Catherine Truitt, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Legislative Priorities and Schools Re-opening Presentation for the NC Senate Education Policy Committee

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

North Star

All students deserve a highly-qualified, excellent teacher in **every** classroom.

3 Guiding Priorities

- **Literacy**: Shift from a one-by-one approach of supporting struggling readers to a systemic plan for training teachers in the science of reading.

- **Testing and Accountability**: Reform our state's school accountability model to reflect myriad ways in which schools are working to transform teaching and learning.

- **Human Capital**: Develop a human capital strategy that aims to create a robust pipeline of highly-qualified teachers, principals, and school support personnel in every district.

Science of Reading Training: What's Involved?

Face to Face Professional Development

Print materials

In-classroom training and assistance

Asynchronous online training modules

Innovating Licensure to meet our District Needs

- We are excited to partner with the **Human Capital Roundtable** and **PEPSC** to design and create new pathways to excellence for NC teaching professionals.

- This same dedication will be applied to developing the **principal pipeline and creating opportunities for principal leadership,** as well as programs to support and coach turnaround principals.

Re-envision
Pathways into Teaching

Redesign
Teacher Licensure

Reinforce
Teacher Support

Revise
Teacher Salary Schedules

Remodeling School Accountability

- The development of "multiple indicator measurement models" which allow schools to identify progress and measure growth through *multiple measures* of school performance.
- Indicators may include:

Academic Achievement	Academic Growth	Improve K-3 Readiness	Closing the Achievement Gap	Graduation Rates	College & Career Readiness
School Climate & Student Well-Being	Teacher, Student & Parent Surveys	Human Capital	Chronic Absenteeism	Suspension & Discipline Rates	FAFSA Completion

Building up Computer Science

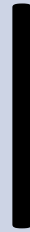# Quick Background

June 2018
$500k (recurring)
in state Budget

May 2019
CS Standards
Presented

Even w/o funding, DPI developed partnerships to reach underserved communities & provide PD

2017 first
CS Law

December 2018
CS Steering
Committee at SBE

June 2019
CS part of SCoS and this GA provided funds for PD

North Carolina Workforce Challenges Today

Economic Development/Workforce

- **In any given month, NC has close to 30,000 unfilled jobs that require some type of computer science (CS)**
- Between $1.5-2 billion in untapped salaries each month

Education/Student Success

- **By 2040, 70+% of all jobs will require a background in CS**
- NC is falling behind many other states, particularly our neighbors in the Southeast (SC, Georgia, Virginia, Arkansas, Florida, Tennessee)
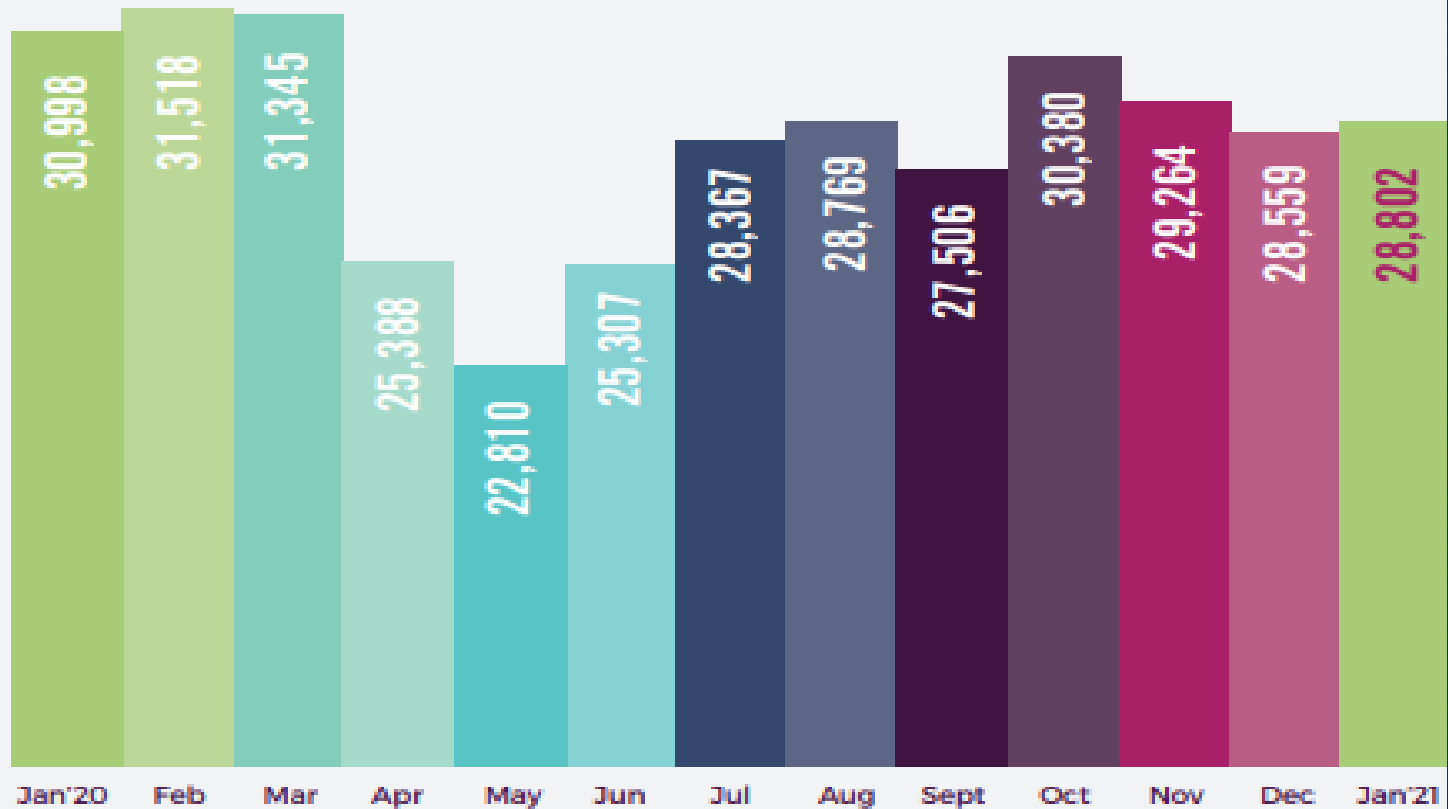
Diversity

