

NCBCE Newsletter



Welcome to the NCBCE Newsletter

Over 30 years of transformation

For over 37 years, NCBCE has been developing innovative programs to support all students and educators in North Carolina and build the talent pipeline for our state. Over the last three years, we have focused these efforts on expanding work-based learning: promoting career opportunities for students, professional development for educators and employment opportunities for students facing barriers. We continue to do so even as our students have shifted to remote learning. Here is an update on the many things NCBCE and our member companies have accomplished in 2019 and the ways that we are transitioning our programs to be delivered virtually. We hope you enjoy our first NCBCE newsletter which highlights our 2019 initiatives and describes how our programs are transitioning to support students through remote learning.

Ann K. Ashley

Ann Ashley, Chair, NCBCE

Caroline Sullivan

Caroline Sullivan Executive Director, NCBCE

Let's Connect!

Website: <https://www.ncbce.org/>



<https://www.facebook.com/NCBCE>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/north-carolina-business-committee-for-education>



<https://twitter.com/NCBCE>



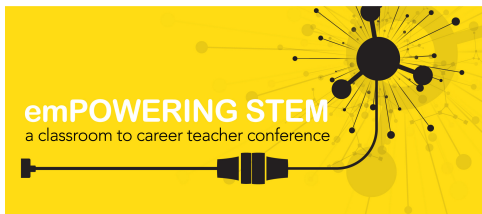
<https://www.instagram.com/ncbce/>

Our Initiatives

Take a look at our initiatives. Find one you like? Visit our website for more information.



Developing a Representative & Inclusive Vision for Education



Building Bridges- Regional Networks

NC Business Committee for Education (NCBCE) in collaboration with NC State (Office of Information Technology, OIT & Industrial Expansion Services, IES) runs a series of regional network workshops to develop a strategic plan for NCBCE in order to improve the access and outcomes for Work-Based Learning across the state. Currently, NCBCE has led workshops in Wilmington and Wake County. In September, over 100 senior level leaders from the Department of Public Instruction, NC Community Colleges, NC Commerce Department, NCWorks, NC Chambers, UNC System and local school systems attended the Building Bridges Summit. Use the link [HERE](#) to access the report.

DRIVE Summit

The Governor's Office, the NC Business Committee for Education, and the Hunt Institute in partnership with NC State University, Elon University, NC Association of Educators, Public School Forum, The Belk Foundation, and Best NC hosted the DRIVE Summit. The purpose of the Summit was to convene stakeholders and decision-makers so that they may understand both the national and state-level issues related to recruiting, retaining, and supporting teachers and administrators of color. Use the link [HERE](#) to access the Issue Report.

emPowering STEM

There is a critical disconnect between the STEM skills needed to support the state's current and future jobs ecosystem and our students' interests and levels of mastery in those fields. During this full day conference, middle school STEM educators from each county gathered to and were taught project based learning activities by industry professionals.

Governor's Educator Discovery Award

The Governor's Educator Discovery Awards recognizes the value of quality professional development for teachers at all phases of their careers. The program provides a stipend of up to \$1,000 for PreK-12 traditional public and public charter school teachers to pursue a professional development experience of their choosing. To date, 15 educators from 9 counties have used their grant awards to attend workshops focused on special education, information technology, project-based learning, and agriculture.

LiNC-IT

Linking North Carolina to Innovative Talent is an innovative partnership of government, nonprofits, and employers. LiNC-IT leverages vocational rehabilitation funding from the NC Department of Health and Human Services with high-quality service providers who are experts in supporting individuals with autism. To date, 28 LiNC-IT interns have transitioned their internship into full-time employment at a hire rate of 92%. There are 15 participating businesses: Accu-Tool, Alamance Community College, Bank of America, Biogen, Credit Suisse, Fidelity Investments, NCBCE, NC DIT, Participate, PassionIT Group, SAS, Technica Editorial, UNC Genetics, UNC Healthcare, and The NC Dept. of Administration. You can find more information [HERE](#).

