



Land of Sky P20 Council **K12 Education Resource Guide**

Resources for Educators, Students, and
Parents

*CONNECTING THE DOTS THAT
LEAD TO EDUCATIONAL
ATTAINMENT AND GAINFUL
EMPLOYMENT*





Acknowledgements

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Contents

Introduction.....	1
Classroom Resources for Educators.....	2
Learning Library: Online Resource for Student Success.....	2
NCDOT K-12 Programs.....	2
Open Culture: 200 Free Kids Educational Resources (K-12).....	3
Free Audio Books, eBooks, and Textbooks.....	4
Foreign Languages	4
Video Lessons/Tutorials.....	4
Edutopia.....	6
Future Ready Schools.....	6
National Education Association (NEA).....	6
Support Resources for Students, Parents, and Teachers.....	6
North Carolina Department of Instruction.....	7
SchoolWorks.....	7
Teacher.....	8
The College Foundation of NC.....	8
North Carolina First in FAFSA Tracker.....	8
FAFSA Completion Assistance.....	8
United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County Community School Initiative.....	9
Appendix.....	11
FOUNDATIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES.....	11
Advancing Students Achievement & Development in NC Promising Policies & Practices for the Teaching Workforce.....	11
North Carolina K-12 Achievement.....	11
Improving Educational Outcomes in North Carolina: Aligning Policy Initiatives in Pre-K through Grade 3.....	11
K-12 Achievement and Proficiency Gaps.....	12
COMMUNITY EDUCATION ADVOCACY GROUPS.....	12
The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Buncombe County.....	12
Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County.....	12
The Cindy Platt Boys & Girls Club of Transylvania County.....	13
City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy (CAYLA).....	13
In Real Life (IRL) After-School Program.....	13
My Daddy Taught Me That (MDTMT).....	14
My Sistah Taught Me That (MSTMT).....	14
Positive Change Youth Ministries (PCYM).....	14
Youth Transformed for Life (YTL).....	15



Introduction

The Land of Sky P20 Council's K-12 Educational Resource Guide was developed as part of the myFutureNC Educational Attainment Initiative to assist key stakeholders in their work with local students in Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties. The P20 Council utilizes components of the Collective Impact Model to establish a shared mission and common interests among stakeholders with the purpose of aligning the human talent needs of local employers to educational attainment objectives and outcomes. This pilot program developed an attainment model that examines educational initiatives, certificates, and degrees that create a seamless transition from educational institutions to gainful employment that can be utilized in all 100 North Carolina counties. Stakeholders include:

- Pre-Kindergarten/Early Childhood Education Programs
- K-12 School Systems
- Community Colleges
- Public Colleges and Universities
- Private Colleges and Universities
- Workforce Development Boards
- Economic Developers
- Private and Public Employers
- Community Partners
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Local and State Governments

This Guide provides resources for educators, students, and parents. Note: some initiatives were paused during the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We have attempted to verify that initiatives have started back and have active links.

k12



Guide



Classroom Resources for Educators



Learning Library: Online Resource for Student Success

<https://www.education.com/resources>

The Learning Library provides a myriad of refreshing educational resources that will keep educators and students excited about learning. Hundreds of professionally designed lesson plans are curated with clarity and explicit instruction. Each plan includes useful and interesting activities to help solidify student comprehension. More in-depth guided lessons are complete with easy-to-follow guidelines and timelines. The lessons provide a deep look at various subjects such as blending sounds or understanding decimals. Higher level lessons include everything from the complexities of sentence structure to interpreting mathematical data. For interactive learners, the resource center provides hundreds of skills-based games that are both enticing and educational. A glut of hands-on activities from practical money games to making the classic “moon sand” play dough give students real world experience. The library also offers intriguing science project activities, song videos, interactive books and more to add extra layers of engagement to the learning process. The tools found in the Learning Library are listed by grade level, subject matter, and by topics. They include worksheets, games, guided lessons, and song videos. The resource is appropriate for preschool – eighth grade.

