

E-Learning Commission Report Table Summary

Note: These recommendations are made within the context of the current statutes that created the Education Cabinet and Education Commission which is chaired by the Governor and can be found on pages 21-23 in the E-Learning report. The attached organizational chart is intended to provide a visual context of the current relationships as defined by statute and does not change any of the authority for existing Boards or Education Cabinet members. The recommendations do ask that the Education Cabinet and Education Commission be the place where the virtual learning for all citizens should be coordinated.

Note: The Education Cabinet met on February 16, 2006 and endorsed the E-Learning Commission Report.

RECOMMENDATION	SUMMARY OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1. The State Board of Education should name its virtual high school pilot approved by the General Assembly in June 2005 as the NCVirtual Public School. Its purpose should be to serve all public school students preK-12 and report to the State Board of Education. It is also recommended that in addition to its charge from the General Assembly for the implementation of a statewide virtual high school by June 2006 that a plan for expanding e-learning opportunities to middle and elementary students is developed no later than June, 2007.	State Board of Education approved on February 2, 2006: a.naming the virtual pilot as the NCVirtual Public School b.developing e-learning strategies for all public school students by June 2007.	State Board of Education
2. The General Assembly should move to establish a virtual learning entity called the NCVirtual for all North Carolina Citizens and locate it with the Education Cabinet. It is further recommended that an advisory body with support staff be established no later than July 1, 2006 to develop strategies for providing comprehensive e-learning opportunities for all North Carolina Citizens. The advisory board should be appointed by the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate and the Chairmen of the boards represented on the Education Cabinet to ensure stakeholder representation on the advisory board. It is also recommended that the current E-Learning Commission continue to serve in the advisory capacity until the General Assembly convenes and can take action on this recommendation. It will be the responsibility of the NCVirtual advisory board to assist the	Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation for the General Assembly to establish NCVirtual with staff for all citizens under the Education Cabinet. Education Cabinet authorizes the current E-Learning Commission to continue to serve in the advisory capacity until the General Assembly convenes and can take action on this recommendation.	Governor/NC General Assembly/Education Cabinet

<p>Education Cabinet with the facilitation, coordination, and development of e-learning standards and opportunities for all NC citizens among the constituent groups they represent. Each constituent group represented on the Education Cabinet will retain all policy making authority while the Cabinet will ensure coordination and seamless access to all e-learning opportunities for all citizens. It is also recommended that the NCVirtual advisory board composed of the stakeholder groups work in collaboration with the Business Education Technology Alliance 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>(please refer to pages 17-19 in report for list of members)</p>	
<p>3. The General Assembly should establish local community centers statewide for public access, initially at the universities (public, private and independent), community colleges, public schools and public libraries - under the NCV logo.</p>	<p>Education Cabinet endorses General Assembly to establish local community centers statewide for public access.</p>	<p>Governor/NC General Assembly/Education Cabinet</p>
<p>4. The General Assembly should provide funding to the Education Cabinet to establish and maintain a common web portal for the programs in the NCV. The portal would provide information and primary access for the public. The NCV portal should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide effective instructor, advisor, counselors & student orientation, training based on effective distance learning pedagogy in collaboration with North Carolina Schools of Education and other state, regional and national resources. b. Focus more on the non-traditional student; i.e., the "North Carolina Citizen Learner," an individual who seeks and acquires new knowledge and skills to lead a more productive life, thus ultimately benefiting North Carolina and the global community at large. c. Allow the learner to register a profile so that a customized view of the portal could be presented to him or her, and perhaps inform the registered learner about new opportunities of interest, matching the 	<p>Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation for the General Assembly to provide funding to the Education Cabinet to establish and maintain a common web portal for the programs in the NCV.</p>	<p>Governor/NC General Assembly/Education Cabinet</p>

