

*P20 Council Members:*

**ICYMI**



**P20 CONNECTORS LINKED HERE  
SINCE LAST P20 MEETING (JULY)**

July | August | September | October



Greetings P20 Council Members!

I'm excited to see you all at our upcoming meeting, where we will be joined by our new P20 Council Student Ambassadors! You may recall that we did a heavy marketing campaign to recruit students in early Fall with hard copy print advertisements and digital communications to all of our area high schools, community colleges and universities. We received over 60 applications and after careful review, we selected 21. These are students from our four counties, attending one of our high schools, community colleges or universities. The ambassadors have been provided with the following questions ahead of today's discussion as their role is to provide honest perspectives on the strengths and challenges for educational success and workforce preparedness in our region. During our November 17th meeting, we will be spending the majority of our time with our ambassadors in a conversational setting. In general, we would like for you to ask the ambassadors the following questions. Take notes for your own reference, taking note that ambassadors have the freedom to note parts that they want to be kept confidential. We'd like for you to digest their responses and identify components of their perspectives important for our Council's work via a follow up questionnaire and/or discussion following this meeting.

**If Ambassador is in high school-**

1. What do you think you will do after you finish high school?
2. What are you most worried or concerned about when thinking about your life after high school?
3. Are there any particular career interests you have? What inspired those career interests?
4. What information do you have about how to pay for any training after high school? Where do you receive information about these resources?
5. What barriers/obstacles do you think might make it hard for students from your high school to go to education or training after high school?
6. Have you encountered any barriers to succeeding in and/or completing high school? Please describe any barriers you have experienced and how they affected your success in high school.



**If Ambassador is in a community college or university-**

7. What do you think you will do after you finish with your program/degree?
8. What are you most worried or concerned about when thinking about your life after finishing community college or university?
9. Are there any particular career interests you have? What inspired those career interests?
10. What methods did you use to pay for your training? Where do you receive information about these resources?
11. What barriers/obstacles do you think make it hard for you or your peers to access education/training?
12. What barriers/obstacles do you think make it hard for you or your peers to finish education/training?

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



# ABIGAIL BLANKENSHIP



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*I want to share my experiences as a student with especially unique experiences, as someone with disabilities and who is graduating early from an early college program.*

*I'll be 16 as I enter college with an associates degree, and I want to contribute that unusual learning with people who could really use that perspective.*

MADISON EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL



# HEIDI ANUGRAH

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I wanted to become an ambassador because I was curious of how I could help North Carolina education become even better! I also want to gain some more experience in public speaking as well as professional networking.*

BLUE RIDGE COMM. COLL.

Associates of Science Transfer Pathway



# ASHLEIGH GRIEVES

Students as Stakeholders

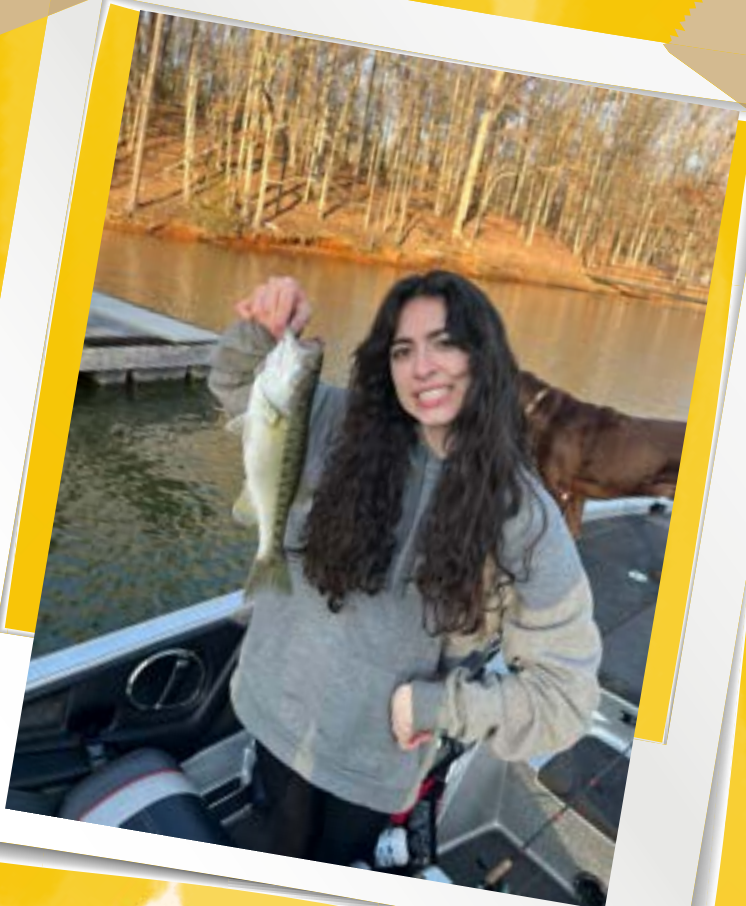
LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I want to be an ambassador because my education is very important to me and I hope to impact our schools and help our rising students. With this, as a person who is very passionate about school, I feel as though I can bring my advice and discuss topic like these.*

