



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Howard N. Lee, *Chairman*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION June St. Clair Atkinson, ED.D., *State Superintendent*

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North Carolina Writing Assessment at Grades 4, 7, and 10 General Assessment and NCEXTEND2 Assessment

Information about the Writing Advisory Committees

Committee members are qualified individuals who are divergent thinkers, possess leadership skills, support the NC Writing Assessment at Grades 4, 7, and 10, have a positive record of service, and will devote the necessary time required to the Writing Advisory Committee to ensure that the objectives of the committee are achieved. Efforts are made to ensure that the committees reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of North Carolina's fourth, seventh, and tenth grade student populations; furthermore, special attention is given to make sure that each geographic region in the state is represented.

Committee membership is based on staggered terms and consists of:

- at least six grade-level specific practicing classroom teachers (3 year term)
- at least five grade-span specific practicing classroom teachers (2 year term)
- at least one professional from the English/Language Arts department of NCDPI
- at least one post secondary professional with experience relevant to the specific grade level of the committee (3 year term)
- at least one professional in the area of special education (2 year term)
- at least one professional in the area of limited English proficiency (2 year term)
- at least one professional from the Test Development Section of NCDPI

There are currently six Writing Advisory Committees: Grade 4 General, Grade 4 *NCEXTEND2*, Grade 7 General, Grade 7 *NCEXTEND2*, Grade 10 General, and Grade 10 *NCEXTEND2 OCS*.

Purpose of the Writing Advisory Committees

The primary purpose of the Writing Advisory Committees is to make recommendations to NCDPI Test Development/Accountability Services based not on what students can do, but what students should be expected to do as outlined in the NC Standard Course of Study (SCS) for English/Language Arts. Additional responsibilities of the Writing Advisory Committees include selecting prompts as well as providing advice and input for the selection of anchor papers to be used in the scoring of student responses.

Beginning in September of each school year, Writing Advisory Committees are assembled to select the operational and secondary prompts for the current school year, as well as prompts necessary for field testing. All committee members are required to sign test security and confidentiality agreements in order to protect secure information about the prompts.

After the selection of prompts, Writing Advisory Committees are convened to conduct the first round of range-finding. This first round of range-finding often occurs in February. Range-finding is a major step in the development process after the field test prompts have been administered to students. The range-finding process involves the scoring contractor, Writing Advisory Committees, NCDPI Accountability Services/Test

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Development Section staff, NCSU-TOPS staff, NCDPI Instructional Services, English/Language Arts staff, and NCDPI Exceptional Children staff.

The contractor gathers samples of student responses from the field test. The Writing Advisory Committees view and score responses to establish “anchor papers.” Anchor papers represent examples of particular score points and are referenced by the scorers during the scoring process. They are used in conjunction with scoring rubrics to help in deciding what score points student responses are assigned. This helps to ensure that consistency in standards is applied to all responses.

Days after the operational administration in March, round two of range-finding occurs. The second stage of the range-finding process is the same as above *EXCEPT* that the samples gathered from students are “Live” responses. “Live” student responses refer to responses that students wrote during the operational administration. A representative sample of schools are contacted to submit their test materials to NCDPI instead of shipping them to the contractor. The contractor uses these student responses as samples to conduct round two of range-finding prior to the start of the scoring project.

All of the papers scored by the Writing Advisory Committees during both range-finding sessions are used in the scoring project. Guide sets, Training sets, and Qualification sets are constructed using the student samples scored by the committees during range-finding. Scorers use these sets to learn the scoring rubric, practice applying the scoring rubric, and qualify for a position to score the assessment. Scorers must pass all eligibility requirements in order to work on the North Carolina Writing Assessment at Grades 4, 7, and 10.

Participation on the Writing Advisory Committees

The following lists show the members of the current North Carolina Writing Advisory Committees at Grades 4, 7, and 10. These members participate on the General Assessment and/or *NCEXTEND2* Assessment based on their education and credentials as well as their current teaching assignments.

The Writing Advisory Committee is always looking for experienced educators to participate in the next round of meetings. Ethnic diversity and regional diversity is appreciated among our membership. For more information, please contact:

Jim Kroening, NCDPI, Director of Performance Assessments at jkroening@dpi.state.nc.us

Akia Beverly-Worsley, NCSU-TOPS, Writing Assessments at akia_worsley@ncsu.edu

All information about the North Carolina Writing Assessment at Grades 4, 7, and 10 can be found at:
<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/testing/writing/>

All information about the North Carolina Testing Program can be found on the NCDPI website:
<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/>

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Writing Advisory Committee Membership