- **Under-represented minorities and women are not participating**
- Women are 10X more likely to major in CS in college if they take it in High School
- **Hispanic and African American Males are 4X more likely**

Pipeline Issues for NC

TOP JOB POSTINGS / PAST 13 MONTHS

Jan'20	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan'21
30,998	31,518	31,345	25,388	22,810	25,307	28,367	28,769	27,506	30,380	29,264	28,559	28,802

*Ongoing data updates/revisions may cause fluctuation in job numbers contained in previous monthly reports

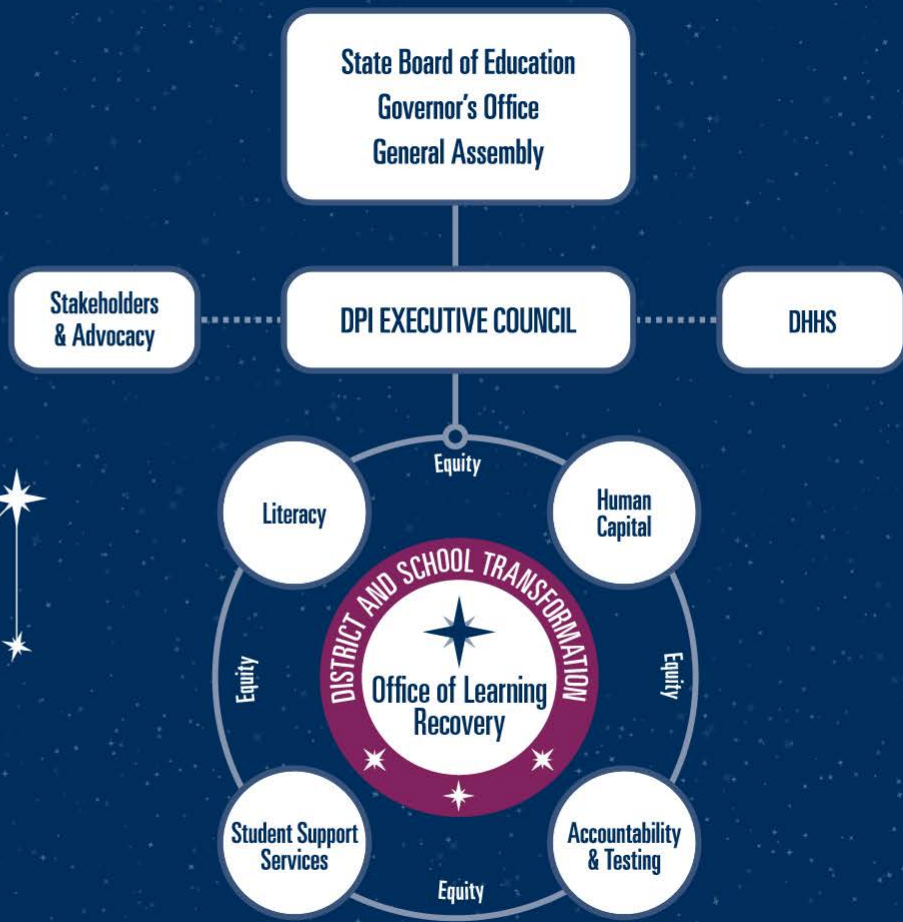Report produced by the North Carolina Technology Association / 919-856-0393 /
Data source: TalentNeuron by CEB Global, a Gartner Company / cebglobal.com