BREVARD HIGH SCHOOL





# STUART MAISE



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*I applied for this opportunity in order to gain experience as a representative of my fellow students. Our voices are important and should have a great impact on decisions made about education.*



BUNCOMBE COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE |  
A-B TECH COMM. COLL.



# AARON MARQUEZ- CRUZ

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I want to become an ambassador because I think it is a great opportunity that enables me to advocate for people who were not given the opportunity. Furthermore, being in a group of engaged citizens and self directed learners, will add value to our community since we will think of ideas that can sustain our learning environment. In addition I will learn a valuable skill set that involves self-reflection and perseverance as well as collaboration.*



BUNCOMBE COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE

Associates of Science and  
Associates of Engineering



# CATE BOYETTE

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I wanted to become an Ambassador to have a possible influence on any policy or decision that affects students and schools. I hope to have a greater understanding and appreciation for the work that goes into making these pivotal decisions after this experience.*

HENDERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



# EMILY HAZZARD



HENDERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I joined to become an ambassador so I could share my view point with people who can truly help make a change. I joined to become an ambassador so my sister, who is a sophomore in high school, can have an easier time in the future following her dreams. I want this experience to be a learning point to see how other people feel, to learn what I can do to help, and to help others learn what my views are.*



# LUCIAN IAVORSCHI



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*I want to have a voice because ultimately the decisions made affect me, the student. I also want to express my opinions on matters regarding our educational system.*



BUNCOMBE COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE



# TAYLOR MCHONE



ENKA HIGH SCHOOL

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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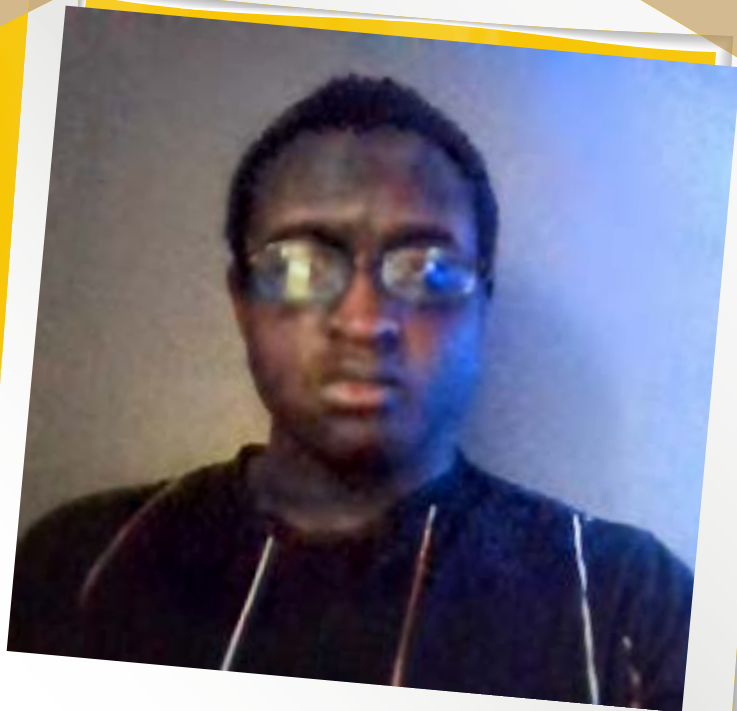
*I wanted to become an ambassador because I want to give feedback from a students' perspective on education. I also found it to be a great way to network.*



# AZENDAE AIKEN

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I wanted to become an ambassador to help my community. I also wanted to become an ambassador because the experience will be very welcoming, especially when it comes to future job opportunities that will be tied to representing the community.*

A.C. REYNOLDS HIGH SCHOOL



# ERIC VELEZ



A-B TECH COMM. COLLEGE

PRE-MEDICINE

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I wanted to represent A-B Tech College because the school has inspired me to reach high for your goals and dreams. It is a wonderful campus with so much love and support. I am a non-traditional student so all this really helps me. I want to help the school send the message of education out to all.*



# CITLALLY DIAZ MAR

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I aspire to be an Ambassador to amplify the voices of my Hispanic community in addressing educational challenges and advocating for women's empowerment. Through this experience, I aim to enhance my professional skills, broaden my network, and contribute meaningfully to creating positive change.*

