INAUGURAL P20 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
Pre-Meeting Information for Council Review

Background/Context: The P20 Policies/Regulations Action Team has led the development of Legislative Priorities that the P20 Council will release, and has followed a comprehensive process to bring recommendations to you at our February 2, 2023 meeting. This process is detailed on pages 2-5 of this packet. These recommendations are separated by our four strategic directions/goals in the areas of: early education, K12 success, postsecondary success, and employee credential alignment.

Key Question:
How can the Land of Sky's leaders collectively advocate for long-term growth of successful strategies that lead to credential attainment?

Purpose: What current gap guides our work?
- There are a variety of serious regulatory barriers that impede growth along the educational continuum and the Land of Sky lacks a representative body to collectively advocate for changes that could positively impact educational attainment from early childhood through post-secondary environments.

Outcomes: How will our work be felt by the community?
- P20 will provide policy/regulatory recommendations, vetted by all members, to statewide partners and elected officials regarding chronic regulatory barriers that impede growth surrounding the four indicators of credential growth (early education enrollment, K12 success, postsecondary completion and employer credential alignment).

Process to Final Policy Brief

✅ **Step 1: (Completed by the LOS Educational Attainment & Workforce Collaborative, or LOS EAW Collaborative, prior to the formation of the LOS P20 Council.) Task forces for each Strategic Direction develop policy and strategy recommendations.**[1]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS EAW Collaborative Workgroups		Prior to Fall of 2021

✅ **Step 2: (Completed by the LOS EAW Collaborative, prior to the formation of the LOS P20 Council.). Compile workgroup recommendations into a single, initial policy brief draft.**[2]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS EAW Collaborative		Prior to Fall of 2021

✅ **Step 3: Compare Collaborative's initial policy brief draft with myFutureNC's policy priorities and strategies and note potential alignment.**[3]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	09/30/2022	09/22/2022

✅ **Step 4: Revise Collaborative's initial policy brief draft to align policy priorities, strategies, and funding needs with the four Strategic Directions.**[4]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	09/30/2022	10/01/2022

✅ **Step 5: Condense policy brief draft to one-page summary document with Strategic Directions, Goals, and Actions.**[5]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	10/15/2022	10/14/2022

✅ **Step 6: Identify potential targets for initial outreach to begin to solicit support for proposed policy priorities.[6]**

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	10/31/2022	01/10/2023

✅ **Step 7: Identify local organizations with similar/identical priorities to those in the updated policy brief draft.[7]**

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Policy Action Team	10/31/2022	10/31/2022

✅ **Step 8: Identify the 10 highest-frequency policy priorities from statewide organizations for each Strategic Direction.[8]**

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	11/15/2022	12/06/2022

✅ **Step 9: Note any alignment with myFutureNC in the lists created in Step 8.[9]**

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	12/18/2022	12/18/2022

✅ **Step 10: Review all policy priorities and strategies obtained through all methods so far (Steps 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9) and decide how to choose which policies and strategies to forward for review by the full LOS P20 Council for potential inclusion in the final policy brief.**

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Policy Action Team	12/08/2022	12/08/2022

Process to Final Policy Brief, continued

✅ **Step 11: Analyze and compare data from 2020 and 2022 county profiles from myFutureNC for the four counties in the LOS P20 region.**[10]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	12/31/2022	12/23/2022

✅ **Step 12: From among the lists created in Step 8, choose which policy priorities and strategies to forward for review by the full LOS P20 Council.**

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Policy Action Team	01/06/2023	01/13/2023

✅ **Step 13: Update lists created in Step 8 to indicate which policy priorities and strategies were selected in Step 12.**[11]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	01/18/2023	01/18/2023

✅ **Step 14: Create data visualizations for county profile comparisons from Step 11.**[12]

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	01/18/2023	01/18/2023

☐ **Step 15: Provide full LOS P20 Council with the recommended policy priorities and strategies from Step 13 and the data visualizations from Step 14.**

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	02/02/2023	

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Step 16: Pick a maximum of three policy priorities for each Strategic Direction to include in the final policy brief.

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Council	02/02/2023	

Step 17: Assign an estimated funding need for each policy priority in $ format.

