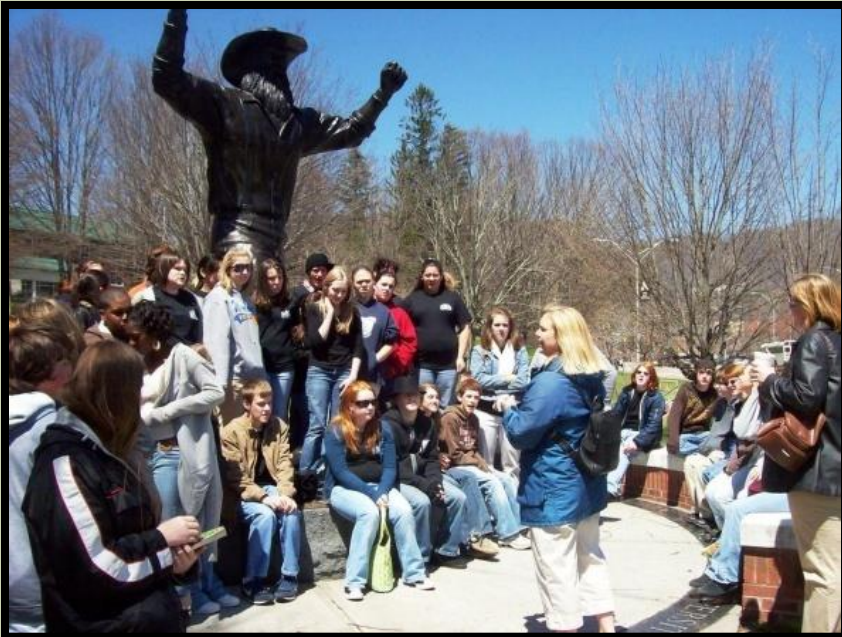


EARLY COLLEGES IN NORTH CAROLINA



Caldwell Early College High School

Candis Hagaman, Principal
Kim Burns, 5th Year Seminar Teacher
Mena Sapp, 5th Year Student

Appalachian State University Transfer Symposium
October 24, 2014

Desired Outcome:

increase knowledge and understanding of North Carolina New Schools Early Colleges

- History of Early Colleges in NC
North Carolina New Schools
- NC Early College Overview
Differences Among NC Early Colleges
Core Characteristics: Design Principals & Aligned Instruction
- Caldwell Early College High School
- College Readiness
Experiences & skills of an early college graduate
Transition to campus life - challenges



History of Early Colleges in NC

North Carolina New Schools



Established in 2003 by the Office of the Governor and the Education Cabinet and with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Independent not-for-profit corporation governed by a Board of Directors

In collaboration with the State Board of Education, the NC Department of Public Instruction, the University of North Carolina and North Carolina Community College systems, NC Independent Colleges and Universities, local business and community organizations

History of Early Colleges in NC

North Carolina New Schools



Original mission: accelerate systemic, sustainable innovation in secondary schools across the state so that, in time, every high school in North Carolina graduates every student ready for college, careers and life in the society and economy of the 21st century

1. Creating innovative, highly effective high schools across North Carolina
2. Building a statewide consensus for significant change
3. Advancing policies that promote innovation, higher standards and improved performance.



NC New Schools in 2005

History of Early Colleges in NC

North Carolina New Schools



New Schools Today: A leading professional services agency dedicated to developing high-performing schools and districts across the state



- District Innovation
- Professional Learning
- Leadership Development
- Instructional Coaching
- Peer networking
- Instructional Coach Development (Coach University)
- Alternative Licensure (NC STEP)
- Education-Industry Partnerships

History of Early Colleges in NC

North Carolina New Schools



"Our methods stress **rigor, relevance and relationships** and how the application of these principles ensure that every student is prepared for **college, careers and life.**"



New
Schools
Network
Schools in
2013

- Over 120 schools
- More than 2,500 educators
- In almost 80 of 100 counties
- Partnering with nearly 60 community colleges and universities
- Partnering with more than 85 employers

History of Early Colleges in NC

North Carolina New Schools Today



" NC New Schools coaches educators to shift the classroom focus from teacher to student; from teaching to learning. Using team-based, project-based and active learning, our coaches help teachers and principals engage and motivate students to succeed."

