



# **NC Driver Education**

**Recent Past, Present, and  
Future**

# Agenda

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- Recent Past
- Present Challenges
- Future



# Recent Past

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- Driver Education has been funded
- 2 different driver education models
  - School Employees
    - Hired driver educators and was part of the school day curriculum.
  - Contracted out
    - Private companies contract with school districts.
      - Financial models and requirements are not standard and are left up to each school district .
    - Are typically sole-sourced.



# Recent Past

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- No standard curriculum
  - Program has guidelines and requirements.
  - Each school can use old curriculum (no incentive to update teaching techniques or curriculum).



# Recent Past

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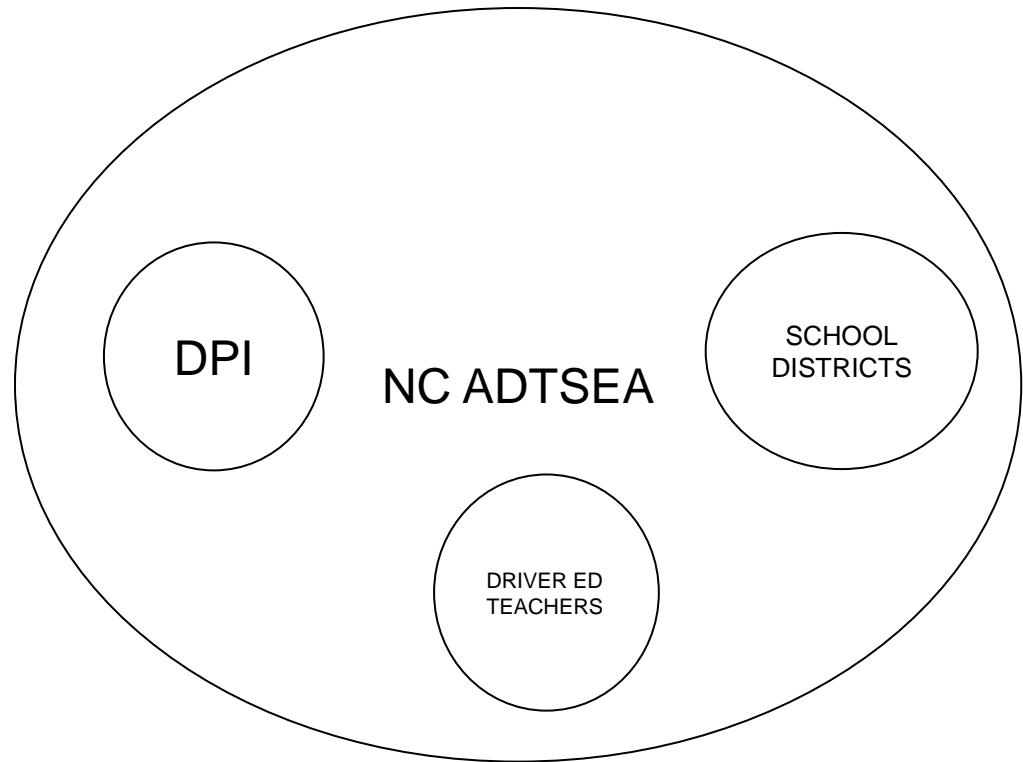
## Stats

- 60% of students do not pass the driver education test the first time through.
- As of August 2015 traffic fatalities were up 19%.
- Any headway driver education has made, was lost in 2015.
- By FARS data NC ranked 4th in teen deaths in the nation .



# Current groups involved

- Decade long



# Present Challenges

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- Sense of victory because funding has been restored
  - Undercurrent in this field is that funding has now been restored, so there is no need to worry about it being eliminated in the future.
- There appears to be resistance for real change.
- Standardized curriculum is still not being implemented.
- What is the motivation to make changes?



# Future

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- **Use benchmarks and incentives for funding**
  - Funding should be 100% but tied into a results system
- **Consider at cost saving ideas:**
  - Maintenance
  - Purchasing
  - Create a better bidding system that is not blind, but open





# Ending Statement – Make the choice

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A new, focused and determined approach by this body is what is needed to reform driver education for the students.

Recently the focus has appeared to keep funding driver education in order to keep a job or a contract.

Not the teens



# **Ending Statement – Make the choice**

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**TOGETHER, LET'S IMPROVE  
SAFETY AND SAVE THE LIVES  
OF OUR TEENAGERS!**



# QUESTIONS?

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**Steve Phillips**

Traffic Safety Manager

AAA Carolinas

