

**BUSINESS EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE JOINT EDUCATION OVERSIGHT  
COMMISSION MARCH 8, 2006**

RECOMMENDATION	SUMMARY OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b><i>Vision for Global and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacy</i></b>		
<p>1. The Education Cabinet should add a sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) strategic initiative to address the infusion of information and technology literacy skills in all learning environments and the importance of cultivating life long learning skills. The initiative should also include support for the technology infrastructure needed to support this initiative and it is recommended that it be written as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>Strong Global and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every student is prepared for life, work, and citizenship in the knowledge and information age of the 21st century</li> <li>• Every teacher is informational and globally literate</li> <li>• Every citizen understands and possesses the skills required to succeed in the global economy</li> <li>• Every citizen has affordable universal access to effective technology</li> </ul> <p>It is further recommended that the State Board of Education adopt this additional strategic initiative.</p>	<p>Lt. Governor Perdue met with the Education Cabinet in February to make this request and it is scheduled to meet on April 12 at which time it will address this item.</p> <p>Lt. Governor Perdue met with the State Board of Education and it is in the process of making a decision as to how best to address this priority. The SBE is scheduled to make a decision by May.</p>	Education Cabinet/State Board of Education
<p>2. The General Assembly should provide new funding for the operation of the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) and the expansion of e-learning course offerings to students in grades 9-12. These courses should be developed with teachers trained in on-line delivery of instruction so that students can register in the spring of 2006 for the 2007-08 school years. It is further recommended that the NCVPS Director and Advisory Board present to the State Board of Education no later than June 30, 2007 a plan for the inclusion of PreK-Middle school students in e-learning opportunities.</p>	<p>Joint Education Oversight endorses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• funding for the statewide implementation of the NCVPS for students in grades 9-12.</li> <li>• Developing a plan for e-learning for elementary and middle</li> </ul>	General Assembly

	<p>schools students by June 2007.</p> <p><b>Note: Please see the E-Learning Commission Phase II Report number (2) page 7 for additional information for this recommendation.</b></p>	
<p>3. The General Assembly should establish an e-learning entity called the NCVirtual (NCV) for all North Carolina Citizens and locate it with the Education Cabinet as recommended in the E-Learning Commission Phase II Report. This report was endorsed by the State Board of Education at its February 2, 2006 meeting and the Education Cabinet at its February 16, 2006 meeting. It is further recommended that an advisory body with support staff be established no later than July 1, 2006 to implement the recommendations of the E-learning Phase II Report. The Advisory Board will develop strategies for providing comprehensive e-learning opportunities for all North Carolina Citizens and report to the Education Cabinet and to Joint Education Oversight on its progress including any changes needed to policies, laws and rules to effectively develop e-learning opportunities for all NC Citizens no later than December 2006 and annually thereafter.</p>	<p>Joint Education Oversight endorses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the establishment of NCV and locate it with the Education Cabinet</li> <li>• the establishment of an Advisory body and providing staff to the NCV</li> </ul> <p><b>Note: Please see the E-Learning Commission Phase II Report number (2) page 7 for additional information for this recommendation.</b></p>	General Assembly
<p>4. The State Board of Education should study and identify the kinds of resources including people, data, equipment and tools needed to operate schools designed to meet the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. The current system has been periodically revised; however, a comprehensive revision is recommended to incorporate the funding and resources needed to support the use of technology infrastructures as well as instructional technology. The SBE should work with the American Diploma Project and the Center for 21st Century Skills and incorporate when appropriate the work from these two initiatives. The work will include developing two sets of guidelines - one for technology infrastructure and one for instructional technology.</p>	<p>No action needed, the required study is included in Senate 662 ratified in August 2005</p>	General Assembly

<p>5. The BETA will coordinate the establishment of a coalition of stakeholder associations or organizations including business and education groups to develop a marketing plan to educate the public about the impact of technology on North Carolina's economic future. In the course of developing this plan, a statewide poll to determine the citizens' perspective about the use of technology and its impact on the quality of life, the workforce and education for all citizens should also be conducted.</p>	<p>Joint Education Oversight endorses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the development of a marketing plan to educate the public about the impact of technology on North Carolina's economic future.</li> </ul>	<p>BETA</p>
<p><b><i>Infrastructure for Global and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacy</i></b></p>		
<p>6. The NC Rural Economic Development Center and e-NC in collaboration with representatives from Local Education Agencies, the University of North Carolina System and the Community College System should complete a feasibility study on developing regional education networks that are centrally managed to provide and sustain broadband connectivity to individual students and teachers in schools, community colleges and universities.</p> <p>The study should include an evaluation of existing technology infrastructures, such as the statewide NC Research and Education Network or regional infrastructure like Winston-Net. These state of the art infrastructures may be capable of supporting growth in traffic and thus serve as a backbone infrastructure for delivering high speed access to underserved regions.</p>	<p>No action required until receipt of the study as directed in Senate 662 in August, 2005 and the results of the Report will be made as directed no later than May 1, 2006.</p> <p><b>Note: Please see Appendix I page 24 of the March 2006 BETA report for the progress report on this study.</b></p>	<p>General Assembly</p>
<p>7. The School Technology Commission should set or revise standards after seeking input from e-NC and ITS for LEA School Technology plans and establish a baseline template for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the technology infrastructure including broadband connectivity, people and resources needed to operate effectively from the classroom desktop to local, regional or state networks, and</li> <li>an evaluation component that holds local education agencies accountable for maintaining quality upgradeable systems.</li> </ol>	<p>No action needed as this change was made as directed in Senate 662 in August, 2005.</p> <p><b>Note: Please see Appendix II page 27 for the statute change regarding this recommendation.</b></p>	<p>State Board of Education</p>
<p>8. The State Board of Education should investigate ways to ensure</p>	<p>Joint Education Oversight</p>	<p>State Board of Education</p>