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ready, set, app!

an NCBCCE initiative sponsored by Lenovo

Ready, Set, App!

Ready, Set, App is a high school mobile app development competition sponsored by Lenovo. Students are challenged with creating an Android mobile app to solve problems in their school or community. In addition to providing students with exposure to computer science and experience in app development, the competition aims to help them develop their entrepreneurial and problem-solving skills and strengthen their interpersonal and soft skills. The competition is designed for high school students regardless of their experience with coding. Student groups are given support resources including an appointed high school intern, a self-selected educator, and a professional development video series led by IT professionals discussing their education and career backgrounds.

Students@Work

Students@Work (S@W) is an NCBCCE initiative in partnership with the NC Department of Public Instruction. The goal is for NC businesses to help middle school students see the opportunities that exist in the workplace as well as the skills needed for those jobs. Middle school is a crucial time for dropout prevention and also when high school curriculum planning takes place. Direct experience with the workplace demonstrates the relevance of education and career awareness for future success. In 2019, over 48,000 students visited Number of businesses across NC.

Teachers@Work

Teachers@Work is a teacher-externship model designed by NCBCCE. The program provides educators from across the state with unique, hands-on learning experiences inside local businesses, non-profit organizations, and state entities. Educators gain a more robust understanding of the technical skills, behaviors, and mindsets students need to be successful in today's professional environments. Teachers@Work has emerged as a gold standard in educator professional development, effectively breaking down barriers that traditionally separate classroom and career environments.

Work-Based Learning Navigator

The Navigator is an online marketplace for NC educators and workforce development professionals to integrate work-based learning resources into their classrooms including virtual guest speakers and industry developed curriculum that is aligned to standards. Our virtual resources include everything from virtual field trips, industry developed curriculum that aligns to standards, virtual guest speakers, and resources for art and music teachers. We are recording and posting career interviews with industry professionals in a variety of sectors. NCBCCE sent out a survey asking teachers their specific needs to support them in remote learning. More than 33% would like more virtual work-based and remote learning resources. We also received many individual teacher requests to connect with industry professionals as remote guest speakers. We encourage you to support our students and teachers by engaging through the Navigator. Please contact us ncbceadmin@nc.gov. Check out the Navigator and our new virtual resources [HERE](#).



REAL-WORLD LEARNING FOR REAL-LIFE SUCCESS

Initiative Highlight



ready, set, app!

an NCBCE initiative sponsored by Lenovo

Governor Roy Cooper encouraged high school students across North Carolina to participate in the state's first application development competition. Ready, Set, App! teams of 3-5 students were challenged with developing a functional and original Android mobile application to solve a real-world problem in their school or community.

“Students see the world through fresh eyes. Their creativity sees solutions we may not know we need but soon can not live without,” said Governor Cooper. “The Ready, Set, App! challenge a way for North Carolina’s high schoolers to change the world for the better, and I encourage all students to find a team and get coding.”

Ready, Set, App! is a collaborative effort between NCBCE and Lenovo. All ninth – twelfth grade public and charter school students were eligible and there was no cost to participate.

With over 27,000 Information Technology jobs currently unfilled in North Carolina, the Ready, Set, App! challenge provided a boost for students to explore the potential of computer science careers. In addition to expanding computer science skills, Ready, Set, App! hones teamwork skills, problem-solving and encouraged students to be entrepreneurs.

In the first cycle, over 200 students participated. 50 judges came together to review the submissions and select the final 8 student groups. Click the links on the next page to learn more about the finalists and the skills the teams learned.



ready, set, app!

an NCBCCE initiative sponsored by Lenovo

Finalists

Wake- Stemengineers <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWqWi2LPayc&feature=youtu.be>

Wake STEM Early College

App Topic: Peer to peer tutoring support

Durham- Pirate Coders <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=64AQ97F7u-M>

Riverside High School

App Topic: Student & Parent portal to communicate with educators and school district

Orange- Team EcoEye <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sbM-8VS1yU&feature=youtu.be>

Chapel Hill High School

App Topic: Recycling awareness

Hoke- Team Unknown <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EXqiwo2wmc>

