



Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA) Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106

It is the goal of Northampton County Schools to provide parents and guardians of our students access to all information pertaining to student achievement through the district's Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Paper copies of this document and the information included within it can be obtained through a request from the Northampton County Schools' Office of Student Support Services at 252-534-1371.

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How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?	The following are the relevant State and local requirements for a child to be promoted to the next grade level: - NCS Student Accountability and Promotion - NCS Graduation Requirements - NC State Board of Education Graduation Policy - https://www.ncleg.gov/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/ByArticle/Chapter 115C/Article_8.pdf - Relevant part of this link is found in Part 1A (pp. 15-28) regarding retention, promotion, alternatives to show reading proficiency, etc.
What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?	In North Carolina, all schools use the same Standard Course of Study, that is determined by the State Board of Education. These standards are the knowledge and skills students should understand by the end of each grade/course. The standards can be found on the NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website. There are standards for: • Arts Education • Career Technical Education • Computer Science • English Language Arts • English Language Development • Student Success Standards • Healthful Living • Information and Technology • Mathematics • Science • Social Studies • World Language



Northampton County Schools

Local districts, schools and teachers determine how to teach these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc.

The following links provide information related to curriculum in Northampton County.

The following links provide information related to curriculum in Northampton County Schools:

Curriculum and Pacing Guides
Curriculum and Instructional Guides
Selection of Instructional Materials

What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?

In Northampton County Schools, we have a Course Guide, that has all the courses offered within Northampton County Schools and it can be accessed via our website or by clicking NCS 2023-2024 Course Guide

Each district must also have a Literacy Intervention Plan (LIP). The plan must include Reading Camps as an extension of what occurs during the school year.

Parents and caregivers may view Northampton County Schools 2023-2024 Literacy Intervention Plan here NCS Literacy Intervention Plan.

Northampton County Schools also offers courses in the area of Career and Technical Education (CTE). These courses allow students to explore careers and earn credentials. CTE Career Clusters, Pathways, Course Information, Credentials, and Course Standards may be found at this link: Course Management System

To learning more about the Curriculum and Instruction for Northampton COunty Schools visit: <u>Curriculum and Instruction</u>



Northampton County Schools

How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?

Northampton County Schools shares progress of students through a variety of ways, including quarterly report cards, progress reports, and assignment/test feedback. Feedback on conduct is also included.

Information regarding Testing and Accountability in Northampton County schools can be located in the following"

Testing and Accountability

Northampton County Schools Board of Education Policy 3410 Testing and Assessment Program

Local Assessments:

Northampton County Schools shares progress of students through a variety of ways, including quarterly reports cards, progress reports, parent conference, and assignment/test feedback. Feedback on conduct is also shared.

Parents can access information about attendance, grades, and testing through the Powerschool Parent Portal. Information about accessing the parent portal can be located in the following link.

Parent Portal Access

State Assessments:

Individual Student Reports for end-of-grade/course tests and other state assessments (English language proficiency assessment) are accessible in the parent portal of the NC-SIS (PowerSchool).

In NC, all students take end-of-grade assessments for reading and math in grades 3-8. Students take end-of-grade science assessments in grades 5 and 8. In high school, students take end-of-course assessments in English II, Biology, NC Math 1, and NC Math



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How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?	Students in Grade 10 take the Pre-ACT. Students in grade 11 take the ACT. Students who are CTE Concentrators in Grade 12 take ACT WorkKeys. Those results are shared by ACT. An Individual Reading Plan (IRP) shall be developed for any student in kindergarten through third grade demonstrating difficulty with reading. An IRP will have specific strategies/ideas that can be done at home. Parents and caregivers may view Northampton County Schools aligned literacy resources at (NCS Literacy Resources). North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) selected mCLASS DIBELS 8th Edition as the state's K-3 Literacy Assessment. mCLASS is an integrated literacy system based on the Science of Reading. mCLASS has been revised and upgraded from the assessment NC districts have used in the past, based on the latest research and the Science of Reading. It is a valid and reliable assessment, supporting universal literacy screening, screening for risk of dyslexia, and progress monitoring.
What are the qualifications of my child's teachers?	Parents may look up your child's teacher licensure status at this website Link to the licensure website. The licensure look up webpage does not include current employment information. Parents may need additional information (i.e., middle name or license number) to identify the teacher accurately. Substitute teachers (either short or long term) may not hold a NC teaching license.