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT
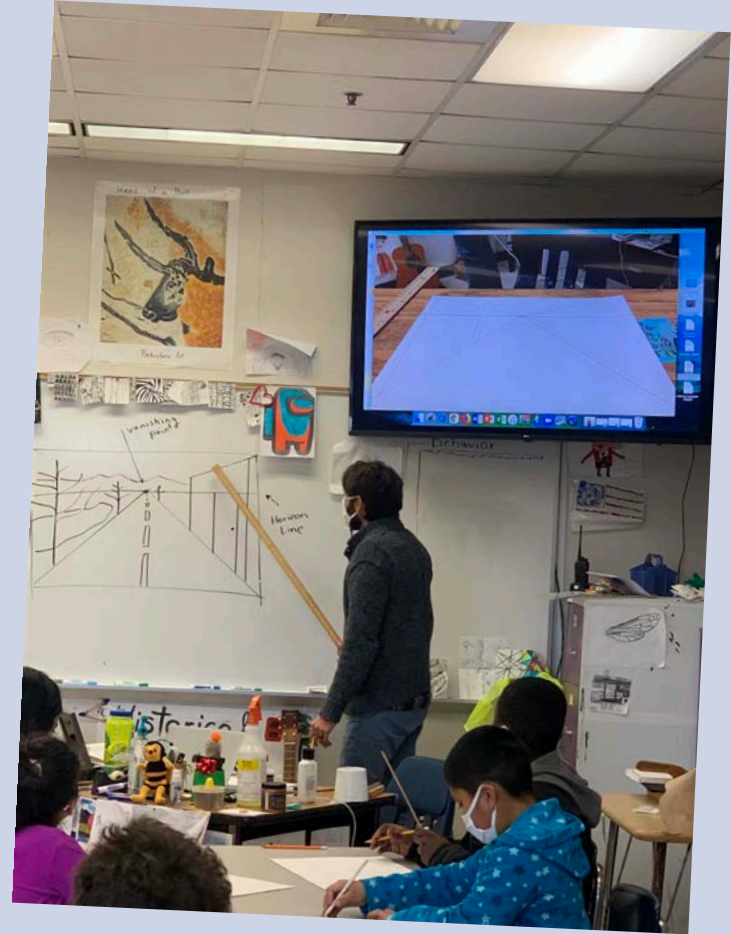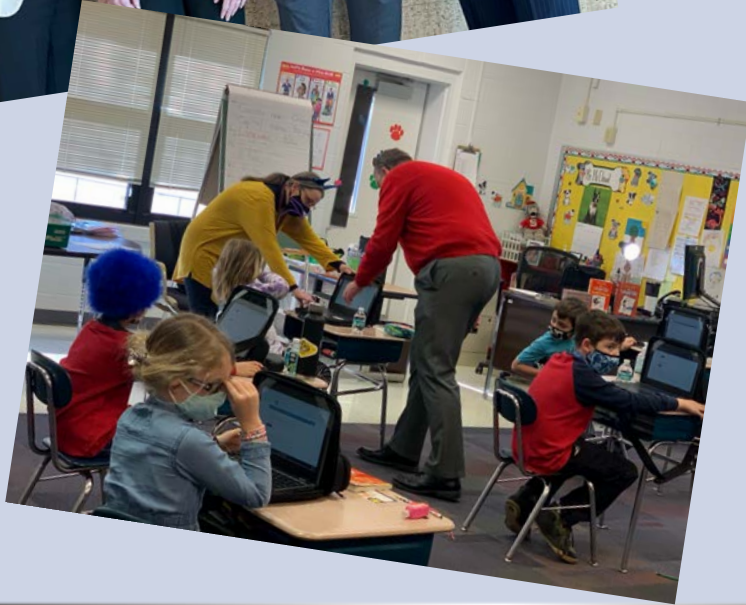North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Vision for CS at DPI

- Train the **5,500 teachers** necessary to ensure every Middle and High School student has access to Computer Science courses.

