



# NCDPI School Counseling Updates



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 at <http://bit.ly/NCDPISC>,  
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## Welcome to the 2021-22 School Year!

This time last year, you may have been thinking, “I’m not sure I’m going to make it through a school year like this!” But here you are! Not only did you make it, you excelled against amazing odds. Many of you never stopped to think if you could do it but instead jumped right into **how** you would do it. And lives were made better because you did! Thank you!

As you launch into this school year, remember to take time to reflect not so much on what stressed you last year or what maybe you weren’t able to get done, but instead on the amazing things you did get done despite tremendous challenges. You are the first school counselors in the twenty-first century to have supported students through a pandemic. The first schools counselors to use technology to reach students and families virtually. You are truly amazing!

- So, as you get started on the new-school-year to-do list of things like—
- ✓ checking on the frequent flyers;
  - ✓ touching base with teachers on student needs;
  - ✓ helping students get where they

- need to be;
  - ✓ introducing yourself to students so they know who to go to for help;
  - ✓ planning and organizing your school counseling program;
  - ✓ conducting needs assessments;
  - ✓ and so much more!
- also always remember to take care of and appreciate yourself.

There’s only one you and you have an amazing calling to make a positive difference in the lives of others. To do that, it is imperative that you also take time to take care of yourself. You cannot pour from an empty cup. If you need reminders and resources for that, check out some of the [listserv newsletter articles from last year](#) such as the October, November and especially the May newsletter.

And for when those tough days happen (and they will), remember, borrowing a quote from Christopher Robin and Winnie the Pooh, —  
**“You’re braver than you believe and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.”**

**Thank you for all you do!**

*Please join me in welcoming*  
**Dr. Mary Hemphill,**  
*new Director of the*  
**DPI Division of**  
**Academic Standards!**

*(the home of NCDPI school counseling, formerly known as K-12 Standards, Curriculum & Instruction)*

## Dr. Mary Hemphill

*Director of Academic Standards*

### Guiding the Team's Daily Work:

- People-first approach
- Authentic engagement
- Strong stakeholder support



OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT  
 North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to receive it directly, go to the NCDPI School Counseling Google Site at <http://bit.ly/NCDPISC> for instructions on signing up for the listserv.

*The inclusion of items in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by this agency.*

## Legislative Updates

Some big news out of the State legislature recently was the House [partially unveiled its proposed budget](#) on August 5, 2021. Revisions are expected in the coming days. This budget bill also includes some provisions related to education such as the following:

- # p. 16—Additional funding for disadvantaged students, some of which could be used to provide instructional positions or instructional support positions;
- # p. 25—Require remediation for high school seniors who do not meet career and college readiness requirements;
- # p. 27—School Safety Grants that can be used to employ or provide training for school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses, and school social workers;
- # p. 56—Requirement for district threat assessment teams;
- # p. 60—Requirement for school counselors in grades 6 and higher

to coordinate student peer-to-peer student support programs that address areas such as conflict resolution, general health and wellness, and mentoring;

- # p. 97—Training opportunities for educators on use of remote instruction;
- # p. 108 CTE Grade Expansion grants;
- # p. 112 establishment of a Standard Course of Study Advisory Commission

The Senate also released [its version of the Appropriations Act](#)

- # p. 40 a provision specifically for a school psychologists allotment
- # p. 41 expands the requirement for DPI to report on school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses, and school social workers
- # p. 42 requires a detailed report from DPI on a list of instructional support personnel, including counselors (note that for budgetary purposes,

the terminology “guidance counselor” is used because the US Department of Education has not updated their terminology);

- # p. 48, also includes school safety grants for school health support personnel
- # p. 55 \$15,000 grant program for school counselors, school nurses, school 31 psychologists, and school social workers

To follow continued discussions and decisions, visit the Legislative Calendar links at [www.ncleg.gov](http://www.ncleg.gov). Most of those meetings are livestreamed from that website.

