

Good Evening! Welcome and thank you for coming tonight.

Decoding Dyslexia is honored to have you in attendance. We are a grassroots movement driven by individuals and parents in North Carolina and across the country who have children that struggle with dyslexia. We are not experts. We are individuals & parents that share the experiences of the journey with dyslexia.

Four years ago because of Penny & Neil Auchmuty foresight and leadership, they co-founded DDNC. Since its inception, not only have we grown, but we have managed to pass dyslexia legislation unanimously in both the House and the Senate. HB #149 was then signed into law by Gov. Roy Cooper on July 20th of this year. We would like to thank the primary sponsors of HB149 Representatives Debra Conrad; Darren G. Jackson; Jeffrey Elmore and Rosa Gill.

Our theme tonight is: "no longer invisible" who we credit the very talented Donna Gargett for her ideas and graphics. Tonight Kristy Privette and Megan Mehta will discuss what Dyslexia is from a parent-teacher perspective. Christy and Lisa Eakins will speak about NC PTA and the new NC dyslexia law. After that, we will hear from Jennifer McBee who will explain more about DDNC. After Jennifer, Donna Gargett, founder, and owner will explain Blank Canvas Art Awareness' outreach. We will hear from Dorreen Byrd from Exceptional Children's Assistance Center and last, but not least we will hear from Jeanette Meachem owner and founder of the Dyslexia Advocacy Group of the Carolinas. Before we get started, I want to say on a personal note I am honored to share the stage with these exceptional advocates.