



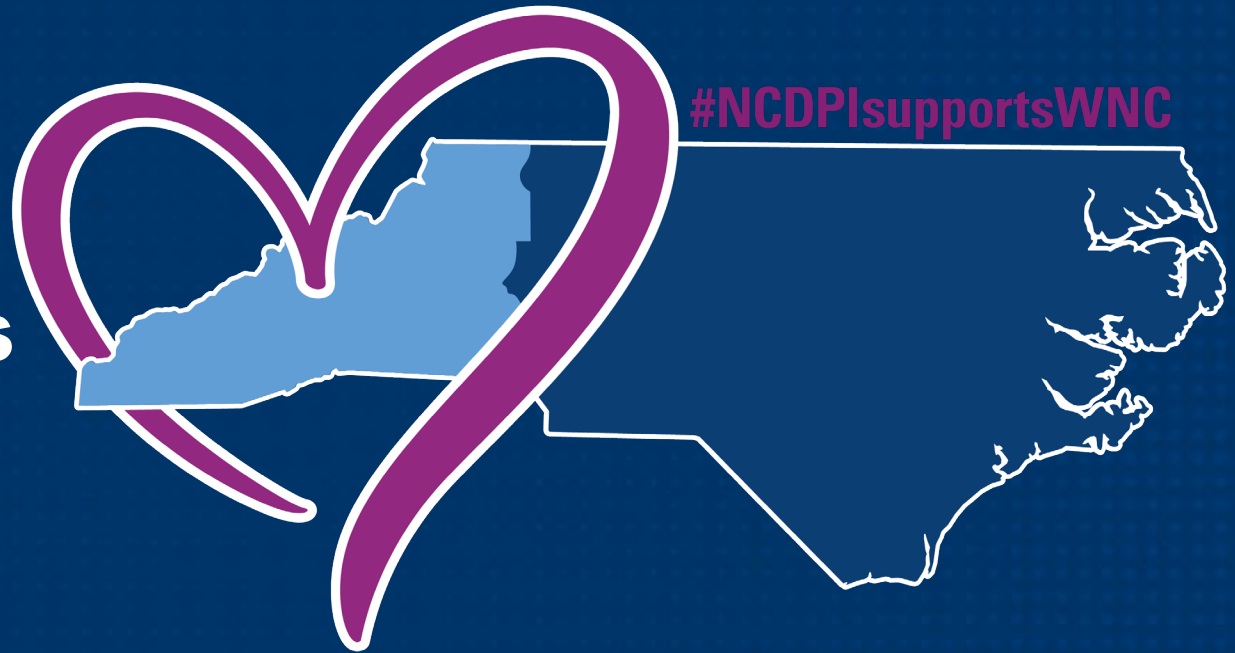
**OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT**

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

**State Board of Education**  
***State Superintendent Catherine Truitt***

November 7, 2024

**WNC Efforts**

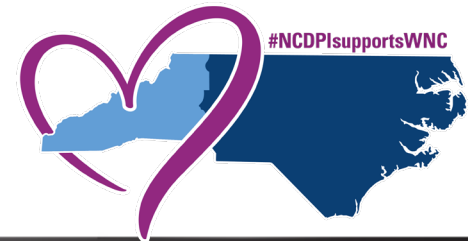


**#NCDPIsupportsWNC**



# Helene Response Major Items: District and School Support Services

- **Monday, September 30:** Superintendent Truitt Convenes Emergency Response Meeting
- **Wednesday, October 2:** Regional Directors and Deputy Superintendent begin to travel to provide direct support to impacted districts to support immediate response, recovery, and school reopening.
- Ongoing effort from all parts of NCDPI to provide any flexibility and support to impacted schools and districts.
  - Financial and Business Services
  - Technology Support
  - Other areas



# Helene Response Major Items: District and School Support Services

- **October 8:** Initial collaboration with NC DHHS begins to address questions around school re-opening and providing guidance for when water/sewer service was interrupted. (Reopening guidance checklist issued October 11)
- **October 8:** Initial contact with the US Department of Education Disaster Recovery Unit begins ongoing collaboration
- Field work with department leadership, regional support, and other units within the department continues to support school reopening and to support legislative requests
- US Department of Education visit on 10/29-10/30 to the following districts: Asheville City, McDowell, Mitchell, and Yancey
  - Adam Schott, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, USDE
  - Meredith Miller, Director, Disaster Recovery Unit, USDE

# Helene Response Major Items: District and School Support Services

- School calendar flexibility of up to 20 days deemed complete
  - o Up to an additional 20 days upon request
- Remote flexibility of up to 30 days of additional remote instruction
- Hold Harmless for PSU staff
- Extend Payment Deadline for Principal Bonuses
- Ed Prep Program Clinical Internship Exception
- Readmission of Displaced Charter School Students
- **\$16 million** to supplement or replace lost compensation of school nutrition employees
- **\$5 million** for Mental Health Support for Students and Staff
- **\$5 million** for technology loss
- **\$5 million** for School Nutrition Food, Supplies, and Equipment Loss
- **\$50 million** for Repairs and Renovations to Facilities



# NCSU's Friday Institute

*Real Issues, Real Data Series*





# Real Issues: Real Data

- The "Real Issues, Real Data" series is designed for K-12 educators, researchers and policymakers to explore pivotal topics in education.
- Topics have included AI and computer science, cell phones in educational settings, career pathways in STEM, cybersecurity and more.
- **Recent Question:** What are appropriate and useful school, district and state-level policies to guide cell phone use in schools?