NCDOT K-12 Programs

<https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/students-youth/school-to-career-pathways/Pages/k-12.aspx>

The Education Initiatives Program offers programs and activities to introduce courses in science, technology, engineering, and math (also referred to as STEM) to transportation to elementary, middle and high school students through mentorships in schools, job shadowing with N.C. Department of Transportation staff, transportation events and other opportunities.

The N.C. Department of Transportation's Education Initiatives Program is focused on capturing the interests of students in activities and programs that focus heavily on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Three major initiatives – [School to Career Pathways Initiative](#), the [NCDOT Internship Network](#) and [DOT Volunteers](#) – help NCDOT attract and recruit the best talent to help develop a workforce to meet North Carolina's future transportation demands.

Areas of focus include:

- Making programs available in both rural and urban communities.
- Encouraging broad participation among women and minorities in engineering fields through programs.
- Increasing NCDOT mentorship throughout elementary, middle and high schools.
- Providing multidisciplinary internship and training opportunities for college and post graduate students.

Open Culture: 200 Free Kids Educational Resources (K-12)

https://www.openculture.com/free_k-12_educational_resources

This collection provides a list of free educational resources for K-12 students (kindergarten through high school students) and their parents and teachers. There are 200 free kids' educational resources including video lessons, apps, books, and websites. Listed below are examples from each available resource category. The full list of resources and links are available on Open Culture's website.



Free Audio Books, eBooks, and Textbooks

- **[Free Audio Books](#)**: Our collection of 450 free audio books includes many children's classics. *The Wizard of Oz*, *Grimm's Fairy Tales*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *Mark Twain*, [The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis](#), *The Swiss Family Robinson*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Aesop's Fables*, [The Wizard of Oz series](#), and much more. You can download audio files straight to your computer or mobile device.
- **[Free eBooks](#)**: This collection includes many children's classics in ebook format. You generally have the option to download these texts to your Kindle, iPad, Nook or computer. Video tutorials are included on the page. You may also want to visit our resource: [Download 20 Popular High School Books Available as Free eBooks & Audio Books](#).
- **[Audible Stories](#)**: During the COVID-19 outbreak, Audible is providing free stories to kids and teens.

Foreign Languages

- **[Open Culture Foreign Language Collection](#)**: This list created by Open Culture offers free lessons in 40 different languages. You can generally download the mp3/podcasts to your devices.
- **[Duolingo](#)** — Learn 30+ languages online with bite-size lessons based on science.
- **[Destinos: An Introduction to Spanish](#)**: This video instructional series for high school and college classrooms teaches Spanish speaking and listening skills. Produced by WGBH Boston.
- **[Deutsch – warum nicht?](#)**: An extensive collection of introductory German lessons put together by Deutsche Welle. [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#) and [Part 4](#).
- **[French in Action](#)**: Become fluent in French by exploring French culture in this well-known video series for high school and college classrooms. Produced by Yale University and WGBH Boston with Wellesley College.

Video Lessons/Tutorials

- **[Free Courses](#)**: Our collection, [1,700 Free Online Courses from Top Universities](#), contains countless video lectures from courses offered by top universities. Some material can be useful for high school students, or their teachers.
- **[Khan Academy](#)**: The site famously features K-12 video tutorials created by Sal Khan and team. It currently gives students access to [thousands of video tutorials](#) that

explain the ins-and-outs of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, calculus, statistics, finance, physics, economics and more. Videos can also be accessed via [YouTube](#) and [iTunesU](#), or on the Khan Academy's [website](#).

