

# University of North Carolina Laboratory Schools

Presentation to the North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

December 5, 2017

# Introduction

---

Article 29A of Chapter 116 of the North Carolina General Statutes provides for the University of North Carolina (UNC) to establish nine (9) laboratory schools by 2019

# Mission

---

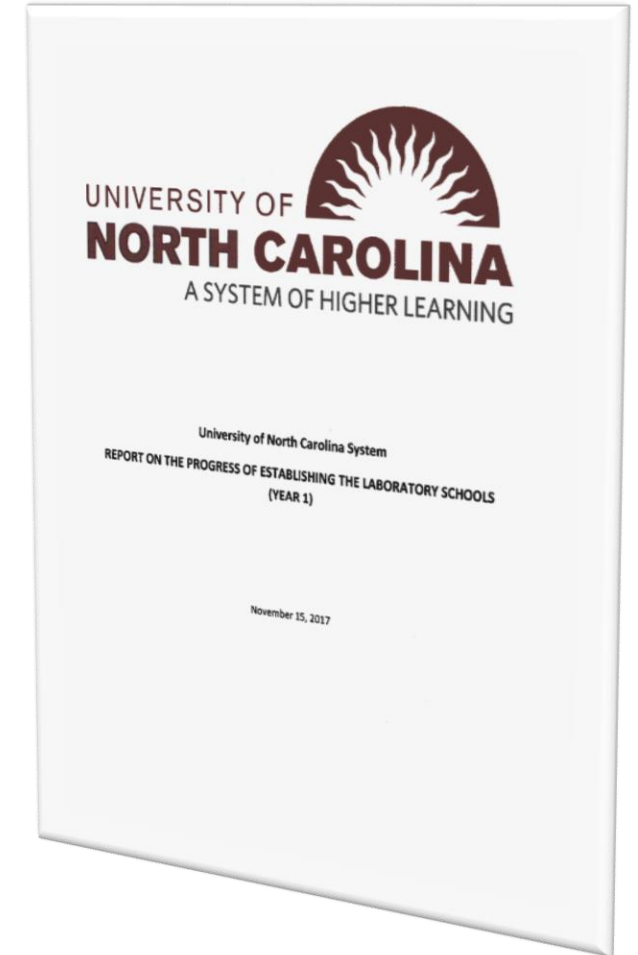
Creates public schools of choice with three goals:

- Improve outcomes of K-8 students from low-performing settings
- Strengthen teacher preparation
- Strengthen principal preparation

# 2017 Reporting Requirements

## Section 11.6(g) of Session Law 2017-117

- progress of establishing the laboratory schools
- student enrollment numbers
- admissions process
- other information the Subcommittee deems relevant



# Timeline

Year 1 – School Operation

Year 2 – Planning

Year 3 – Proposal Development

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA** **Lab Schools Update**  
 November 2017

Initiated in 2016, The UNC laboratory schools advance learning and teaching by including the best thinking from our universities and school partners to ensure the youngest members of our academic community excel. By 2019, nine UNC universities will open lab schools serving K-8 students in low-performing counties.

**Lab Schools Commitments**  
 Deliver high expectations to prepare students for college and life  
 Ensure students learn to read and communicate effectively  
 Address the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students  
 Harness the benefits of partnerships to strengthen learning, teaching, and school leadership

**Progress**

Stages: 1 Proposal Development → 2 Planning → 3 Implementation → 4 School Operation

Year	University	Summary	Current Stage
Opening 2017	ECU	Summary: ECU partnered with Pitt County Schools to open a K-5 school focused on literacy and wrap-around supports. They have 74 students enrolled in Grades 2-4 this year.	Current Stage: School Operation
	Western Carolina	Summary: WCU partnered with Jackson County Public Schools to open the Catamount School serving grades 6-8. They have 54 students enrolled in Grades 6-8 this year.	Current Stage: School Operation
Opening 2018	Appalachian	Summary: ASU is partnering with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools to open a K-5 school focused on early-grades literacy at Middle Fork Elementary School	Current Stage: Planning
	GREENSBORO	Summary: UNCG is partnering with Rockingham County Schools to open a K-5 school focused on early-grades literacy at Moss Street Elementary School	Current Stage: Planning
	UNCW	Summary: UNCW is partnering with New Hanover County Schools to open a K-8 school at D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy	Current Stage: Planning
Opening 2019	UNC CHARLOTTE	Summary: UNCC is in discussions with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools to open a K-5 school.	Current Stage: Proposal Development
	PEMBROKE	Summary: UNCP is in discussions with Public Schools of Robeson County to open an elementary school.	Current Stage: Proposal Development
	UNC SYSTEMS	Summary: NCCU is beginning the planning process to engage a partner.	Current Stage: Proposal Development
		Summary: A ninth university will be identified.	Current Stage: Proposal Development

# Year 1 Laboratory Schools

---

- East Carolina University opened the **ECU Laboratory School** at South Greenville Elementary School in Pitt County serving grades 2 through 4
- Western Carolina University opened the **Catamount School** at Smoky Mountain High School in Jackson County serving grades 6 through 8

# Year 2 Laboratory Schools

---

- ASU is working with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools at Middle Fork Elementary School
- UNCW is working with New Hanover County Schools at D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy
- UNCG is working with Rockingham County Schools at Moss Street Elementary School

# Year 3 Laboratory Schools

---

- UNCP is working with the Public Schools of Robeson County to open an elementary school
- UNCC is working with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools to open an elementary school
- NCCU is in the process of identifying a partner
- A ninth institution will be identified



# Current Enrollment

	ECU	WCU	TOTAL
Number of Applications Received	104	74	178
Number of Students Enrolled	72	57	129

# Current Enrollment

---

- 63% of students were previously enrolled in a low-performing school. The others failed to meet expected growth as defined by the legislation.
- The majority of students are male (65% ECU, 58% WCU).
- 54% of students are African American and 39% are white.

# Beneficiaries of the Schools

---

- K-8 students
- Colleges of education
- School districts

# Technical Adjustments

---

- Child nutrition
- Employment considerations
- Criminal history checks
- Financial reporting

1. Student enrollment information and demographics
2. Admissions process
  - Students from low-performing schools
  - Students who did not meet expected growth
3. Student achievement data
  - School performance grades
  - Student achievement scores
  - Student growth

## 4. Academic progress

- Against previous school year
- Against other LEA and state schools

## 5. Educator preparation outcomes for teachers and principals prepared at the laboratory schools

## 6. Best practices resulting from laboratory school operations

## 7. Other information

# Questions?

---

**Sean Bulson, Ed.D.**

*Interim Vice President for the Division of University and  
P-12 Partnerships*

**swbulson@northcarolina.edu**