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	02/28/2023	

Step 18: Vet identified policy priorities with at least 3 community partners/stakeholders for each Strategic Direction.

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Policy Action Team	February Action Team Meetings (due date of a month thereafter)	

Step 19: Develop an advocacy toolkit for council members to reference when using the final policy brief.

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Staff	01/31/2023	

Step 20: Release the final policy brief & advocacy toolkit.

Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	Date Completed
LOS P20 Council	03/17/2023	

Strategic Direction #1
Enhance Pre-K and Early Childhood Education programs' enrollment.
Strategic Goal
Increase enrollment of eligible children to 75% in each project county.

The P20 Policies/Regulations Action Team has led the development of Legislative Priorities that the P20 Council will release, and has followed a process detailed here. Their recommendations are as follows:

	POLICIES
1	Expand access to NC Pre-K (to all four-year-olds).*
2	Diversify the early childhood and higher education workforce.
	STRATEGIES
1	Expand the Child Care WAGE$ program statewide in order to improve teacher recruitment and retention, stabilize the early education workforce, and support early educators who have or are working towards degrees in early education.
2	Increase the reimbursement rate to provide full funding for all NC Pre-K enrollees, to account for rising costs, and to incentivize four- and five-start centers that do not currently participate in NC Pre-K to do so and meet its higher-quality standards.
3	Provide transportation for NC Pre-K enrollees both in public and private settings.
4	Increase the reimbursement rate for administrative costs to 8% to support the true cost of providing NC Pre-K.
5	Increase licensed NC Pre-K teacher wages and benefits to achieve parity with K12 public school educators.

Aligned Organizations for Policies:

1	PSFNC[1.1], NCDHHS[1.2], UMAPS[1.3], NC Child[1.4], FIEI[1.5], NCIOM and NCDHHS[1.6], WestEd[1.7], Public School Forum NC[1.8], NCECF[1.9], HLC[1.10], NCSBE[1.11]
2	DRIVE Report[9.1], NCDHHS[9.2], FPGCDI[9.3], LWVNC[9.4]

Aligned Organizations for Strategies:

1	HLC[2.1], NCDHHS[2.2], NCECF[2.3], NC Child[2.4], NCEEC[2.5], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[2.6], WestEd[2.7], LWVNC[2.8], ==MFNC[2.9]==
2	HLC[3.1], NIEER[3.2], WestEd[3.3], NC Chamber[3.4], NCEEC[3.5], NCSBA[3.6], The Arc of NC[3.7], LWVNC[3.8]
3	Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[5.1], NCECF[5.2], WestEd[5.3], LWVNC[5.4]
4	HLC[6.1], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[6.2], NIEER[6.3], WestEd[6.4]
5	HLC[8.1], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[8.2], LWVNC[8.3], WestEd[8.4]

Strategic Direction #2
Improve student success rates in K-12 education.
Strategic Goal
Increase graduation rate to 95% in each project county.

The P20 Policies/Regulations Action Team has led the development of Legislative Priorities that the P20 Council will release, and has followed a process detailed here. Their recommendations are as follows:

	POLICIES
1	Develop the pipeline of highly qualified and well-prepared school leaders--principals, assistant principals, and other administrators--(with an emphasis on increasing diversity and on high-poverty and low-performing schools).*
2	Expand accessible, affordable, high-speed broadband throughout North Carolina (especially in rural and low-income areas).*
3	Increase funding for special education to promote recruitment and retention of highly qualified special education teachers and to ensure equitable access to education for students with disabilities.

	STRATEGIES
1	Increase state funding for Specialized Instructional Support Personnel, or SISP (e.g., school counselors, nurses, social workers, and psychologists), enough to enable school districts to recruit highly qualified candidates by offering competitive compensation and benefits, and to begin to meet nationally recommended ratios.
2	To recruit and retain top talent, increase teachers' pay (to be above the national average and highest in the southeast, and to decrease the pay disparity between educators and similarly credentialed and experienced professionals in other fields), expand the Teaching Fellows program, and expand the Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) program statewide.*
3	Prioritize an investment in the science of reading in the early grades (K-3, PreK-5, or K-5), (including by fully funding Teaching Assistants for K-3 classrooms), (targeting first to high-need elementary schools or focusing particularly on students of color).*

