Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

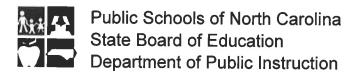# Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

Learn and Earn Sites, 2008 Budget Bill
Technical Corrections
SL 2008-118, HB 2438, sec. 3.4

*Session Law 2008-118, Section 3.3 and
3.4; (HB 2438)*

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Learn and Earn Sites, 2008 Budget Bill Technical Corrections

DPI Chronological Schedule, 2007-2008
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., State Superintendent
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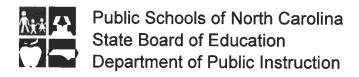
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6301 Mail Service Center : Raleigh, NC 27699-6301 : : Telephone 919- 807-3200 : : Fax 919-807-4065 Visit us on the Web: : www.ncpublicschools.org

The guiding mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education is that every public school student will graduate from high school, globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and prepared for life in the 21st Century.

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Learn and Earn Online : A National Model of Innovation in PreKindergarten-20 Education
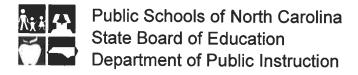
I. History: Thanks to the leadership of Governor Mike Easley and the North Carolina General Assembly, public school students can now earn dual credit for college and high school through Learn & Earn Online (LEO). The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction directed the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) to coordinate the K-12 public school effort to support Learn and Earn Online. NCVPS is proud to support Learn and Earn Online as a part of the e-learning opportunities offered to North Carolina public school students. Since its inception in the fall of 2007, LEO has provided approximately 12,067 students with e-learning opportunities and college credit to prepare them to be future ready, globally competitive citizens.

II. What is Learn and Earn Online?

 Learn and Earn Online is an extension of the face-to-face Learn and Earn program that allows students in public high schools throughout the state to earn college credit. Qualified students in participating public high schools can take a variety of e-learning college-credit courses at no cost to them or to their families. Students earn both high school and college credit for completed courses. Access to these courses may be provided during the regular school day with an on-site course facilitator who will assist students in the classroom or independently. Courses are offered through UNCG iSchool and community colleges. The Learn and Earn Online Web site provides additional information on the program and lists courses available to students from UNCG iSchool and the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS). For additional information visit the Web site www.nclearnandearn.gov and look for the Learn and Earn Online links.

III. What types of courses are offered?

• College courses in a variety of content areas.
• UNCG iSchool offers courses drawn primarily from the University's general education catalog. Course categories include human and behavioral sciences, fine arts, mathematical sciences, and global perspectives.
• NCCCS offers courses in Art, Biology, Economics, English, Chemistry, History, Math, Physics, Psychology, Technology, and other subjects.

IV. The Current Picture

Since the last report in December of 2008, Learn and Earn Online has continued to shatter the annual 30% per year national growth projections supported by Harvard University Research (Christensen, 2007); The International Association for K-12 Online Learning – www.inacol.org ; and the Southern Regional Board of Education www.sreb.org. Enrollment trends since the program's inception are as follows: Fall 2007 (3,571); Spring 2008 (5,917); Summer 2008 (291); Fall 2008 (2,388); Total Enrollment: 12,067.

In addition to the growth of the program, students are earning a composite grade point average of 2.6 and boasting a course completion rate of over 91%. In addition to these metrics, student testimonials that detail over 30-50 hours of college credit while in high school; best practice sites and schools; and public information about the total program can be found at www.nclearnandearn.gov

The generosity of the legislature has provided a Learn and Earn online budget of $6.5 million recurring. And due to the explosive growth and capacity of the program at present, an additional $3.25 million is requested is based on a projection for growth for what LEO will need for 09-10 based on increases in enrollment in UNCGi courses in spring 08 and fall 08 and the fact that community college increases should become steeper once they work out what has been some systems issues in identifying LEO courses versus other distance education courses. In summary, $3.25M keeps pace with expected demand for LEO courses, and allows for the nationally recognized program to continue to impact the needs of North Carolina students and citizens.

In September of 2008, Gov. Mike Easley announced that North Carolina's Learn and Earn high school reform initiative received the 2008 Innovations in American Government Award. The Ash Institute sponsors the annual awards competition for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

"North Carolina is the first and only state in America to offer a free college education to every student. We are changing the delivery system of education so that college goes to the student if the student cannot go to the college. It is innovative, new and very successful," Easley said.