- Build our CS department to adequately support our PSUs and future students
  - *Currently only have two (2) dedicated staffers, and CS is part of the Standard Course of Study*

- Create courses that go beyond the foundation courses
  - *AI, coding, JavaScript, Python, Virtual Reality, Cybersecurity, Mobile App Development etc.*

- Increase minority and female involvement
  - *Expand on existing partnerships & the #IAMCS Initiative*

- Work with our Community College and University System partners to ensure High School CS work is truly reflected in our CCRG track.

State Board of Education
Governor's Office
General Assembly

Stakeholders & Advocacy

DPI EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

DHHS

Equity

Literacy

Human Capital

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION

Office of Learning Recovery

Equity

Equity

Student Support Services

Accountability & Testing

Equity

Schools Re-Opening

Schools Re-opening

- We must get our children back into and provide parents with the option of in-person learning

- We can do this safely in accordance with CDC and NC Health Guidelines

- SB37 was a great piece of legislation that did just that for our students and families

- I have been pushing for the Cooper Administration to lower the 6 feet rule to 3 feet.
  - Our UNC System schools used this approach as of June
  - Our private schools and states all around us have figured this out, we can too, by trusting our local health leaders to make the decisions for their communities.
  - The one-size-fits all heavy hand approach by one single person in this state is not the way to manage 115 separate school districts and 200+ public charters.

What DPI needs from the GA

- Provide reasonable flexibility for all calendar decisions for at least this summer and the 2021-22 school year

- Allow the Department and PSUs to be innovative to address learning loss such that we can address individual district needs

- **Communication, collaboration, and trust**

Questions?

At-risk Students Discussion

LEA and Public Charter School Data

Jamey Falkenbury

Director of Government Affairs, DPI

EOC Data

	Not Proficient	
	19–20	20–21
Biology	42.1	54.5
English II	42.0	41.4
NC Math 1	48.2	66.4
NC Math 3	44.5	54.9

2020-21 School Year Data

- Approx. 23% of students are at-risk for academic failure and are not successfully progressing towards grade level promotion per self reported data by our PSUs.
    - LEA = 22.91%
    - Charter School = 9.23%

OVERALL SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1: The number of LEA students who are at-risk for academic failure and are not successfully progressing toward grade level promotion.

Grade	Total # At-Risk Students	Total of the Student Population*	% of the Total Student Population
KINDERGARTEN	19,234	91,446	21.03%
Grade 1	25,582	99,587	25.69%
Grade 2	24,767	99,654	24.85%
Grade 3	21,235	100,532	21.12%
Grade 4	21,139	101,493	20.83%
Grade 5	22,843	103,742	22.02%
Grade 6	24,457	107,100	22.84%
Grade 7	28,610	109,731	26.07%
Grade 8	28,779	111,497	25.81%
Grade 9	32,904	119,672	27.50%
Grade 10	26,474	112,359	23.56%
Grade 11	20,377	99,553	20.47%
Grade 12	14,675	101,323	14.48%
State LEA Total	**311,076**	**1,357,689**	**22.91%**

*based on Month 3 ADM

Table 2: The number of Charter School students who are at-risk for academic failure and are not successfully progressing toward grade level promotion.