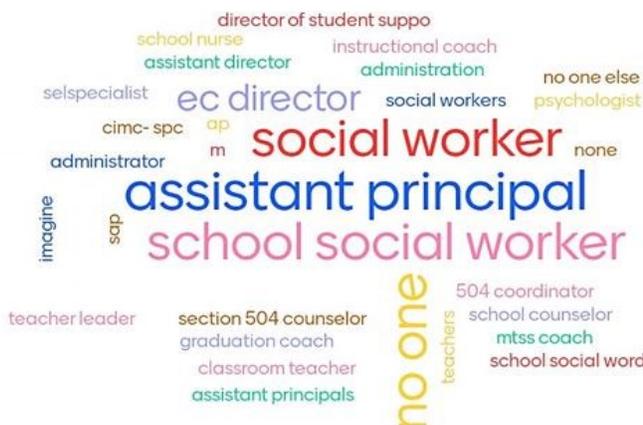
- Another bill to watch that has not passed is [HB 324](#) Ensuring Dignity & Nondiscrimination/Schools

You can find additional details in the SBE Legislative Director of Government & Community Relations presentation slides from the August Legislative Update to the NC State Board of Education [here](#) and the K-12 Education Legislative Updates [here](#).

## 504 Coordinator Word Cloud

Thank you to all who participated in creating a Word Cloud of examples of who coordinates 504 where it is not the school counselor. Below is the word cloud you created of others who coordinate 504 in NC. Note that personal names and numerical entries have been removed.

### Other than a school counselor, who coordinates 504 at your school?



## from myFutureNC

Congratulations to our FAFSA growth leaders for the month of June!

As of June 30, 2021—

- District: Beaufort County Schools (+7.8%)
- Large High School: Western Harnett High (+9.9%)
- Medium High School: Washington High (Beaufort County Schools) (+10.3%)
- Small High School: East Columbus Junior-Senior High (+13.9%)
- X-Small High School: Partnership Academy (Orange County Schools) (+100%)

>> [Click here for Top 5 FAFSA Leaders in Each Category](#)

>> [Subscribe](#) to receive more information on the 2021-22 First in FAFSA Tracker, Challenge and Events!

## 2020-2021 NC FAFSA Completion Goal: 65%



 **59,773 students have completed**  
as of July 23, 2021.

A note about the 2021 FAFSA Challenge— Final FAFSA completion rates are anticipated to be available in October 2021 when the NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) plans to release the state’s final high school graduation counts. Preliminary data currently presented in the NC First in FAFSA Tracker includes the high school senior counts from NCDPI’s

Principal Monthly Report (PMR) Enrollment for Month 2. Once the NCDPI high school graduation data are final, myFutureNC and partners will announce the [NC First in FAFSA Challenge](#) 2020-21 district and school winners. Look out for Innovation Grant recipients as early as the beginning of the academic year!

Thank you for your patience as the state is experiencing a delay in finalizing these graduation counts. We are thrilled to recognize and celebrate your hard work increasing the FAFSA completion rates in your community.



### K-12 Career Exploration Resource Reminder: The Navigator

[The Navigator](#) is a free NC online platform that brings together members of the business, education, and workforce development communities in a space where they can post, search for, and measure work-based learning opportunities. These opportunities are experiential learning activities for your students ranging from guest speakers, career day participation to apprenticeships, posted by businesses and used by educators and members of the workforce communities in every county in our state. For a demo, see the March 20, 2019 The Navigator Demo for NC School Counselors webinar recording and slides on the [NCDPI School Counseling Google Site Archived Webinars page](#).

### Applications Open for the United States Senate Youth Program!

Application materials are now available for the upcoming United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP).

The USSYP provides an educational opportunity for **juniors** and **seniors** interested in pursuing college coursework in history or political science to spend a week in Washington D.C. meeting Senators, cabinet members, Supreme Court justices, and officials from various federal agencies and the White House.

- Two student winners will be selected to represent North Carolina.
- These two winners will each attend the Washington Week program, March 5-12, 2022, and receive a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship.



North Carolina application materials can be found on the North Carolina Senate Youth website August 1, 2021 – October 3, 2021.

<http://senateyouthnc.webs.com/>.

# FYI'S

**Plans are to let the cat out of the bag at NCSCA conference regarding a collaboration between NCDPI, NCSCA and ASCA to bring additional support to NC for implementing RAMP comprehensive school counseling programs!**



**HOPE 4 NC HELPLINE  
1-855-587-3463**



- Hope4NC Helpline free mental health and resilience supports available to everyone in North Carolina
- Hope4Healers is the same type of service, but specifically only for those working in health care, childcare and education.



NORTH CAROLINA  
**Educators & School Staff**

Do you or your family members need **FREE** emotional support from being on the COVID-19 frontlines?

Feeling stressed?  
Want to talk?