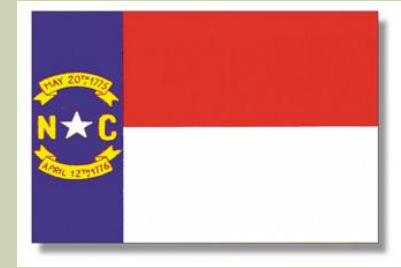
NC New Schools Network

- Regional Schools
- Career Academies
- Early College High Schools**
- STEM-Themed Schools
- District Development
- NC Rural Innovative Schools



**approximately 64% of NCNS Network Schools are Early Colleges

NC Early College Overview



- NC is a national leader in early colleges
- 280 early colleges nationally located in over 30 states; over 80,000 students
- 77 early colleges are located in North Carolina
- Over 15,000 NC students attend NC early college high schools
- Focus is on serving first generation students, students at risk for dropping out, and other students historically underrepresented in post secondary education

NC Early College Overview

- Small learning community - maximum 400 students
- Located on a community college or university campus
- Students earn high school and college credits as part of NC Career and College Promise
- College tuition and books at no cost to students
- Six guiding design principles
- Aligned instructional system
Read, write, think, talk in every class every day
- Focus on preparation for college, career and life



NC Early College Overview

NC Early Colleges: Differences

- May be a 4 or 5 year high school program
- Some are themed, examples include: STEM, health sciences, leadership, visual and performing arts
- Selection process: interviews, lotteries, outside agencies and point of entry
- Number of students and staff
- Curriculum plan and program design - customized to community needs and resources
- Depth, breath, and history of partnership with higher education institution



NC Early College Overview

Core Characteristics: Design Principles

- **Ready for College:** believe in a common set of high standards and expectations that ensure every student graduates ready for college — schools maintain a common set of standards for all in order to eliminate the harmful consequences of tracking and sorting students
- **Powerful Teaching and Learning:** Uphold common standards for high quality, rigorous instruction that promote powerful teaching and learning
- **Personalization:** Demonstrate personalization — educators must know students well to help them achieve academically
- **Redefine Professionalism:** creating a shared vision so that all school staff take responsibility for the success of every student
- **Purposeful Design:** Work from a purposeful design where the use of time, space and resources ensures that best practices become common practice
- **Leadership:** Empower shared leadership embedded in a culture of high expectations and a collaborative work environment to ensure the success of each student.

NC Early College Overview

Core Characteristics: Aligned Instructional System

- Students read, write, think, talk in every class every day
- Real world relevance and rigor
- Strategies that give students of all skill levels access to complex information
- Students learn to work together, discuss and share ideas, challenge and debate each other, solve problems, reflect on learning
- Strategies include: collaborative group work, writing to learn, literacy groups, questioning, scaffolding, classroom talk



NC Early College Overview Success



- Combined graduation rate for NC early colleges in 2013 was 96.2
- In 2010-11, early college students took an average of four college courses per student
- In 2012-13, nearly two-thirds of grades earned in college courses by early college students were A's and B's, surpassing the performance of college-age students
- 909 associate degrees were earned by NC early college students in 2013
- Compared to a control group of other NC high school students, more early college students are on track for college, by approximately 20 percentage points, in 9th, 10th and 11th grades

Caldwell Early College High School

Our School



- 5-year High School - 387 students – grades 9-13
- Partnership with CCC&TI
Located on Caldwell campus
- Opportunity to earn a high school diploma and an Associate's Degree
- Students commit to complete a Bachelor's Degree
- College coursework begins in the 9th grade



Caldwell Early College High School

Our School



Vision ~ Caldwell Early College High School will graduate all of its students ready for college, ready for career, and ready for life.

