. NCSDDA will announce the 2025 inductees for the Hall of Fame in the sports category.

Central Regional Representative Report

Representative Hanford discusses the recent NC Interpreters and Translators Licensing Board symposium that was held at UNC-Greensboro on May 31, 2025. Mr. Corey Axelrod and Dr. Waytte C. Hall were invited to speak to educate the community the significance of providing full access to education for the Deaf/HH students in the K-12 system.

Axelrod, C. & Hall, W.C. (2025). *The Status Quo: An Introspective Dialogue*. NC Interpreters & Translators Licensing Board. Greensboro, N.C.

Significant discussion questions were: is an underqualified interpreter better than no interpreter in K-12 settings? Do the interpreting systems empower or restrict the Deaf community? Whose needs am I centering this weekend?

AGENDA TOPIC: House Bill 854 (Senate Bill 257)

Marshall Secretary proposes a great lobby opportunity for NCAD, encouraging the Senate to pass HB 854 in Senate. HB 854 has already been passed in House. The change will mean the DPI's Early Learning Sensory Support Program for D/HH will be transferred to NCSD and ENCSD which they will be able to serve all D/HH students from birth to age 22. Passage of these amendments will give Deaf schools first priority in early childhood intervention services and advocacy.

<https://webservices.ncleg.gov/ViewDocSiteFile/99055>

Requested by

SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND AMENDMENTS

SECTION #.(a) G.S. 115C-150.11(c), as enacted by Section 3J.1(a) of S.L. 2024-57, reads as rewritten:

"(c) Administrative Support. – The Department of Administration shall provide support to each school in matters related to finance, human resources, and procurement, ~~including~~ excluding support for information technology. Each school shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Administration with regard to this support. No civil liability shall attach to the Department of Administration, or to any of its employees, individually or collectively, for any acts or omissions of a school."

SECTION #.(b) G.S. 115C-150.11 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-150.11. Establishment of the schools for the deaf and blind.

(a) Establishment. – The following are created as separate State agencies governed respectively by boards of trustees:

- (1) The Governor Morehead School for the Blind of the Department of Public Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are blind or visually impaired from birth to age 22. The Governor Morehead School for the Blind shall include the Governor Morehead ~~Preschool~~ Preschool and the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Vision.
- (2) The Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf of the Department of Public Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are deaf or hard of ~~hearing~~ hearing from birth to age 22. The Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf shall include the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing.
- (3) The North Carolina School for the Deaf of the Department of Public Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are deaf or hard of ~~hearing~~ hearing from birth to age 22. The North Carolina School for the Deaf shall include the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing.

...."

SECTION #.(c) Effective December 1, 2025, the Governor Morehead Preschool and the Early Learning Sensory Program for Vision is transferred from the Department of Instruction to the Governor Morehead School for the Blind.

SECTION #.(d) Effective December 1, 2025, the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing is transferred from the Department of Public Instruction to the North Carolina School for the Deaf and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf. Upon transfer, the North Carolina School of the Deaf and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf shall agree on a geographical boundary to divide the administrative responsibility for the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing between the two schools.

AGENDA TOPIC: Proposed Amendments to 90 D

Secretary Marshall explains how the proposed amendments to the Statute Law 90-D will impact educational interpreters especially in K-12.

- Removal of Education Interpreter Exclusion
- Full Licensure pathway: Pass written exam (EIPA/NIC) and an EIPA score of 4.0 or higher
- Provisional Licensure additional requirement: Pass written exam

- One-time provisional exception with time limit for educational interpreters
- 2 extensions given and more allowable at Board discretion by rule
- 400-hour class addition for assessment/certification by rule
- Civil penalty increases max amount and per infraction amount by rule

A letter of support should be written.

AGENDA TOPIC: Leadership

Representative Hanford expresses a need for youth leadership training. Representative Ledford suggests a retreat. Secretary Marshall proposes that the board reaches out to NCSD for a possible Youth Leadership Camp for young Deaf/HH adults on campus.

AGENDA TOPIC: NCAD – NCASLTA Conference

Social Media Coordinator Moss shares updates on the upcoming NC Association of the Deaf – NC American Sign Language Teachers Association Conference:

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 19 – 21, 2025 at UNC-Greensboro (Elliott University Center Building).

Social Media Coordinator Moss explains that she is still collecting each presenter's workshop form for RID CEU purposes.

Announcements:

Upcoming NCAD Board Meetings
November 1, 2025 – Greensboro
February 7, 2026 - Greensboro

Meeting Adjourned: 12:56 PM