NORTH CAROLINA HELPLINE  
FREE & CONFIDENTIAL  
**HOPE 4 HEALERS**  
**(919) 226-2002**

In partnership with the NC Department of Health and Human Services and the North Carolina Professional Education Board

## New Guide—Restart & Recovery: Leveraging Federal COVID Relief Funding & Medicaid to Support Student & Staff Wellbeing & Connection

A new guide, RESTART & RECOVERY ([bit.ly/restart-recovery-guide](https://bit.ly/restart-recovery-guide)), highlights how education agencies can use Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to support student and staff mental health and wellbeing. It also explains how to leverage these one-time-only funds to access additional funding streams, such as Medicaid, to ensure efforts are sustained.

Developed by the Council for Chief State School Officers, Healthy Schools Campaign and National Center for School Mental Health, this guide provides an essential roadmap for strategic and sustainable investment that can help advance student and staff wellbeing and connection for years to come.

**Learn more:** [RESTART & RECOVERY: Leveraging Federal COVID Relief Funding & Medicaid to Support Student & Staff Wellbeing & Connection](#)

## New Additions to the YRBS Data Briefs

Additional Guidance Essential Standards NC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Data Briefs have been added to the NC [YRBS Data infographic briefs page](#) on the NC Healthy Schools Google Site. NC Guidance Essential Standards reflect many of the same concepts as the ASCA Student Standards: Mindsets and Behaviors. These data briefs can assist NC school counselors with connecting your work to identified NC student needs.

The infographic briefs page also includes data briefs for Healthful Living Essential Standards. Guidance Essential Standards and Healthful Living Essential Standards contain numerous similarities, thus present great opportunities for school counselors and health education teachers to collaborate. To assist you with those collaborative opportunities, the DPI consultants for Healthful Living and for School Counseling developed documents that crosswalk the two. You can find them on the [Healthful Living & Guidance Essential Standards Crosswalk Google page](#).

*Related note: The NC Guidance Essential Standards are currently scheduled to begin the revision phase at the end of this school year, with the review phase beginning during this school year. However, the revision process is currently under edit review.*

## NC Countdown to College—October 18-22

NC Countdown to College helps support students in preparation for college enrollment by promoting the importance of completing college applications, FAFSA, and Residency Determination. During College Application Week, October 18 – 22, 2021, many NC colleges and universities will waive application fees, which could save students hundreds of dollars if they're planning to apply to multiple schools.

Please mark your calendars and share this important information with high school juniors who will begin the exciting process of submitting college applications this fall! **For more information, please visit [CFNC.org](https://CFNC.org).**

## Professional Development Opportunities

### *Did you miss an NCDPI-Hosted Webinar for School Counselors?*

Recordings & slides on the [NCDPI School Counseling Google Site Archived Webinars page](#)

*Note that questions about the opportunities below should be directed to the contacts at the links provided as many of these professional development activities are not organized by the NCDPI school counseling consultant.*

#### Monthly Raising the Awareness of Career Pathways in North Carolina

**NC Works LMI Tuesdays**—Join NC Commerce/NC Works to hear more about the labor market information (LMI) data on career opportunities for which your students can be preparing. First and third Tuesdays at 11:30 AM. [Click here](#) for information.

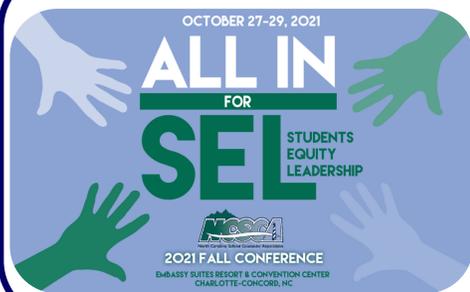
#### DE21: Dual Enrollment Accelerating Education Attainment Conference

Free! Space is limited. Two-day conference in which attendees will hear from practitioners and researchers from across the country on dual enrollment best practices and research. Gain insights regarding the implementation and evaluation of dual enrollment, and attendees will be able to network with others involved in dual enrollment from across the country. [Info. here.](#)

#### Summer Professional Development Recordings with Certificates of Participation

NCDPI has gathered a collection of virtual professional development from the past year of which you can view the recordings and use provided links to secure your certificate of participation, including [Trauma-Informed Practice for School Mental Health](#).

Note that the certificate link for [Back to School: Preparing for the Emotional Needs of Students During a Pandemic](#) is incorrect in the document, but can be found [here](#). ([Slides](#) and [handout](#)) This webinar is particularly helpful in supporting the teachers with whom you work in addressing student emotional distress.



#### 2021 NCSCA School Counselor Conference!

October 27-29, 2021

at the Embassy Suites & Convention Center, Charlotte-Concord  
Great CEU professional development and networking with school counselors, school counseling supervisors and counselor educators from across the state to learn the latest in effective comprehensive school counseling strategies. Plans are to be in person with the possibility of transitioning into a hybrid or virtual event if needed.