technology infrastructure standards in new school buildings are consistent with the requirements for schools as recommended by the NC ITS, including the allocation of funds from the Lottery proceeds for school construction.	<p>endorses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBE investigating ways to ensure technology infrastructure standards in new school buildings are consistent with the requirements for schools as recommended by the NC ITS</li> <li>• SBE investigating ways to allocate funds from the Lottery proceeds for school construction to ensure standards are met.</li> </ul>	
9. The NCDPI should develop or revise its state portal of web resources to include building needs, sample floor plans, sample technology plans and other resources needed to support LEAs in building schools with technology infrastructure for the 21 <sup>st</sup> century.	<p>Joint Education Oversight endorses:</p> <p>SBE revising the state portal for school construction to include plans for building schools with technology infrastructure for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.</p>	State Board of Education/NC Department of Public Instruction
10. The Office of State Budget and Management shall conduct a study to determine the best methods for collecting, managing, and providing access to information about technology, water, sewer, and other modern infrastructures needed to assist communities in becoming and remaining economically viable. Included in the report should include legislative proposals, including a proposal to define the term "infrastructure" in the General Statutes to include modern communication technologies.	<p>No action required until receipt of the study as directed in Senate 662 in August, 2005 and the results of the Report will be made as directed no later than May 1, 2006.</p> <p><b>Note: Please see Appendix III page 29 of the March 2006 BETA report for the</b></p>	General Assembly

	<b>progress report on this study.</b>	
11. The North Carolina Board of Science and Technology and the North Carolina Progress Board are encouraged to provide an annual report by county on the status of trends that reflect the impact of education on economic growth for the 21st century. This report should be available for citizens and should contain information about the status of their county with regard to education and economic growth.	Joint Education Oversight endorses: North Carolina Board of Science and Technology and the North Carolina Progress Board providing an annual report by county on the status of trends that reflect the impact of education on economic growth for the 21st century	North Carolina Board of Science and Technology and the North Carolina Progress Board
<b><i>Professional Development for Global and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacy</i></b>		
12. The State Board of Education should create a state portal of high quality professional development resources for PreK-20 educators from a wide variety of reputable sources. This portal should include professional development courses available from community colleges, universities and other professional development providers.	Joint Education Oversight endorses this recommendation as written.	General Assembly/ State Board of Education
13. The Education Cabinet should initiate a collaborative effort among Teacher preparation providers, the 21st Century Center and the Professional Teaching Standards Commission about the need incorporate 21st century technology skills and global learning into the teacher and administrator preparation programs.	Joint Education Oversight endorses this recommendation as written.	Education Cabinet
14. The Education Cabinet and the State Board of Education should create (or adopt) a framework such as that included in the Z. Smith Reynolds Report on Professional Development, dated November 2004, for analyzing effective professional development programs to ensure compatibility and applicability to instructional programs and resources used in the classroom.	Joint Education Oversight endorses this recommendation as written.	Education Cabinet//State Board of Education
15. The State Board of Education should provide and advocate for flexibility in funding, and other resources necessary for teachers to be able to participate in professional development opportunities at a convenient	Joint Education Oversight endorses this recommendation as written.	State Board of Education

time and location as well as provide opportunities that are job embedded.		
<b><i>Technology and Funding for Global and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacy</i></b>		
16. The State Board of Education (SBE) should determine the total amount of funds needed for the recurring total cost of ownership to maintain and upgrade the LEA School Technology Plans. This should include personnel costs for both technical and instructional needs so that a 3 to 5 year budget plan can be developed for the General Assembly.	Joint Education Oversight endorses the recommendation as written.	General Assembly/ State Board of Education
17. The General Assembly should consider all legal and fair incentives and legal and fair methodologies (ie: private sector provided, public/private partnerships, or public sector provided) for providing scalable broadband connectivity to all schools and communities at an affordable rate. A state and local statutory environment should exist that encourages both public and private investment in broadband infrastructure, particularly in underserved areas.	Joint Education Oversight endorses the recommendation as written.	General Assembly
18. After receiving the results of the Regional Network Study required in Senate 622 in August 2005, the General Assembly should consider establishing two public school funds for school technology. One fund to support school technology infrastructure (for example, line charges, network cabling and servers) and the second to support instructional technology (for example computer hardware, software, peripherals and staff development). The funds should be developed based on the budget needs identified in the LEA school technology plans for infrastructure and instructional technology as recommended by the School Technology Commission and approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) for accountability and state budget planning.	No action required until receipt of the study as directed in Senate 662 in August, 2005 and the results of the Report will be made as directed no later than May 1, 2006	General Assembly
19. After receiving the results of the Regional Network Study required in Senate 622 in August 2005, the General Assembly should consider alternative ways to providing more direct support to LEA's for assistance with e-rate. The study will incorporate a recommendation for more effective use of the e-rate reimbursements for North Carolina Schools.	No action required until receipt of the study as directed in Senate 662 in August, 2005 and the results of the Report will be made as directed no	General Assembly

	later than May 1, 2006	
20. The State Board of Education should initiate the development of a coalition of state level associations and their national counterparts including the State Board of Education (SBE), the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE), the North Carolina Association of School Administrators (NCASA), North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA), North Carolina Association for Educational Communications and Technology (NCAECT), North Carolina School Library Media Association (NCSLMA) and other appropriate groups to advocate for improving the E-rate process for schools.	Joint Education Oversight endorses: State Board of Education should initiate the development of a coalition of appropriate groups to advocate for improving the E-rate process for schools.	State Board of Education