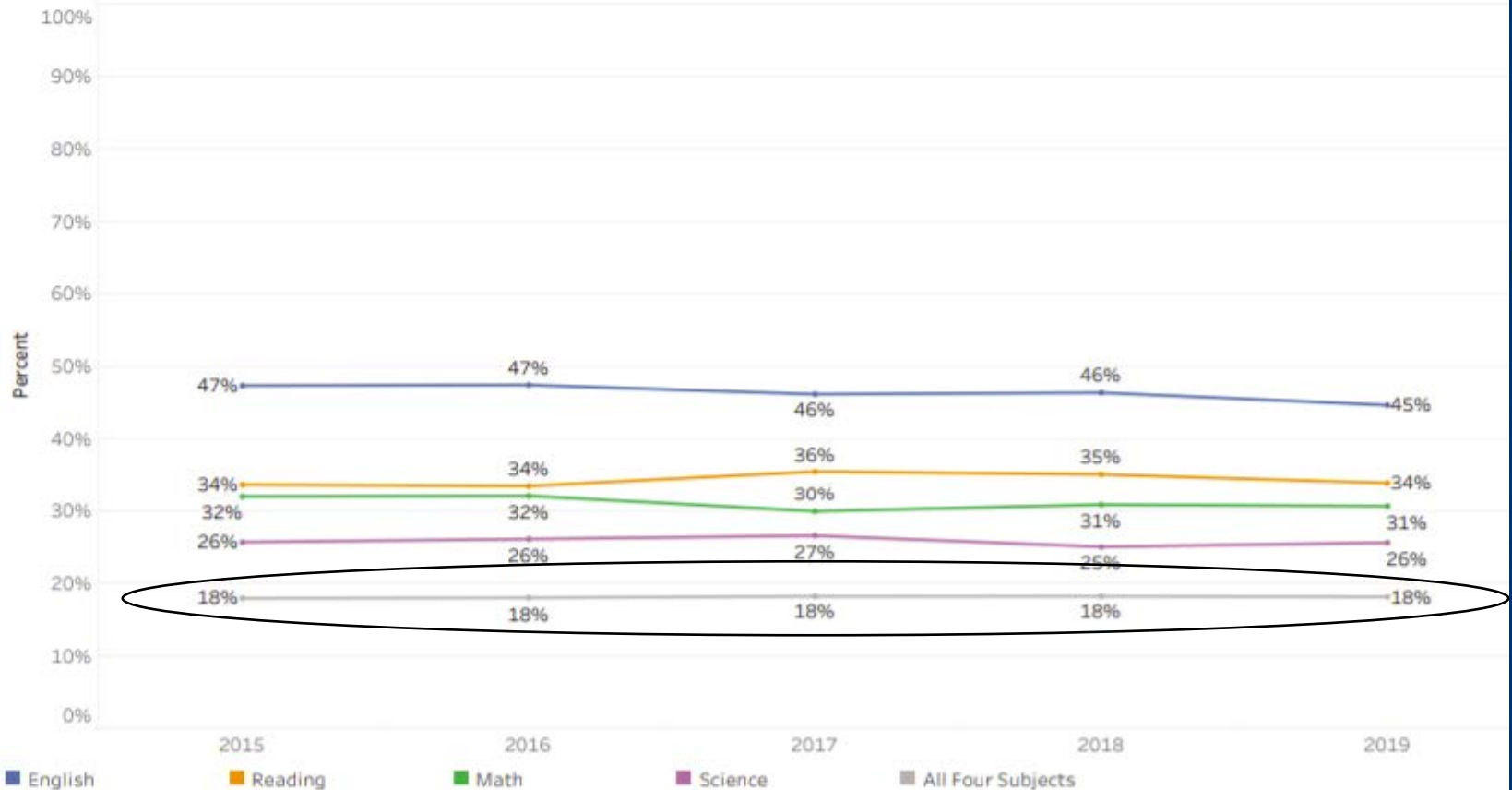| Grade	Total # At-Risk Students	Total of the Student Population*	% of the Total Student Population
KINDERGARTEN	983	11,658	8.43%
Grade 1	1,069	11,444	9.34%
Grade 2	902	11,203	8.05%
Grade 3	1,154	11,035	10.46%
Grade 4	866	10,763	8.05%
Grade 5	856	11,172	7.66%
Grade 6	1,104	12,155	9.08%
Grade 7	1,117	11,712	9.54%
Grade 8	1,061	10,532	10.07%
Grade 9	921	7,340	12.55%
Grade 10	649	6,517	9.96%
Grade 11	534	5,453	9.79%
Grade 12	391	4,728	8.27%
State Charter School Total	**11,607**	**125,712**	**9.23%**

*based on Month 3 ADM

ACT Data – Only 18% Pass all Four Benchmarks

NORTH CAROLINA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2015–2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks*

Legend: English, Reading, Math, Science, All Four Subjects

2019 NAEP Scores

Grade	Subject Area	North Carolina	National Public Average	Highest Proficiency Rate
4th	Reading	36%	34%	45% (MA)
4th	Math	41%	40%	53% (MA)
8th	Reading	33%	32%	45% (MA)
8th	Math	37%	33%	50% (MA)

Questions?