Mission ~ Caldwell Early College High School will provide a learning community where students believe that CECHS educators know them, care about them, and expect them to succeed.



Caldwell Early College High School Student Population



The CECHS student population closely reflects the diversity of Caldwell County

- Academic
- Ethnic
- Geographic
- Socio-economic diversity



Student Selection

- Application in 8th grade
- Selected by SERVE
- Commit to 5 years & completing Bachelor's degree

Target Population

Students underrepresented in higher education

- First Generation College
- Ethnic minority
- Socio-economically disadvantaged
- At Risk for dropping out

Caldwell Early College High School Culture



HOW DO YOU DEFINE CULTURE?

*The set of shared attitudes,
values, goals, and practices
that characterizes an
institution or organization*

Merriam – Webster.com

Every organization has a culture...
Our culture is defined by
RELATIONSHIPS



Caldwell Early College High School

Unique Experiences



Seminar Courses

- 9th – Understanding Who I am
 - 10th -Exploring Where I Am
 - 11th -Finding my Place
 - 12th -Making It Happen
- 13th – Planning the Journey Ahead



Caldwell Early College High School

Unique Experiences

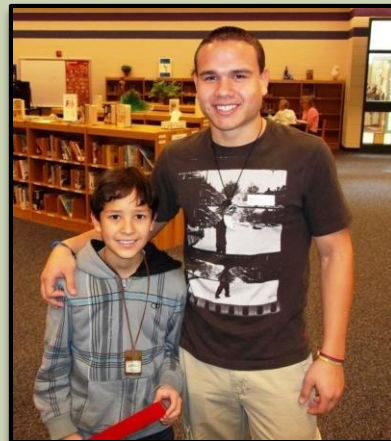


Service Learning

*Giving Back to
Caldwell County*



Integrated into the Curriculum
2013-14 - 10,625 hours total



- Hospice
- Women's Shelter
 - Soup Kitchen
- Elementary Schools
- Nursing Homes

Caldwell Early College High School

Honors and Recognitions



Learning Lab Model School for NC New Schools

- Host 2 day study visits providing professional development to teams of high school educators from across NC

2014 National Blue Ribbon School

- 1 of 48 high schools in nation
- 1 of 5 schools in NC
- 1 of 2 high schools (Raleigh Charter HS, Cary)



Class of 2013-2014 Statistics

- 100 % High School Graduation rate
- 72% - First Generation College
- 83% - Earned Associate's Degrees
- 17 CCC&TI Honor Graduates



Caldwell Early College High School

College Readiness



- CCC&TI Policies & Procedures

 - Attendance

 - Student Conduct

 - Academic Integrity

- Accuplacer

 - (College Placement Tests)

- Independent Schedule

- College Activities & Facilities

- College Communication

 - Student Email

 - WebAdvisor & Moodle

 - Office hours

- College Textbooks

- Registration & Advising

- Using a Syllabus

- Academic Support



Caldwell Early College High School

Transition to Campus Life - Challenges



- Applications
- Registration & Advising
 - Freshman Housing
- Financial Aid & Scholarships
 - Accessing upperclassman opportunities & experiences



Sources and Related Links

- NC New Schools Website <http://ncnewschools.org/>
- Caldwell Early College High School Website <http://cechs.caldwellschools.com>
- SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro
<http://www.serve.org/High-School-Reform.aspx>; **Download:** *NC New Schools: Supported by Evidence*
- Sixteen-page overview about early colleges, including profiles of individual schools partnering with NC New Schools. **Download:** *Changing the Future through Early College High Schools*
- For more about a model early college partnering with NC New Schools, read a case study about Caldwell Early College High School and watch Caldwell graduate Amelia Hawkins on our YouTube channel.
- Learn more about the national Early College High School Initiative.

Questions?



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