- **[Crash Courses](#):** Created by author John Green, this YouTube channel provides crash courses in physics, philosophy, games, economics, U.S. government and politics, astronomy, anatomy & physiology, world history, computer science, biology, literature, ecology, chemistry, psychology, U.S. history and more.
- **[Learner.org](#):** Run by The Annenberg Foundation, Learner.org hosts multimedia resources for teachers, students and lifelong learners.
- **[MIT-K12](#):** Taking a page from Khan, MIT is now producing short videos teaching basic concepts in science and engineering” for K-12 students. The videos are generally created by MIT students. You can sort the videos by topic and grade level. Find versions of these videos on [iTunes](#).





Support Resources for Students, Parents, and Teachers



Edutopia

<https://www.edutopia.org>

Edutopia is a foundation dedicated to transforming K-12 education so that all students can acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to thrive in their studies, careers, and adult lives. Edutopia finds resources to help implement six transformational strategies:

- Comprehensive Assessment
- Integrated Studies
- Project-Based Learning
- Social and Emotional Learning
- Teacher Development
- Technology Integration

Future Ready Schools

Future Ready Schools (FRS) is a bold effort to maximize digital learning opportunities and help school districts move quickly toward preparing students for success in college, a career, and citizenship. [The Alliance for Excellent Education](#) and the [U.S. Department of Education](#) are leading this effort with the support of the Leading Education by Advancing Digital (LEAD) Commission and a vast coalition of organizations.

National Education Association (NEA)

<https://www.nea.org>

The NEA is more than 3 million people—educators, students, activists, workers, parents, neighbors, friends—who believe in opportunity for all students and in the power of public education to transform lives and create a more just and inclusive society.

North Carolina Department of Instruction

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov>

The vision of the NC Department of Instruction is that “Every public-school student will graduate ready for post-secondary education and work, prepared to be a globally engaged and productive citizen.” Topics include:

- Educator Preparation
- Students and Parents Information
- Funding Opportunities
- Data and Reports

SchoolWorks

<https://www.schoolworks.org>

SchoolWorks is an education consulting group with the mission of advancing all aspects of student learning and well-being by building the capacity of educators and educational institutions to assess, plan for, and achieve student success. With decades of insight into best practices across domains, SchoolWorks provides actionable improvement support by helping schools, districts, networks, and education agencies identify strengths and weaknesses, develop and execute meaningful and achievable action plans, and monitor ongoing progress. Resources include:

- Online Courses
- Trainings
- Quality Reviews
- Accountability Services

Partnerships from Pre-K to Post-Grad

Teacher

<https://www.teacher.org>

Teacher.org is a website for teachers by teachers that aims to continuously inform and encourage teaching. It includes how to:

- Choose What You Want to Teach
- Complete Your Education Requirements for Teaching in North Carolina
- Pass the Required Tests for North Carolina
- Apply for your North Carolina Teaching License
- Find a Teaching Job in North Carolina
- Continue Your Education and Professional Development
- Advance Your Career and Meet Continuing Education Requirements with a Master's Degree

The College Foundation of NC

<https://www.cfnc.org>

The College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) is a free service from the State of North Carolina provided by a collaboration of educational pathways. CFNC promotes access to North Carolina higher education and assists students and parents with education planning, career planning, and applying and paying for college.

North Carolina First in FAFSA Tracker

<https://www.cfnc.org/fafsa-tools/fafsa-tracker/>

North Carolina First in FAFSA is a CFNC Collaborative that focuses on increasing the number of high school seniors who complete the FAFSA. Increasing the FAFSA completion rate is a fundamental step in North Carolina's efforts to meet its postsecondary attainment goal. Students who complete the FAFSA are more likely to enroll in higher education, persist in their college coursework, and obtain a degree.

FAFSA Completion Assistance

- **Local Assistance:** Use this tool to help connect students and families with financial aid professionals at colleges in order to receive free assistance.
<https://www.cfnc.org/pay-for-college/fafsa-assistance/financial-aid-help-near-you/>
- **FAFSA Video Resources:** Use this tool to complete the FAFSA application.
<https://www.cfnc.org/pay-for-college/fafsa-assistance/#>

United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County Community School Initiative

<https://www.unitedwayabc.org/community-schools-asheville>

Community Schools are public schools that partner with the community to create conditions necessary for students and families to thrive inside and outside of the classroom. United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County is currently partnering with 7 schools throughout Asheville and Buncombe County including:

- Asheville
- Enka
- Erwin
- Owen
- A.C. Reynolds
- North Buncombe Middle School
- Asheville High/SILSA.