Aligned Organizations for Policies:

1	HLC[2.1], NCASA[2.2], BEST NC[2.3], PSFNC[2.4], DRIVE Report[2.5], WestEd[2.6], NCSBE[2.7], NCSBA[2.8], NC Coalition for Charter Schools[2.9], NC ECAP[2.10], MFNC[2.11], NCECF[2.12], NCFIT[2.13], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[2.14], NCPTA[2.15], LWVNC[2.16], NCDHHS[2.17], NCIOM and NCDHHS[2.18], UMAPS[2.19]
2	Kenan Institute for Private Enterprise & UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School[4.1], Public School Forum[4.2], NCPTA[4.3], MFNC[4.4], NCDHHS[4.5], Rural Counts[4.6], NCIOM[4.7], NCACC[4.8], PSFNC[4.9] CAGC[4.10], NCLM[4.11], NCARCOG[4.12], NCSBE[4.13], LWVNC[4.14], AAUWNC[4.15], NCASA[4.16]
3	NCPTA[10b.1], HLC[10b.2], NCASA[10b.3], DRNC[10b.4], The Arc of North Carolina[10b.5], PSFNC[10b.6], WestEd[10b.8], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[10b.8], LWVNC[10b.9]

Aligned Organizations for Strategies:

1	PNCC[1.1], Public School Forum of NC[1.2], NCPTA[1.3], BEST NC[1.4], PSFNC[1.5], NCFIT[1.6], WestEd[1.7], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[1.8], NCSBA[1.9], NCSCA[1.10], NCECAP[1.11], NCASA[1.12], DRIVE Report[1.13], NASW[1.14], UMAPS[1.15], NCECF[1.16], NCSBE[1.17], LWVNC[1.18], SNANC[1.19]
2	NCSBA[3.1], HLC[3.2], NCASA[3.3], AAUWNC[3.4], UMAPS[3.5], BEST NC[3.6], PSFNC[3.7], NC STRIDE[3.8], DRIVE Report[3.9], WestEd[3.10], NCSBE[3.11], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[3.12], NCFIT[3.13], PNCC[3.14], LWVNC[3.15], NCCC[3.16], NCPTA[3.17]
3	NCSBA[6.1], NC ECAP[6.2], NCASA[6.3], NCDHHS[6.4], NCIOM and NCDHHS[6.5], BEST NC[6.6], FIEI[6.7], NC Chamber[6.8], WestEd[6.9], NCSBE[6.10], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[6.11], PSFNC[6.12]

Strategic Direction #3
Create a seamless transition to postsecondary education.
Strategic Goal
Improve postsecondary enrollment success to 65% in each project county.

The P20 Policies/Regulations Action Team has led the development of Legislative Priorities that the P20 Council will release, and has followed a process detailed here. Their recommendations are as follows:

	POLICIES
1	Promote, expand, and provide equitable access to career and college readiness programs
2	Help postsecondary students succeed in their educational attainment goals & provide funding for community colleges for mental health counselors, success coaches and student support services.
	STRATEGIES
1	Increase non-academic supports and services by connecting students to public benefits and resources on-campus and in their community to assist students facing non-academic challenges such as child care, transportation, mental health, and work demands.
2	Remove barriers to postsecondary education access and attainment (for adult students, students of color, students who lack legal residency, rural students, and high school students in the CCP program).*
3	Strengthen and align postsecondary and career advising, awareness, and preparation for students of all ages as they transition into postsecondary, whether from high school or from the workforce.
4	Specifically target college advising, preparation, and enrollment efforts among underrepresented students (including low-income and first-generation-college high school students, students of color, disconnected youth, adults with some college but no degree, and students impacted by COVID-19 who are at risk of withdrawing or who have withdrawn).*
5	Revise legislation to allow schools to align their schedules with their local community college to enable students to participate fully in the Career and College Promise program and take tuition-free college courses while in high school, as misaligned schedules present barriers for students who work when school is not in session and who depend on school busing and school lunch programs.