"This effort will assure that our state has the best workforce in the world and gives every child an opportunity to reach his or her full potential."

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The program was selected from a pool of nearly 1,000 applicants to represent the best in Government innovation on the local, city, county, tribal, state and federal levels. As a part of the award, North Carolina will receive $100,000 toward the replication and dissemination of the program. To showcase each award winner, Harvard also has produced videos about the programs. Videos for all the award winners can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/user/AshInstitute.

Established in 1985, the Innovations in American Government Awards Program are designed to improve government practices by honoring effective government initiatives and encouraging the dissemination of such best practices. Many award-winning programs are now replicated across policy areas and jurisdictions, serving as forerunners for today's reform strategies and new legislation. More information is available at www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu.

V. SECTION 3.3. The Department of Public Instruction may use up to four hundred thirty thousand dollars ($430,000) in funds appropriated for Learn and Earn Online for 14 planning grants for Learn and Earn sites in the 2008- 2009 fiscal year.

VI. SECTION 3.4. The Office of State Budget and Management may, after a request from the State Board of Education, provide from funds available in any agency in the budget up to one million dollars ($1,000,000) for the 2008- 2009 fiscal year to the Department of Public Instruction for efforts to inform eighth- and ninth-grade students about opportunities to gain access to college and to college coursework.

These efforts should include, but not be limited to, strategies to ensure that parents, administrators, teachers, and students are fully informed about the Learn and Earn Online program, the Learn and Earn program, the UNC needs-based financial aid program, community college and UNC Online opportunities, and the EARN Grant.
The Department shall report no later than January 1, 2009, and June 30, 2009, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the use of any funds provided under this section

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Strategic Response to Section 3.3 and 3.4 : In an effort to continue to expand the program's reach and additional planning grants for Learn and Earn for all North Carolina students, Governor Mike Easley invited all 115 school district superintendent's to Raleigh last August 20008 and informed them of his cooperative plan with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to utilize (3.3 and 3.4) funds to expand and redesign the program's website to include more engaging Web 2.0 tools; the development of a comprehensive marketing approach; and finally the solicitation of bi-directional feedback and strategic input

from the pre-kindergarten to graduate school (p-20) stakeholders in North Carolina via online tools and forums.

Video production, television spots, travel, planning funding, training opportunities, virtual tools, and collaborative bi-directional wikis (or filing sharing websites) were also utilized to maximize the impact of the funding on strategies that ensure understanding, strategic planning, communication, data mining, and monitoring among administrators, teachers, and students to fully realize the impact and implementation of the Learn and Earn Online program.

Website banners, flyers, newspaper advertisements, movie shorts, and billboards were also deployed in the past year to ensure eight and ninth grade students understood the full scope of Learn and Earn Online. Finally, regional conferences, text messaging hubs, and space holders were developed on www.facebook.com, www.google.com ,and www.yahoo.com as an ongoing part of the communications approach to reach the 21st Century user of LEO.

The feedback from this effort continues to be planned, vetted, and strategically detailed by the LEO collaborative group into action steps on a bi-monthly basis. This group is represented by K-12 and the Department of Public Instruction through the North Carolina Virtual Public School's Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Bryan Setser and the Chief Operations Officer, Mr. John Brim. Also, represented on the LEO Collaborative Group are Dr. Beth Baldwin, Director of the UNG iSchool and Mr. Antonio Jordan, the Director of Learn and Earn High School Programs for the North Carolina Community College System. In addition, this group will be expanded in 2009-2010 to include a Chief Learn and Earn Online Officer to coordinate efforts across the p-20 state partners. Also, the new Learn and Earn Director, Dr. Fay Apgar will also be joining the LEO collaborative group.

VII. Attachment A. High School Participating in Learn and Earn Online

All public high schools have the technical capacity to participate in Learn & Earn Online. Following are the schools that signed a Letter of Intent to Participate by April 14, 2008.