United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County employs a full-time Community School Coordinator who works onsite at each school. These dedicated staff members coordinate student and family support systems utilizing the community school strategy. The community school strategy encompasses four pillars that together create the conditions necessary for students and families to thrive:

ACTIVE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Community Nights (featuring Homework Dinners)
- Adult Education Programs
- Faculty Appreciation
- School Resource Rooms
- Community Engagement Markets

INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORT

- Healthy Relationships Programming
- Mentoring Groups
- School Resource Rooms
- School-Based Health Centers
- School-Based Therapy
- Student Support Groups

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP AND PRACTICE

- Student Success Planning (formerly EWRS)
- Community School Resource Teams
- Student Leadership Groups

EXPANDED LEARNING TIME AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Restorative Practices
- Community Nights (featuring Homework Diners)
- School-Day Tutors
- Before/After-School Clubs
- Summer Enrichment Programs



Appendix

FOUNDATIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Advancing Students Achievement & Development in NC | Promising Policies & Practices for the Teaching Workforce

[Advancing Student Achievement & Development](#)

- Kevin Bastian, Senior Research Associate, Dept. of Public Policy, UNC Chapel Hill
- Published by myFutureNC Commission August 2018
- A strong teaching workforce directly benefits the students of North Carolina and there are opportunities to innovate, refine, and better align policies and practices to strengthen the teacher workforce.

North Carolina K-12 Achievement

[North Carolina K-12 Achievement](#)

- Douglas Lauen, Associate Professor of Public Policy, UNC-Chapel Hill & Thomas Tomberlin, Director, School Research, Data and Reporting (NC Department of Public Instruction)
- Published by myFutureNC Commission June 2018
- Learning begets learning, which means that raising and maintaining achievement takes concerted action across many different levels of schooling.

Improving Educational Outcomes in North Carolina: Aligning Policy Initiatives in Pre-K through Grade 3

[Improving Educational Outcomes in North Carolina: Aligning Policy Initiatives in Pre-K Through Grade 3](#)

- Clara Muschkin, Associate Research Professor of Public Policy, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University
- Published by myFutureNC Commission June 2018
- Early gains are most likely to persist if educational efforts are integrated in a Pre-K to grade 3 policy framework that emphasizes improved program access, quality and alignment.

K-12 Achievement and Proficiency Gaps

- Thomas Tomberlin, Director, School Research, Data and Reporting-Office the Deputy State Superintendent

COMMUNITY EDUCATION ADVOCACY GROUPS

The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Buncombe County

<https://southernusa.salvationarmy.org/asheville-buncombe-county/boys-girls-clubs>

Boys & Girls Clubs of America has a lineup of tested and proven nationally recognized programs that address today's most pressing youth issues, teaching young people the skills they need to succeed in life. Boys & Girls Clubs of America is committed to changing lives. By measuring how much Club kids and teens are achieving, we can determine how effectively the Club experience is helping America's youth build great futures. These programs are found in six core program areas.

