Innovation School District (ISD) Superintendent Dr. Eric Hall provided an overview of the process on how schools are being selected to become an ISD school that will be operated by an Education Management Company instead of the LEA. The school does not become a charter school, just operated by a charter company. Details were shared on how data is being used to make decisions. He shared he had requested technical corrections to alter the time lines for implementation. However, legislators will not extend the timeline or address technical corrections requested, so by October 15, local school boards will receive notification of a final selection list based on G.S. 115C-75.5. Final selection of at least two schools will be approved by the State Board in November or December. The schools under review at this time:

- Durham – Glenn Elementary
- Nash Rocky Mount – Williford Elementary
- Northampton – Willis Hare Elementary
- Robeson – Southside/Ashpole Elementary with RB Dean Elementary being an alternate

- Only one school per LEA can be selected and both rural and urban school districts are to be included in the final selection. No more than five schools will make up the ISD.

Based on legislation, NC DPI has modified licensure requirements with changes to Section 1.20 – Types of Licenses of policy LICN-001. Current SBE policy did not define how a teacher re-enters the teaching profession if he/she fails to convert the initial license to a continuing license. Policy now allows an individual to apply for an initial teaching license once all testing and/or coursework requirements have been met. August 15 is now the date for an end of the academic year for testing purposes. Changes also confirm the number of workdays (120) is required to constitute a year of teaching. Renewal policies changed last year based on legislation as well. Any educator renewing his/her license must be proficient in 3 of the 5 five standards; one being standard 4. Scenarios that could come into play regarding renewal were shared with the SBE.

- NCAE member Vickie Simmons of Guilford County, the co-chair of the Council on Educational Services for Exceptional Children, received a shout-out by NC DPI staff for the work on their annual report.

Good news: Exceptional Children graduation rate is improving. In 2013 the graduation rate was 67 percent and in 2017 the rate was 74 percent and the target for 2018 is 76 percent.

Three NCAE members have received the 2017 North Carolina Symphony’s prestigious Music Educator Awards: Jeremy Tucker, Christine Allen, and White David Clark.

Congratulations to CTE teachers at Green Hope High School in Wake County and their students; Ryan Catalfu, Skyler Won, Dheya Madhani, and Forrest Liu for winning the CTE Certiport Microsoft Worldwide Competition. North Carolina had 36 students who participated in the Worldwide Microsoft competition. It was shared that North Carolina does more than any other state with this certification program.