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What are the qualifications of my child's teachers?	Please contact Northampton County Schools' Human Resources office to verify an educator's licensure status at 252-534-1371.
What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?	The requirements on enrollment in and eligibility to attend a Northampton County School can be located at: NCS Enrollment requirements NCS Enrollment Packet NCS Kindergarten Enrollment packet NCS Pre-K Enrollment Application The following are statutory school entry requirements, this includes required immunizations: Admission requirements: GS_115C-364.pdf (ncleg.gov) Immunization records: GS_130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov) Immunization requirements: GS_130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov) (*this law was amended but is not reflected on the current GA page; see SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov), Section 5.8(e) on page 64*) Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). NCDHHS Immunizations Resources Recommended Immunization Schedules Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements





How can a parent help their child learn and make progress?

Engaging with your child about school and what they are learning is pivotal to their learning process.

- Ask questions daily about your child's school day.
- Inquire about topics and assignments they are learning.
- Connect with teachers to understand your child's progress.
- Ask the teachers how you can help your child learn.
- Attend different events at your child's school to stay connected and learn how to support them.
- Collaborating with teachers to address any academic or behavioral concerns.
- Attending Parent-Teacher conferences and staying engaged in school activities.
- Exploring extracurricular interests and encouraging a love for learning beyond the classroom.

Parent Guides for Academic Standards:

The following grade level guides contain information to support parents and caregivers with understanding the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The purpose of these guides is to inform parents about the standards, as well as provide useful strategies to incorporate at home.

ELA Parent Guides

ELD Parent Guide

Math Parent Guides:

K-5, 6-8

Social Studies Parent Guides (coming Soon)
Science Parent Guides (coming soon)

Reading and Literacy Support:

This following site provides resources for families to practice and reinforce important



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How can a parent help their child learn and make progress?	literacy skills with their children who are being assessed with mCLASS reading assessments: Amplify Parent Resources
real if and make progress:	Home activities, printables, and games to support reading and literacy are also available at North Carolina's Digital Children's Reading Initiative (DCRI). These activities include the following topics, Pre-K-Grade 5: (1) Phonemic awareness (2) Phonics (3) Vocabulary (4) Fluency (5) Comprehension (6) Oral language DCRI Printables for Families
How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?	Northampton County Schools embeds Portrait of a Graduate skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and will support a child's understanding of citizenship, social skills and respect for others.
	Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills.
How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?	Northampton County Schools embeds Portrait of a Graduate skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and support a child's realization of high expectations and setting lifelong learning goals.
	Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be



How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?	found in the following resource repository NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills.
How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?	Northampton County Schools uses the following platforms for communication between home/school Parent Square District and school webpages Parents can view students' grades in the PowerSchool parent portal. NCS Parent Portal Information regarding the appropriate use of technology platforms can be located at the following: NCS Policy Code: 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use Northampton County Schools has developed a policy that encourages effective communication between schools and parents. This policy can be located at: Northampton County Board of Education Policy 1310 Parental Involvement The following are NCDPI developed parent guides that provide suggestions for building strong relationships with your child's teacher and supporting communication between home and school. Building Strong Relationships with Your Child's Teacher (NC Rethink Education Program) How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child's Learning (NC Rethink Education



Northampton County Schools	
How can a parent strengthen communication with the	Program)
school/teacher?	Additional general parent guides and parent resource webinar recordings can be found at the following website.
What services are available for parents and their children?	Family Literacy Services: <u>Literacy at Home: Digital Children's Reading Initiative</u>
	Tutoring: NCVPS EdVantage Tutoring offers virtual statewide wraparound support to middle and high school students in NC public schools. Tutoring is available in Math, Science and ELA, and is offered via a personalized partnership with district/school leadership to best meet the needs of selected students each semester.
	Academic Guidance/Support: Northampton Schools Counselors offer aid and guidance to students in three primary domains: Academic, Career, and Social/Emotional.
	Parent/Teacher Conferences: The district also hosts parent/teacher conferences for each school that are built into the district's school calendar. This allows parents the opportunity at a time convenient for parents to come out to meet teachers to discuss and share in students' learning progress the lack thereof.
What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?	SHAC: Student Health Advisory Committee: The SHAC works from the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model to address student health in schools. The Committee is made up of staff, parents, community partners and Board of Education members