- Character and Leadership Development
- Education and Career Development
- Health and Life Skills
- The Arts
- Sports, Fitness and Recreation
- Spiritual Development

Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County

https://bgchendersonco.org/about-us_2023/#contact

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County is to inspire and enable young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. The Boys & Girls Club provides year-round activities and programs to meet the interests of youth and their educational, physical, emotional, cultural, and social needs. We model our programs and activities on the Boys & Girls Clubs of America core areas:

- Education and Career Development
- Fitness and Recreation
- The Arts
- Health and Life Skills

- Character and Leadership Development

The Cindy Platt Boys & Girls Club of Transylvania County

<https://www.bgctransylvania.org/our-mission>

The Cindy Platt Boys & Girls Club of Transylvania County's mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. We serve school-aged youth, ages 5 to 18, year-round through a comprehensive approach that emphasizes engaging and evidence-based programming combined with authentic relationship-building and social/emotional support that serves the whole child. We provide a positive, inclusive, and safe environment for our members to engage in learning, recreation, and companionship. Our programs are facilitated by caring, compassionate, and dedicated staff with the goal of impacting children's lives within the following outcome areas: academic success, good character and citizenship, the arts, and health and wellness.

City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy (CAYLA)

<https://www.ashevillenc.gov/department/community-economic-development/community-development/cayla/>

CAYLA recruits, trains, and places local high school students at meaningful summer jobs with the City and with participating agencies, in addition to providing weekly day-long workshops on financial literacy, leadership, career exploration, and 21st Century job skills. CAYLA engages its students throughout the school year by offering classroom-based enrichment activities and individualized assistance with college applications and scholarship research. Activities include:

- Internships
- Community Service
- Workshops

In Real Life (IRL) After-School Program

<https://www.acsf.org/irl>

IRL provides high quality, hands-on, equitable, and accessible after-school programming for all Asheville City Schools middle school students. IRL operates on a sliding scale and during COVID-19, has waived all student registration fees, providing after-school programming at no

cost to all students. IRL partners with Asheville City Schools transportation to provide busing around the city and in the evenings to increase access for students and families.

My Daddy Taught Me That (MDTMT)

<https://mydaddytaughtmethat.org>

MDTMT is a non-profit agency providing mentoring programs for middle and high school youth in the Greater Asheville, North Carolina area. The program forms partnerships with local schools, low-income housing developments, the juvenile court system, churches (and other faith groups), social service agencies, and many more to foster a commitment to adolescent male youths that promote pro-social friendships, strong interpersonal skills, good decision-making, acceptance of responsibility, and accountability for their actions.

My Sistah Taught Me That (MSTMT)

<https://mstmt.square.site>

MSTMT is a young girl's developmental program designed to encourage, inspire, educate, and empower young girls ages 11-19 with a special focus on girls growing up in single parent homes without their father. This program was created so young ladies in Buncombe County and surrounding areas in western North Carolina may have the chance to be exposed to professional leaders in our community who are dedicated to providing opportunities, open dialogue, and exposure to things they would not routinely do, with the intent of helping them grow and mature.

Positive Change Youth Ministries (PCYM)

<https://positivechangesyouthministries.org>

Over the last six years the PCYM's program has gone from a free afterschool and summer camp program for low-income families to a college readiness program. The mission is to empower youth with the tools and skills needed to be successful in life through life skill building, leadership training, tutoring, mentoring, career interest exploration, community service, college exploration, and academic success incentives. All seniors are challenged to apply to ten colleges/universities of their choice. Eighty percent of seniors attend an institution of higher education.

Youth Transformed for Life (YTL)

https://www.ytltrainingprograms.org/?fbclid=IwAR3CD30piJAqFF7n1-g_1ODcfU4bfonj8Swq9oWJUhyx_kpi8SJowQT0ZcE

YTL Training Programs support disenfranchised communities as they strive to succeed in an inequitable system. As educators, mentors, advocates, and neighbors, they create bridges for children and families to overcome the current gaps of disparity. Programs include:

- YTL G.R.A.C.E for Teens after school (6th-10th grade)
- YTL G.R.A.C.E for Teens Advocacy and Outreach
- YTL G.R.A.C.E for Girls
- YTL G.R.A.C.E for Boys
- G.R.A.C.E for R.O.S.E.S/ M.O.S.S (3rd-6th grade) Redeveloping Our Self Esteem for Success/Motivating Ourselves to Soar to Success