# To Consider:

## Points made to us by Friday Institute “Real Issues, Real Data” series:

- The internet and cell phones represent transformative technologies that are reshaping both society and education.
- Though the internet and cell phones are powerful tools for change, their misuse can hinder learning and contribute to social disconnection and distraction.
- By connecting people and resources in new ways, the internet and cell phones are empowering individuals and communities to participate more fully in society and education.





WINSTON NATIONAL CENTER  
ON TECHNOLOGY USE, BRAIN, AND  
PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

# Winston National Center

- Located within UNC-CH's College of Arts and Sciences.
- **Mission:** to create and disseminate knowledge regarding the use of technology and social media on the developing mind and brain. We study positive and detrimental uses of technology on neural, social, behavioral, and psychological outcomes.
- **What:** is the nation's leading authority in this emerging field, and one of the only centers dedicated to studying the impact of social media on the developing mind and brain.

[About | Winston Center \(unc.edu\)](http://unc.edu)





WINSTON NATIONAL CENTER  
ON TECHNOLOGY USE, BRAIN, AND  
PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

# Winston National Center



THE UNIVERSITY  
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## RESEARCH

# Carolina and Winston Family Foundation launch national center to study effects of technology, social media use on child brain development

The \$10 million gift builds on three years of emerging research focused on the link between technology use and teen mental health.

[Carolina and Winston Family Foundation launch national center to study effects of technology, social media use on child brain development | UNC Chapel Hill](#)



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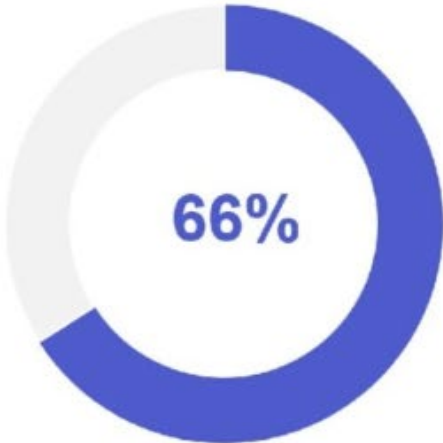
# Data on Cell Phone Use in Schools

Two-thirds of parents feel that their children should be able to have cell phones in schools. But they are much less likely to support cell phone use in the classroom.

When it comes to cell phones, do you feel child/children should be allowed to have...

**School Parents**

**Total % "Yes"**



Cell phones in school



Cell phones in the classroom

Source: Survey conducted July 9, 2024 – July 12, 2024, among U.S. adults

[Cell Phones in Schools Are a Complicated Issue, New Poll Finds - EdChoice](#)



# Recapping the Event:



# NC Chamber of Commerce

## *Education and Workforce Conference*



# Theme: “The Future of Work – Continuity, Connectivity, Competitiveness.”

- Spotighting:
  - The Changing Workplace: Opportunities and Challenges
    - Dr. Bill Daggett, Founder, International Center of Leadership in Education
  - AI: in K12, in Higher Ed, in Business
  - Creating a Demand-Driven Workforce System:
    - Andy MacCracken, NC Center on the Workforce for Health Director, North Carolina Area Health Education Centers
  - Fireside Chat:
    - Congresswoman Virginia Foxx

# NC Chamber's: Call to Action Panel

- **Panelists:**

- Dr. Jeff Cox, President, NC Community College System
- Gary Salamido, President & CEO, NC Chamber
- Catherine Truitt, Superintendent, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

- **Questions:**

- **Q1:** How is the NCDPI Employer Toolkit serving business?
- **Q2:** How do we ensure our workforce remains viable and equipped for the opportunities and challenges that technology, including AI, presents?
- **Q3:** How do we continue to advance links between education and workforce? How can business play a part in that?







# NC College Connect



# NC College Connect Process

- Official Letters mailed to 70,000+ high school seniors in October
- To date: nearly 5,000 applications submitted through the NC College Connect portal
- Amplification efforts are underway, resulting in 30 mentions in local and statewide publications
- Paid Advertising campaign targeting NC students and parents drove more than 70,000 clicks to the NC College Connect website
- Postcards will be mailed to eligible students in mid-November, serving as a reminder of their eligibility