<p>registered profile.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Assurance that all providers represented by the portal would have appropriate quality controls and accreditations in place, and are aligned with the needs of the North Carolina citizen learner. Responsibility for quality control should remain the domain of the various e-learning providers and their respective accrediting bodies. e. Go beyond academic credit programs and include non-credit bearing e-learning opportunities that are in alignment with the needs of the NC citizen learner. E-learning also be used to leverage resources across the state by providing on-line required training programs such as hazardous materials and safety training, school bus driver training, and others. 		
<p>5. The Education Cabinet should review key policy issues that might further the success of this e-learning initiative including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Policies regarding clock hours to determine course credit b) University and Community College service areas c) Credit transfer policies among institutions d) Revenue sharing policies at individual public institutions e) Incentive policies for faculty to develop and offer e- learning courses f) Policies to encourage the free sharing of course content or learning objects g) Opportunities for technology transfer to facilitate business development h) Policies to ensure approved providers have equal access to state funds provided to the program <p>The NCV advisory board would make recommendations to the Education Cabinet as to how to best address these issues to best facilitate e-learning opportunities including any changes to policies, rules or laws that would require action by the individual boards of the constituent groups represented on the Education Cabinet and to the General Assembly.</p>	<p>Education endorses the recommendation for the Education Cabinet to review key policy issues that might further the success of the e-learning initiative.</p> <p>Note: The SBE is already doing this with the NCVirtual school pilot phase.</p>	<p>Education Cabinet</p>
<p>6. The Education Cabinet should leverage the resources being used by the</p>	<p>Education Cabinet endorses</p>	<p>Education Cabinet</p>

<p>constituent groups represented on the Education Cabinet and develop a common core of Professional Development resources that could serve all of these communities. The recent report to the Education Cabinet regarding the Professional Development Resource Center had many specific design recommendations that might be applicable. The initial programs to be included would include those of the public, private and independent universities, the community colleges, and public schools.</p>	<p>the recommendation for it to develop a common core of Professional Development resources.</p> <p>Note: The Education Cabinet is currently addressing professional development and we are asking that it be expanded to address virtual learning as well.</p>	
<p>7. The NCV Advisory Board should recommend to the Education Cabinet effective instructor, advisor, counselors & student orientation, training based on effective distance learning pedagogy in collaboration with North Carolina Schools of Education and other state, regional and national resources.</p>	<p>Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation as written.</p>	<p>Education Cabinet</p>
<p>8. The NCV Advisory Board should recommend to the Education Cabinet a single set of digital content standards regarding PreK-20 online learning resources statewide. This set of standards must comply with those developed by the Southern Regional Education Board and shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) ADA compliance b) Security c) Privacy d) Identity Management e) Interoperability 	<p>Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation that it should establish a single set of digital content standards regarding PreK-20 online learning resources statewide.</p>	<p>Education Cabinet</p>
<p>9. The General Assembly (or NCV) should establish the NC Learning Object Repository (LOR) to support Pk-20 e-learning.</p>	<p>Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation as written.</p>	<p>Governor/NC General Assembly/Education Cabinet</p>
<p>10. The Education Cabinet should develop e-portfolios for students beginning in high school or equivalent instruction in order to build a record of student accomplishments and achievements that can follow them</p>	<p>Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation as written.</p>	<p>Education Cabinet</p>

throughout life long learning.		
11. The Education Cabinet should establish a database interoperability among institution and agency databases for seamless data transfer to support research and accountability requirements by creating minimum data requirements that include student achievement, human resources, facilities and financial data.	Education Cabinet to establish a database interoperability among institution and agency databases.	Education Cabinet
12. The Education Cabinet should identify and implement a common online learning platform (learning management system) statewide. This online learning platform must contain multimedia, collaboration tools and assessment tools. It must support interactive learning objects, and have tracking capabilities. It must accommodate age appropriateness and be easy to use by all including developmentally and intellectually challenged users.	Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation as written.	Education Cabinet
13. The Education Cabinet should exercise economies of scale purchasing to reduce the cost per student in all instructional technologies. Including but not limited to the following: a) Negotiate single contracts for all instructional and distance learning technologies with licensing determined by an FTE/enrollment formula encompassing all educational systems. b) More flexible procurement, including multi-year contracts should be utilized to maximize cost effectiveness. c) Invest in resources for appropriate “open source” learning technologies to eventually replace proprietary systems and avoid escalating costs.	Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation as written.	Education Cabinet
14. The Education Cabinet should develop a balanced scorecard or incorporate into the annual NC State Report Card measures for effectiveness and success of statewide online learning initiatives.	Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation as written.	Education Cabinet

<p>15. The NCV advisory board should study appropriate means for financing the necessary infrastructure needed such as a statewide bond issue; consulting with the Utilities Commission on opportunities for service fees or surcharges, tax credits; and leveraging other funding sources. The NCV advisory board should make recommendations to the Education Cabinet and to the General Assembly based on the results of its study that may include better utilization of existing resources and/or new funding sources. The study should include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Extending the broadband data infrastructure to every school, community college, college, university by the state.b) Providing affordable broadband in homes and workplaces in NC.	<p>Education Cabinet endorses the recommendation as written.</p>	<p>Governor/General Assembly/Education Cabinet</p>
--	--	--