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What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?	SIMR: Parents and students are invited to participate on the SIMR team (State Identified Measurable Report) that focuses on an area that, when implemented or resolved, has the potential to improve outcomes for children with disabilities. The target area is literacy at the 4th grade level.	
	Child Find : Parents of students attending private or homeschools are invited to participate in child find consultation sessions offered by the district's Exceptional Children Program.	
	Parent Engagement Events: As of 2023-2024, the district's exceptional children program hosted parent engagement events that invites parents to share in the opportunity to learn about students with disabilities processes and services offered by the district and state. Another session is tentatively scheduled for late March. PTSO Northampton County Schools provides opportunities for parental engagement in their child's education. The Policy for Parent and Family Engagement at Northampton County Schools can be located at: NCS Board of Education Policy 1310/4002 Parental Involvement NCS Board of Education Policy 1320/3560 Title 1 Parent and Family Engagement Contact your child's school to learn more about the current parent and family engagement opportunities.	
What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?	Northampton County Schools offers a variety of options for students to pursue their interests and skills at their academic level. Career and Technical Education (CTE): NC has made a significant investment in developing students and programs to meet the needs of the future workforce. Through Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, Public Schools offer opportunities for students to develop career awareness in 5th grade, explore careers in grades 6-8, and experience leadership, career development, and	





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career-aligned content in grades 9-12. Students who meet the participation requirements can graduate with nationally recognized certification or credential which provides tangible evidence that they have the skills needed in their chosen career field.

In Northampton County Schools, students explore career pathways from grades 6-8 through our Paxton Patterson Labs and Career Exploration courses. Starting in the 6th grade, students meet with the a Career Development Counselor to map out their education and career goals. To learn more about middle school career exploration, contact Brenda Moore, mooreb@northampton.k12.nc.us

In Northampton County School, students are able to experience leadership, career development, and career-aligned content from grades 9-12:

Northampton Career and Technical Academy of Innovation

To learn more about this program, contact Dr. Amy Draper, drapera@northampton.k12.k12.nc.us.

For more information on CTE in NC, and to learn about Career Clusters, Pathways, and Course Information, Standards, and applicable Credentials please visit: Course Management System.

In our district, there are the following programs available that are more rigorous and challenging than the standard content for students:

Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG):

In NC, school districts must identify and serve academically or intellectually gifted (AIG) K-12 students. These are students who are performing, or have the potential of performing, at high levels of accomplishment in intellectual and/or specific academic areas,





What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?

such as reading and/or math when compared with other students of their age, or in their grade level, experience, or environment.

In Northampton County Schools, students are often provided the following services:

- Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups:
- Accelerated opportunities Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and may be within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and
- Other opportunities for extension of content standard.

AIG students may receive services either from specialized AIG personnel or from teachers within regular classrooms who are trained to cater to the needs of gifted students.

The Northampton County Schools Local AIG Plan outlines specific opportunities for differentiated, rigorous instruction and accelerated programs. You can find the plan at Local AIG Plan

The Northampton County Schools has developed a website with information to help parents better to help parents better understand the AIG program. This describes how students will be identified and served across grades K-12. Visit Curriculum & Instruction/AIG

Services for AIG students may be provided by AIG personnel or within the regular classroom by teachers trained to meet the needs of gifted students.

Contact the district/school AIG Coordinator with questions Grace Smith, smithg@northampton.k12.nc.us

Honors Level Courses:





What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?

In Northampton County Schools, students have access to a variety of honors level courses in high school. These courses are available in the course catalog located at NCS 2023-2024 Course Guide.

Honors level courses typically have a faster pace than standard level courses. They offer additional rigor, complexity and creativity than standard level courses.

Career and College Promise (CCP):

Northampton County Schools partners with Halifax Community College (HCC) and Roanoke Chowan Community College (RCCC) to offer dual enrollment opportunities through the CCP program. If your high school student qualifies, students may earn high school credit by completing community college coursework.

CCP courses may be taken in the College Transfer or Career and Technical Education pathway. These courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families.

To learn more about this program, contact your student' school. Additional information is available on the NCDPL CCP website.

If applicable...

CIHS/Early College:

Northampton County Schools also partners with Halifax Community College (HCC) to offer courses at Northampton County Early College.

SCHOOLS





What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?