Aligned Organizations for Policies:

1	NCACC[2.1], WestEd[2.2], NCCCS[2.3], NCSBE[2.4], NC Chamber[2.5], DRIVE Report[2.6], MFNC[2.7], NCCCS[2.8], NC STRIDE[2.9], PSF of NC[2.10]
2	HLC[3.1], SHEEO[3.2], MFNC[3.3], NCDHHS[3.4], IEI[3.5], NCCCS[3.6]

Aligned Organizations for Strategies:

1	HLC[3.1], SHEEO[3.2], MFNC[3.3], NCDHHS[3.4], IEI[3.5], NCCCS[3.6]
2	SHEEO[5.1], HLC[5.2], DRIVE Report[5.3], WestEd[5.4], NCCCS[5.5], NC Chamber[5.6]
3	MFNC[6.1], DRIVE Report[6.2], NCSEAA[6.3], NCCCS[6.4], NC Chamber[6.5]
4	MFNC[9.1], DRIVE Report[9.2], NCCCS[9.3], NC Chamber[9.4]
5	NCACC[10.1], WestEd[10.2]

Strategic Direction #4
Align educational objectives and outcomes to desired employee competencies.
Strategic Goal
Ensure that 90% of North Carolina adults ages 25-44 in the labor force obtain the necessary credentials that align with needed employees' competencies.

The P20 Policies/Regulations Action Team has led the development of Legislative Priorities that the P20 Council will release, and has followed a process detailed here. Their recommendations are as follows:

POLICIES	
1	Expand and strengthen coordination between K-12, higher education, and industry/employers
2	Promote short-term and non-degree workforce training and pathways that lead to credentials aligned with in-demand, living-wage jobs.
3	Eliminate challenges and barriers in the educator pipeline.
STRATEGIES	
1	Ensure educational and training programs are aligned to the knowledge, skills, and competencies employers require and students need to succeed in high-wage, high-demand jobs.
2	Invest in the educator pipeline through increased pay for K-12, community college and UNC System instructional & student support positions.
3	Define, standardize, and incentivize short-term and non-degree workforce training and pathways that lead to credentials aligned with in-demand, living-wage jobs.
4	Fund alternative pathways–residencies, Grow-Your-Own programs, educator/student cadet programs, etc.--and revising licensing tests.
5	Launch a statewide communications and marketing campaign that emphasizes the economic value of industry-aligned postsecondary credentials and informs about the limits for people without degrees and certifications (by specifically targeting efforts toward recruiting teachers).*
6	Target expansion of workforce development programs in rural and economically disadvantaged areas.

Aligned Organizations for Policies:

1	BEST NC[4.1], MFNC[4.2], NCARCOG[4.3], NCCCS[4.4], NCIOM[4.5], WestEd[4.6], CAGC[4.7], NCNA[4.8], NCIOM and NCDHHS[4.9]
2	NC Chamber[5.1], MFNC[5.2], DRIVE Report[5.3], NCCCS[5.4], FIEI[5.5], NCIOM[5.6], NCARCOG[5.7]
3	NCSBE[6.1], NC STRIDE[6.2], WestEd[6.3], DRIVE Report[6.4], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[6.5]

Aligned Organizations for Strategies:

1	BEST NC[4.1], MFNC[4.2], NCARCOG[4.3], NCCCS[4.4], NCIOM[4.5], WestEd[4.6], CAGC[4.7], NCNA[4.8], NCIOM and NCDHHS[4.9]
2	NCSBE[3.1], NC STRIDE[3.2], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[3.3], WestEd[3.4], DRIVE Report[3.5], PSF NC[3.6], NCDHHS[3.7], LWVNC[3.8], HLC[3.9]
3	NC Chamber[5.1], MFNC[5.2], DRIVE Report[5.3], NCCCS[5.4], FIEI[5.5], NCIOM[5.6], NCARCOG[5.7]
4	NCSBE[6.1], NC STRIDE[6.2], WestEd[6.3], DRIVE Report[6.4], Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education[6.5]
5	DRIVE Report[7.1], MFNC[7.2], NCCCS[7.3], NC STRIDE[7.4]
6	NCIOM and NCDHHS[8.1], MFNC[8.2], WestEd[8.3], NCCCS[8.4]