LEA SCHOOL
Alleghany County Alleghany County High School
Anson Challenge Academy
Anson Co. Early College High
Anson High
Anson County

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Anson New Technology School
Ashe County Ashe County High
Asheboro City Asheboro High
Asheville City Asheville High
Avery County Avery County High
Beaufort Count y Ed Tech Center
Beaufort County Early College High School
Northside High School
Southside High School
Beaufort County
Washington High School
Bertie County Bertie High
 Serendipity School
East Bladen High
School of Extended Hope
Bladen County
West Bladen High
Brunswick Learn Center
North Brunswick High
South Brunswick High
Brunswick County
West Brunswick High
Burke Alternate
East Burke High
Burke County
Freedom High
Cabarrus County Cabarrus County Schools' Performance Learning Center
Caldwell Career Center
Caldwell Co. Gateway
Hibriten High
South Caldwell High
Caldwell County
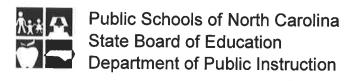West Caldwell High
Croatan High School
East Carteret High School
Carteret County
West Carteret High School
Caswell County Bartlett Yancey High
Bandys High

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Bunker Hill High
Fred T Foard High
Maiden High
Catawba County
St Stephens High
Chapel Hill Carrboro NO SCHOOLS LISTED
Chatham Central High
Jordan Matthews High
Chatham County
Northwood High
Cherokee Indian Resv Cherokee High
Clay County Hayesville High
East Columbus High
South Columbus High
Columbus County
West Columbus High
Cape Fear High
Cross Creek Early College High
Douglas Byrd High
E E Smith High
Cumberland County
Gray'S Creek High
 Jack Britt High School
Massey Hill Classic
Pine Forest High
Ramsey St. High School Alternative Program
Reid Ross Classical
Seventy-First High
South View High
Terry Sanford High
Walker-Spivey High
 Westover High
Currituck County Currituck County High
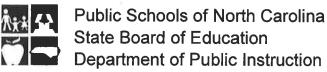Cape Hattera Secondary School
Dare County Alternative School
First Flight High School
Dare County
Manteo High School
Davie County Davie County High

East Duplin High
James Kenan High
James Kenan School of Engineering
Duplin County
North Duplin Jr Sr
Wallace-Rose Hill High
C E Jordan High
Durham School of Arts
Hillside High
Josephine Dobbs Clement Early College
Lakeview School
Northern High
Riverside High
Durham County
Southern High
Chowan Middle
Edenton/Chowan
John A Holmes High
Edgecombe Early College
N Edgecombe High
Sw Edgecombe High
Edgecombe County
Tarboro High
Northeastern High School
Elizabeth City/Pasquotank
Pasquotank County High School
Bunn High
Franklinton High
Franklin County
Louisburg High
Ashbrook High
Bessemer City High
Cherryville Sr High
East Gaston High
Forestview High
Highland School of Technology
Hunter Huss High
North Gaston High
Piedmont Community Charter

South Point High
Gaston County
Warlick School
Graham County Robbinsville High
J F Webb High
JF Webb High School of Health
Northern Granville
S Granville High of Health Sciences
Granville County
South Granville High
Greene County Greene Central High
Ben L Smith High
Guilford County
Dudley High
Early College Guilford
Eastern Guilford High
Grimsley High
High Point Central High
Lucy Ragsdale High
Middle College High School Bennett
Northeast High
Northwest High
P J Weaver Education Center
Page High
Scale School
Southeast High
Southern High
Southwest High
T Wingate Andrews High
 Western High
Harnett Central High
Overhills High
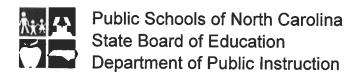Star Academy
Harnett County
Triton High
Western Harnett High
East Henderson High
Hendersonville High
North Henderson High

Tuxedo Extended Day (Balfour Ed. Center)
Henderson County
West Henderson High
Hertford County Hertford County High
Collaborative College of Technology
Lake Norman High
Mulberry Street School
North Iredell High
South Iredell High
Statesville High
Iredell-Statesville
West Iredell High
Jackson County Smoky Mountain High
Clayton High
Johnston Co. Middle College High
North Johnston High
Princeton High
Johnston County
Smithfield-Selma High
 South Campus Cmty High
South Johnston High
West Johnston High
Jones County Jones Senior High
Kannapolis City Schools A. L. Brown High School
Bragg Street Academy
Lee County High
Lee County
Southern Lee High
Lenoir County South Lenoir High School
East Lincoln High
Lincoln Charter School
Lincoln Technology
Lincolnton High
North Lincoln High
Lincoln County
West Lincoln High
Macon County Franklin High
Bear Grass High School
Jamesville HS