Alexander, Brenda	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Allen, Elizabeth	General
Barnes, Jennifer	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Bester, Laura	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Brooks, Kristi	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Carruthers, Barbara	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Coleman, Karen	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Day, Karen	General
Flynt, Jamie	General
Galloway, Tara	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Goodman, Jean	General
Gray, K. Lynn	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Grimes, Valaida	General
Harris, Frances	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Holcomb, Vicki	General
Huggins, Stephanie	General
Hutchinson, Tamara	General
Logan, Jill	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Meyerhoeffer, V. Hope	General
Moore, Deborah	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Neal, Amy	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Oxendine, Olivia	General
Pearson, Roberta	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Ray, M. Elizabeth	General
Rose, Mary	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Walker, Brad	General
Ware, Beth	General
Wishart, Lisa	General

Grade 4

Cabarrus County	Region 3
Mecklenburg County	Region 3
Currituck County	Region 4
Craven County	Region 5
Gaston County	Region 3
Wake County	Region 6
Davidson County	Region 2
Davie County	Region 2
Rockingham County	Region 6
Gaston County	Region 3
Alamance County	Region 6
Currituck County	Region 4
Pitt County	Region 4
Onslow County	Region 5
Buncombe County	Region 1
Cumberland County	Region 5
Ashe County	Region 2
Forsyth County	Region 2
Wayne County	Region 5
Davidson County	Region 2
Pitt County	Region 4
UNC—Pembroke	Region 5
Guilford County	Region 6
Buncombe County	Region 1
Harnett County	Region 6
UNC—Wilmington	Region 5
Wake County	Region 6
Lee County	Region 6

2006-07

NCDPI ELA Curriculum Specialists:

Almeida, Tara	NCDPI ELA Consultant
Southerland, Carolyn	NCDPI ELA Consultant
Weaver, Michelle	NCDPI ELA Consultant

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Writing Advisory Committee Membership

Alverson, Jodi	General
Annas, Linda	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Brown, Mary A.	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Elliott, Debra	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Eudy, Julie	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Faulconer, Johna	General
Fedock, Barbara	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Klutz, Wendy	General
Lee, Renate	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Leonard, Dana	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Levi, Stacie	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Lewis, Dacia	General
Lilly-Bowyer, Karen	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Little, Gregory	General
McCall, Sara	General
Miller, Laura	<i>NCEXTEND2</i>
Morings, Lori	General
Peterson Gibbs, Jo	General
Teague, Jane	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2</i>

Grade 7

Cherokee County	Region 1
Cumberland County	Region 5
Mecklenburg County	Region 3
Chowan County	Region 4
Alexander County	Region 2
East Carolina University	Region 4
Polk County	Region 1
Davidson County	Region 2
Craven County	Region 5
Davidson County	Region 2
Mecklenburg County	Region 3
Wayne County	Region 5
Forsyth County	Region 2
Halifax County	Region 4
Yadkin County	Region 2
Pitt County	Region 4
Hertford County	Region 4
Buncombe County	Region 1
Randolph County	Region 6

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NCDPI ELA Curriculum Specialists:

Blackmon, Phyllis	NCDPI ELA Consultant
Chalmers, Patricia	NCDPI ELA Consultant

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Writing Advisory Committee Membership

Abourjilie, Karen	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Alston, Dorothea	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Annas, Linda	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Bobbe, Peter	General
Boehm, Jodee	General
Claytor, Margaret	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Dunbar, Deanie	General
Godfrey, Holly	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Hill, Guy	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Jarvis, Joy	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Johnson, Wendy	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Jones, Polly	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Killela, Christine	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Lemire, Deborah	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
McCall, Harriet	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Memminger, Abigail	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Pope, Bettina	General
Shiflett, H. Randy	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Siegel, Scott	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Smith, William	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Stephens, Susan	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Steverson, Lendia	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Tart, Michael	General/ <i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Walker, Paul	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>
Worley, Michele	<i>NCEXTEND2 OCS</i>

Grade 10

Guilford County
Wake County
Cumberland County
Yancey County
Mecklenburg County
Nash County
Hyde County
Cleveland County
Harnett County
Beaufort County
Cumberland County
Ashe County
Wake County
Harnett County
Onslow County
Cumberland County
Wake County
Guilford County
Johnston County
Buncombe County
Harnett County
Wake County
Craven County
Wake County
Johnston County

2006-07

Region 6
Region 6
Region 5
Region 1
Region 3
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Region 4
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Region 2
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NCDPI ELA Curriculum Specialists:

Lee, Freda	NCDPI ELA Consultant
Bowen, Kim	NCDPI ELA Consultant
Burner, Louise	NCDPI ELA Consultant
Shayne Goodrum	NCDPI ELA Consultant

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