#### National School Counseling Leadership Conference

February 16-18, 2022  
San Diego, California

Connect with school counseling leaders from across the country, exchange best practices, & improve your comprehensive data-driven school counseling programs.



#### Counselor Advising & Scheduling Tips (CAST) for World Languages for School Counselors & Other Educators

This K-12 Canvas mini-course is designed to help guide school counselors and other course advisors in understanding NC World Language course codes, options, best practices, resources, etc., so that these educators can be best equipped to advise students on what courses to take to align with their future aspirations. Includes elementary, middle and high school modules. For more information, visit [this CAST for World Languages web page](#).

*If you have an item that you would like to share, please email the information to [cynthia.floyd@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:cynthia.floyd@dpi.nc.gov). Submissions should include the name and brief description of the opportunity with either a link or contact information for interested parties to obtain additional information. We are unable to include flyers, attachments, or for-profit information. The submission should be limited to 100 words or less. Items received after the monthly newsletter has been distributed will not be sent via a separate email on the listserv. NCDPI reserves the right to not include submissions deemed inappropriate for this newsletter.*

## Resources

*The links below are to support ease of access to resources. Some links will take you to third party websites of which NCDPI does not control and is not responsible for the contents of such external webpages. NCDPI does not endorse and makes no warranties, representations or undertakings relating to the content of third party websites.*

NC State Board of Education

<http://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/>

NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI)

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/>

NC State Board of Education Legislative Updates

<https://legislative.ncpublicschools.gov/legislative-updates>

NCDPI School Counseling Web Pages

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/educators/specialized-instructional-support/school-counseling>

NCDPI School Counseling Google Site

<http://bit.ly/NCDPISC>

NCDPI School Counseling Twitter page

<https://twitter.com/NCDPISC>

NCDPI School Counselor Evaluation Documents

<https://sites.google.com/dpi.nc.gov/ncees-information-and-resource/support-staff/school-counselor?>

NCDPI Guidance Essential Standards (NC SCOS)

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/k-12-standards-curriculum-and-instruction/>

NCDPI Social Emotional Learning Website

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/nc-social-emotional-learning>

NC Graduation Requirements

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/high-school-graduation-requirements>

NC Student Information System (PowerSchool)

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/educators/home-base/>

NCDPI Online Professional Development

<https://rt3nc.org/>

NC School Mental Health Initiative

<https://www.livebinders.com/b/2435283#anchor>

NC Supports Military Children

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/students-families/student-support/nc-supports-military-children>

NC Center for Safer Schools

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/center-safer-schools>

US Department of Education Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center

<https://rems.ed.gov/>

NC School Counselor Association

<http://ncschoolcounselor.org/>

American School Counselor Association

<http://www.schoolcounselor.org/>

NC Counseling Association

<http://nccounselingassociation.org/>

College Foundation of NC

<http://www.cfnc.org/>

myFutureNC (including First in FAFSA tools)

<https://www.myfuturenc.org/>

ACT

<http://www.act.org/>

College Board

<https://www.collegeboard.org/>

Best in School Counseling: Our Favorite Web Sites

<https://www.mastersincounseling.org/guide/school-counseling-sites>

Elementary School Counselor

<http://www.elementaryschoolcounselor.org/>

Middle School Counselor

<http://www.themiddleschoolcounselor.com/>

School Counselor.Com

<http://www.schoolcounselor.com/>

Center for School Counseling Outcome Research and Evaluation

<http://www.umass.edu/schoolcounseling/>

International Society for Policy Research and Evaluation in School-Based Counseling (ISPRESOC)

<https://qshimuno.wixsite.com/ispresoc>

The Journal of School-based Counseling Policy and Evaluation (publication of ISPRESOC)

<https://scholarworks.wm.edu/jscope/> (articles also available via [Google Scholar](#))

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network

<https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/southeast-mhffc/>

Helping Give Away Psychological Science (HGAPS)

[https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Helping\\_Give\\_Away\\_Psychological\\_Science](https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Helping_Give_Away_Psychological_Science)

The SHAPE System

<https://www.theshapesystem.com>

Aunt Bertha (social services search engine)

<https://www.auntbertha.com/>

The guiding vision of the North Carolina State Board of Education is Every public school student in North Carolina will be empowered to accept academic challenges, prepared to pursue their chosen path after graduating high school, and encouraged to become lifelong learners with the capacity to engage in a globally-collaborative society.