Roanoke High School
Martin County
Williamston High School
 Mcdowell County Mcdowell High
Garinger High
Harding Univ High
Mallard Creek High
Math And Science School At Garinger High
Myers Park High
Olympic High
Phillip Berry Academy
South Mecklenburg High
Technology High School At Garinger High
West Charlotte High
Mecklenburg County
Kennedy Charter High School
Mitchell County Mitchell High
East Montgomery High
Montgomery County
West Montgomery High
Moore County no schools listed
Nash Central High
Northern Nash High
N-Rms Mid Col High
Nash-Rocky Mount
Rocky Mount High
 Southern Nash High
Emsley A Laney High
Eugene Ashley High
John T Hoggard High
Lakeside
New Hanover County
New Hanover High
Newton-Conover City Schools no schools listed
Northampton High-East
Northampton County
Northampton High-West
Orange County NO SCHOOLS LISTED
Pamlico County Pamlico County High

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Pender County High
Pender County
Topsail High
Perquimans County Perquimans Co High
Person County Person High
Ayden Grifton High School
D. H. Conley High School
Farmville Central High School
J. H. Rose High School
Pitt County
North Pitt High School
 South Central High School
Polk County Polk County High
Eastern Randolph High
Randleman High
Southwestern High
Randolph County
Trinity High
Richmond County Richmond Senior High
Roanoke Rapids City Roanoke Rapids High
Fairmont High
Lumberton Senior High
Purnell Swett High
Red Springs High
Saint Pauls High
Robeson County
South Robeson High
Dalton Mcmichael High
John M Morehead High
Reidsville High
Rockingham Co High
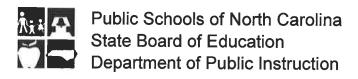Rockingham County
The Score Center
Rutherford County
Chase High
East Rutherford High
R S Central
Rutherford Early College High
 Rutherford Opportunity Center

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Hobbton High
Lakewood High
Sampson County
Midway High
East Laurinburg
Scotland County
Scotland High
Albemarle High
North Stanly High
South Stanly High
Stanly County
West Stanly High
West Stokes High School
South Stokes High School
North Stokes High School
Stokes County
Neadowbrook Alternative School
East Surry High
North Surry High
Surry County
Surry Central High
 Swain County Swain County High
Thomasville City Thomasville High
Brevard High
Davidson River School
Transylvania County
Rosman High
Forest Hills High
Monroe High
Parkwood High
Piedmont High
Porter Ridge High
Sun Valley High
Union Co Career Center
Union County
Weddington High
Apex High
Athens Drive High
Cary High

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East Wake High
Garner High
Green Hope High
Wake County
Knightdale High
 Leesville Road High
Longview
Middle Creek High
Millbrook High
Needham Broughton High
Phillips High
Sanderson High
Southeast Raleigh High
Wakefield High
 William G Enloe High
Wake (CHARTER) East Wake Academy
Warren County High Schools
Warren County
Warren New Tech High School
Watauga County Watauga High
Belfast Academy
Charles B Aycock High
Eastern Wayne High
Goldsboro High
Rosewood High
Wayne County
Southern Academy
 Southern Wayne High
 Spring Creek High
Beddingfield High
Fike High
James Hunt High
Wilson County
Milton M Daniels Learning Center
12th Street Academy
Atkins High
Career Center
Carver High
East Forsyth High

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Forsyth Middle College
Forsyth Voc High
Mount Tabor High
North Forsyth High
Parkland High
R B Glenn High
Reagan High School
Reynolds High
Winston-Salem/Forsyth
County
West Forsyth High
 Winston-Salem Prep. Academy
Forbush High
Yadkin County
Starmount High
Madison High
Henderson Independent High School
East Rowan High School
Jesse C. Carson High School
North Rowan High School
North Rowan High School
Rowan County Early College
Salisbury High School
South Rowan High School
West Rowan High School