Northampton County Early College is a choice school for students and families. It is an opportunity for the students to earn both a high school diploma and an associate's degree and/or CTE credentials at the same time. Students can stay for an additional fifth year to complete their credential before graduating from high school.

Visit Northampton County Early College for more information.

Additional information is available on the NCDPI CIHS Website

Several AP courses satisfy graduation requirements for NC students as outlined in <u>State Board policy</u>.

More information is available on the NCDPI AP website.

Accelerated Access

NCVPS:

North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) is NC's state supplemental program and leader in online education, providing inclusive learning opportunities for students across the state. Founded in 2007, with a strong commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, regardless of location, NCVPS has over 16 years of experience serving diverse learners.

Students may enroll in NCVPS courses for a variety of reasons. Work with your school counselor if you are interested in taking NCVPS courses.





programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?	with your school counselor if you are interested in taking an NCVPS course. Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM): Northampton County Schools offers opportunities for students to earn credit for a high school course without enrolling in the course. All high school courses, with a few exceptions as noted by the state, are available for students to try to CDM. There are two phases of assessments that a student must go through to earn credit for the course. (edmondsm@northampton.k12.nc.us). Visit Credit for Demonstrated Mastery for more information. Governor's School: Each summer, NC Governor's School offers a unique opportunity for high-achieving rising juniors and seniors to learn with their peers from across the state in an 4-week residential program at two college campus sites. For more information on eligibility and the application process, contact Sherita Cobb, cobbs@northampton.k12.nc.us or visit the Governor's School website, www.ncgovschool.org.
What school choices are available for my child?	Students in public school districts are assigned to certain schools based on a local assignment plan approved by Local Board of Education Northampton County Schools offers these additional school choice options for students/families:





What school choices are available for my child?

Northampton County Virtual Academy 6-12 Northampton Virtual Academy - 252-585-1900

Early College Options

Northampton County Schools Early College - 252-585-1900

Northampton Career and Technical Academy of Innovation:

Northampton Career and Technical Academy of Innovation - 252-534-1371

There are other options for families to choose for their education:

Charter Schools

Charter schools are public schools of choice that are authorized by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. State and local tax dollars are the primary funding sources for charter schools, which have open enrollment and cannot discriminate in admissions, associate with any religion or religious group, or charge-tuition. Charter schools operate with freedom from many of the regulations that govern district schools, but charter schools are held accountable through the State assessment and accountability system.

If you are interested in NC charter schools, visit NC charter school for information, resources, and contacts.

Nonpublic Education and Scholarship Grants

Nonpublic education is overseen by the NC Department of Administration.

For a list of private schools, visit this NC Private Schools.

For information on how to start a homeschool visit:



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What school choices are available for my child	Homeschool Information Scholarship grant programs/voucher information is available via the NC State Education Assistance Authority.
What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?	For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding the procedural safeguards available to ensure a free, appropriate, public education.
	Parent Rights Handbook Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish) IDEA Dispute Resolution Special Education Surrogate Parents Project Child Find
	Guiding practices for the district's Exceptional Children Program are continuously revised and/or updated to reflect new laws. The practices are used to further support the academic and functional progress of students with disabilities in the district. This includes public, private/homeschool students, and child find. The links to Local Policies and Practices can be found at: 2023-2024 Northampton County Schools EC PROCESSES Northampton County Schools Service Procedures 2022-2024
What is the contact information for the schools and district office?	Northampton County Schools District - 252-534-1371 Central Elementary - 252-534-3381 Conway Middle - 252-585-0312 Gaston Leadership Academy - 252-537-2520 Northampton County Schools Early College - 252-585-1900 Northampton County High School - 252-537-1910



What is the contact information for the schools and district office?	Northampton Career and Technical Academy of Innovation - 252-534-1371 Northampton Virtual Academy - 252-585-1900
What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?	The following are statutory school entry requirements, this includes required immunizations: Admission requirements: GS 115C-364.pdf (ncleg.gov) Immunization records: GS 130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov) Immunization requirements: GS 130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov) (*this law was amended but is not reflected on the current GA page; see SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov), Section 5.8(e) on page 64") Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). NCDHHS Immunizations Resources Recommended Immunization Schedules - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)





What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?

Immunizations

Health Assessment

Annual Health Assessment and Immunization Compliance Reporting

