BEST NC
Business for Educational Success and Transformation

NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION INNOVATION LAB

The EDUCATOR INNOVATION PLAN

A DECADE 2015-2025 OF INNOVATION : A LIFETIME OF IMPACT

February 10, 2025

A decade of innovation, a lifetime of impact.

The 10th Annual North Carolina Education Innovation Lab represents a landmark moment in the future of our state's education landscape. For a decade, the Lab has fostered an environment where stakeholders, policymakers, and business leaders have collaborated to create a shared vision of ***Educator Innovation***.

From these conversations, a network of research, policies, and programs has emerged, leading to real, meaningful, and lasting change for North Carolina's educators, and more importantly, our students.

But education transformation takes a focused, strategic, and persistent effort in order to achieve world-class results. That's why the goal of the 10th Annual North Carolina Education Innovation Lab is to identify, promote, and support the next steps BEST NC will take toward making our state First in Education over the next ten years – and you're invited to help!

BEST NC Business for Educational Success and Transformation

2025 North Carolina Education Innovation Lab

February 10, 2025

9:00 am **Welcome**

Walter McDowell, Board Chair, BEST NC

9:05 am **The Decade of Innovation**

Brenda Berg, President & CEO, BEST NC

9:30 am **ED Talks:** *The Educator Innovation Plan*

Advanced Teaching Roles in North Carolina
Dr. Thomas Tomberlin, Senior Director, Office of Educator Preparation and Licensure, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NC DPI)

The New North Carolina Principal Fellows Program
Dr. Lauren Lampron, Director,
The North Carolina Principal Fellows Program

TeachNC: The One-Stop-Shop for Becoming a Teacher
Gabrielle Barnes, Director of Regional Initiatives and Programs, TEACH.org

10:30 am **Networking Break**

10:45 am **Armchair Chats:** Educator Pay

Principal Pay: A Professionalized Approach
Dr. Kelly Anne Mudd, Principal,
Martin Millennium Academy, Edgecombe County Public Schools

Teacher Pay: A Smart Investment in Student Achievement
Leah Carper, Director of Stakeholder Engagement,
Guilford County Schools

Moderated by:
Maureen Stover, Vice President of Policy and Engagement, BEST NC

INNOVATION LAB X ONLINE HUB

Find everything you need to engage in today's discussions:

- Meet the Speakers
- Innovation Lab Data Guide
- BEST NC's Collected Briefs
- New and Updated Video
- Digital Agenda
- And More!

NEW

Teacher Apprenticeship in North Carolina:

Exploring In-Classroom Preparation for the Next Generation of Teachers

THE EDUCATOR INNOVATION PLAN

Scan the QR codes below to learn more about each of the pieces of the *Educator Innovation Plan*, including their history, related legislation, policy recommendations, data, and more!

- Advanced Teaching Roles
- Teacher Pay
- The New NC Principal Fellows
- Principal Pay
- TeachNC
- Teacher Apprenticeship

Following the Innovation Lab, scan here to view recordings of today's presentations and download slides.

11:25 am **Next Steps:** The Future of *Educator Innovation*

Apprenticeship: An Innovative Approach to Teacher Training and Employment

David Donaldson, Founder and Managing Partner, National Center for Grow Your Own

The Next Innovation: Teacher Apprenticeship in North Carolina

Brenda Berg, BEST NC

David Donaldson, National Center for Grow Your Own

Dr. Felicia Brown, Director of Human Resources, Wayne County Public Schools

John Loyack, Vice President of Economic Development, North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS)

12:15 pm **Networking Lunch**

1:00 pm **Breakout Sessions** (Attendees will Choose One Topic)

EBC 7: Filling Vacancies Through Apprenticeship

Jennifer Schiess, Senior Partner & Policy and Evaluation Practice Leader, Bellwether Education Partners

EBC 8: Accelerating Teacher Pay Through Teacher Effectiveness

Leah Carper, Guilford County Schools

Eugenia Floyd, Teacher, Chapel HIll-Carrboro City Schools

EBC 9: Pipeline to the Principalship

Dr. Lauren Lampron, The North Carolina Principal Fellows Program

Dr. Kelly Anne Mudd, Edgecombe County Public Schools

Leah Sutton, Director of Advanced Teaching Roles, NC DPI

1:40 pm **Policymaker Perspective:** Teacher Apprenticeship

Representative David Willis, N.C. House District 68
Chair, Education Appropriations & Education K-12 Committees

1:55 pm **Closing Remarks**

Brenda Berg, BEST NC

A Note About Social Media: We encourage you to share positive Innovation Lab takeaways using the hashtags **#NCEdLabX** & **#DecadeOfInnovation** while also asking you to keep participant conversations in confidence to create a safe space for dialogue.

BEST NC
Business for Educational Success and Transformation

Additional Resources from BEST NC

Educator Innovation Plan Online Hub

BEST NC's YouTube Video Catalog

Facts & Figures: Education in North Carolina

BEST NC's Policy Brief Catalog

Interactive School Spending Data Explorer

Special thanks to BEST NC's members for their generous support, and to the SAS Institute for hosting this important conversation.

https://BESTNC.org
info@BESTNC.org
@bestnc_org
/BESTNorthCarolina