NORTH HENDERSON HIGH SCHOOL



# NATALIA LÓPEZ



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*I hope to learn from other students their experiences in their respective level of school and identify common problems that I can help eradicate in my school with the support of my teachers and principal and share my own experiences as well*

**CLYDE A ERWIN HIGH SCHOOL**



# KIMBERLY JONES



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*I hope to be voice for adult students. What I hope to gain is the opportunity to share the voice of a black woman, mother, working adult, college student, and native of Asheville with community organizations to make a difference in the outcome students and the community.*

**MARS HILL UNIVERSITY**

SOCIAL WORK



# ELLA ESTRADA

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I wanted to become an ambassador because I wanted to be an advocate for my school community and help make my voice and my classmates voices heard. I hope through this experience I can share students perspectives to make our school and futures more successful.*

ASHEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL





# FANNY REYNOSO-DIAZ

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I have an interest in the political field and helping the community around me more. Something I hope to gain from this ambassador experience is to learn more about what goes on in the community around me from shared experiences and what solutions we can come up with.*

ASHEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



# MARION ELISABETH HAWSEY



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*I love the community I am a part of as well as my school so anything I can do to build it up makes me feel very accomplished.*

**BLUE RIDGE COMM. COLL.**

Associate in Arts - Transfer  
Pathway



# RODION S. FLORESKU



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*One of the main qualities that I hope to develop via this experience is leadership. I've had similar instances, such as being the student ambassador/tour guide for my school, and though those were valuable events I do not feel like there have been enough of these throughout the years to keep practicing. I also hope to leave an impact, by using these skills, on the educational system, since a major point of P20 as I've heard is working on improving its downsides.*



BUNCOMBE COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE



# KAYLIE PHILLIPS

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I wanted to become a student ambassador because as a future teacher, I am very passionate about education. I am also excited to be able share my experience to help better our local education system.*

WEST HENDERSON HIGH SCHOOL



# MICHAEL “HILTON” SWING



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*I wanted to become an ambassador because I always want to use my voice to make sure that me and my peers are properly represented. Another reason I wanted to become an ambassador is because I saw it as an amazing opportunity to further explore and understand the ways I can work with others to make education as beneficial and helpful as possible for everyone in this region.*



HENDERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



# ELEURA CLARK

Students as Stakeholders

LAND OF SKY P20 COUNCIL



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*I wanted to become a Student Ambassador because I thought it was a great way to share my voice and thoughts about what needed to change in education. I am a very outgoing person and I love having the ability to meet new people and learn new things. I hope to gain the knowledge of how to become a better leader and learn more about the obstacles that students in this area face so I can use that knowledge when I am a teacher later in life.*

MADISON HIGH SCHOOL







Council Members:

The work of the Council will continue through its Action Teams. We want to try and accommodate your choice for the Action Team you will be a part of in 2024. Please review those teams, their guiding question and targeted meeting dates below and indicate your top 3 choices [via this survey](#) by the end of 2023. Thank you!

Team	Guiding Question	Anticipated Meeting Dates (Virtual)
Accessibility	How do we assist partners in understanding the landscape of current and future financial aid options for enrolling and persisting in their credential or college pursuits at our region's colleges and universities?	Mondays (Bi-Monthly): 11AM
Advocacy	What barriers exist for postsecondary enrollment and/or persistence and how can the council best advocate to overcome these barriers?	Tuesdays (Bi-Monthly): 11AM
Local Innovation	What current innovative strategies are being used to help our region reach its educational attainment and workforce readiness goals that are centric to the four strategic areas of the P20 Council, and how can the Council assist local agencies in deploying more innovative strategies?	Wednesdays (Bi-Monthly): 11AM
Employer Engagement	How can we ensure employers are embedded and invested in our educational goals?	Wednesdays (Bi-Monthly): 1PM
Sustainability	Where can P20 assist partners in exploring and applying for funding opportunities to start or continue their strategies that advance our region's educational ecosystem?	Thursdays (Bi-Monthly): 11AM
Youth & Family Engagement	What are the true barriers that youth and families in the Land of Sky region encounter that inhibit their attainment of high-quality, high-demand credentials that will lead to careers that pay family-sustaining wages that will enable our residents to continue living in this region and contribute to thriving communities?	Fridays (Bi-Monthly): 11AM

*P20 Council Members:*

**SAVE THE DATES**

**2024 MEETINGS**

**Feb 23- Buncombe**  
**May 10 - Henderson**  
**Aug 16 - Madison**  
**Nov 15 - Transylvania**