SandHoke Early College

App Topic: Resources for studying

Forsyth- C.A.S.H. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXXIkJ897lY&feature=youtu.be>

Uwharrie Charter Academy

App Topic: Donation platform for students to purchase school supplies

Guilford- Earthworm https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_tISugPm9E

The Early College at Guilford

App Topic: Environmental awareness

Charlotte Meck-Mallard Creek- <https://youtu.be/9SExjdWa7ic>

Mallard Creek High School

App Topic: Password protection/cybersecurity

Dare- App Hatteras- https://youtu.be/_Dpl-W6RGxQ [youtu.be]

Cape Hatteras Secondary School

App Topic: Volunteer opportunity database for Dare County

Initiative Highlight



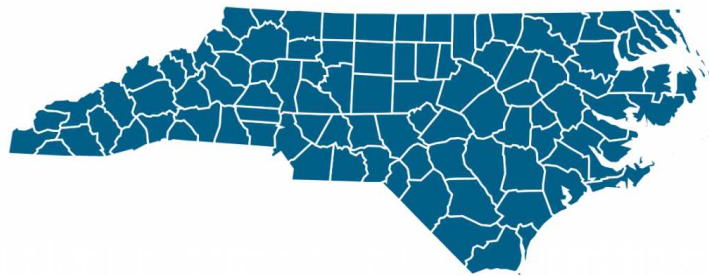
Version 2 of our work-based learning Navigator went live earlier this year, making the website more user-friendly and easier to maneuver. The Navigator works to connect educators in North Carolina to businesses in various industries. Our hope is that businesses connecting with classrooms will help students learn more about industries of interest, get hands-on experience, and help businesses with their employment pipeline. We currently have over 800 resources representing tons of different industries.

With the transition to virtual learning due to COVID-19 educators, more than ever, are looking for fun and creative ways to keep their students engaged and connected to their community. With so many virtual resources being provided online as well as through businesses in our area, we have been busy uploading these new virtual resources onto our platform. We have uploaded over 350 virtual resources and uploading more each day!

Our virtual resources include everything from virtual field trips, lesson plans, art and physical activities, and many other items! We have also been working to hold online interviews with professionals in tons of different industry sectors and hope to get those on the platform soon. We sent out a survey asking teachers their specific needs during this time and received many requests that we are working to fulfill by connecting them with businesses that can speak virtually with them or their classes.

If you or someone you know would like a resource posted feel free to reach out to us via email. Check out the Navigator and our new virtual resources here: <https://wblnavigator.org/>.

NCBCE is impacting every county in North Carolina



NCBCE by the Numbers



75,000+

Educators have joined the Navigator



15

Educators received the Governor's Educator Discovery Award



48,000

Students participated in Students@Work

500+

Educators who have applied for the Governor's Educator Discovery Award

200+

Students participating in STEM related activities through Ready, Set, App!

100+

Navigator demos conducted

100+

Companies engaged with our initiatives

Calling All Members

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and its effects on North Carolina's education system, teachers are needing to use our work-based learning Navigator more than ever before. We have been tasked with providing virtual resources from local businesses, in order to help classes state-wide expand career and subject knowledge. This is where we need your help!

We would be so grateful if you all would consider participating in a quick virtual career awareness interview with our work-based learning manager (Michael Denning) or provide any virtual content (worksite tours, career advice, subject knowledge, etc). If you are interested in participating in an interview or need assistance uploading resources onto the Navigator, please reach out.

Here is the link to the Navigator: <https://wblnavigator.org/web/my-dashboard/>

Be on the lookout for our engagement survey!

As NCBCCE continues to grow, develop, and adapt, we look to engage with you, our member organizations! NCBCCE could not perform optimally without the support and engagement of our partners. Therefore, we will be distributing a short survey in the coming weeks, in order to gauge mechanisms of improved engagement from both NCBCCE and you, our member organizations. It is our hope that NCBCCE can continue to serve the students and educators of North Carolina at appropriate levels, especially during our unprecedented times.

