

Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA)

Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106

It is the goal of the Public Schools of Robeson County to provide parents and guardians of our students access to information pertaining to student achievement through the district's Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Paper copies of this document and the information included within it can be obtained through a request from your child's individual school.

Section Requirements	PSU Response
How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?	The following are the relevant State and local requirements for a child to be promoted to the next grade level. The relevant part of this link is found in Part 1A (pp. 15-28) regarding retention, promotion, alternatives to show reading proficiency, etc.: Grade Level Promotion Information about the Public Schools of Robeson County School Board's promotion and retention procedures is available in Board Policy 3420 . Information about the Board's graduation requirements is available in Board Policy 3460 .
	Additional relevant information for middle and high school students may be obtained from the PSRC High School Course Selection Guides.
What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?	In North Carolina, all schools use the same Standard Course of Study, determined by the State Board of Education. These standards are the knowledge and skills students should understand by the end of each grade/course. The standards can be found on the NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website. There are standards for: • Arts Education, • Career Technical Education, • Computer Science, • English Language Arts, • English Language Development, • Student Success Standards, • Healthful Living,



- Information and Technology,
- Mathematics,
- Science,
- Social Studies, and
- World Language.

Local districts, schools, and teachers determine how to teach these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc.

The following provides information related to the curriculum in the Public Schools of Robeson County:

Instructional Materials

Contact your school principal to request to inspect or purchase textbooks and other instructional materials on this site.

In some cases, principals may be able to provide parents/guardians with paper or electronic copies of certain supplemental instructional materials to inspect at home. In other cases (as with most copyrighted materials), materials will be made available for in-person inspection only. As a general matter, requests to inspect school library materials will be fulfilled by informing parents/guardians of hours during which they may browse the library stacks.

Additional information pertaining to the inspection of instructional materials can be located at:

<u>Policy 3200</u> Selection of Instructional Materials

Literacy Intervention Plan

Parents and guardians may view the Public Schools of Robeson County's 2023-2024 Literacy Intervention Plan at the following link:

• Literacy Intervention Plan

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

The Public Schools of Robeson County also offers courses in the area of Career and Technical Education (CTE). These courses allow students to explore careers and earn credentials. CTE Career Clusters, Pathways, Course Information, Credentials, and Course



Standards may be found at this link:

Course Management System

To learn more about the PSRC CTE Program visit:

PSRC CTE

To learn more about the PSRC Curriculum and Instruction Program visit:

PSRC Curriculum and Instruction

How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?

Public Schools of Robeson County shares progress of students through a variety of ways, including quarterly report cards, progress reports, and assignment/test feedback. Feedback on conduct is also included.

Testing and Accountability

<u>Public Schools of Robeson County Board of Education Policy Code 3400:</u>
 <u>Evaluation of Student Progress</u>

Local Assessments:

Report cards reflecting grades and attendance are issued every quarter. Review the <u>school</u> <u>calendar</u> for the dates when each quarter ends.

Parents/guardians can access information about attendance, grades, and testing by visiting the PowerSchool/Homebase parent portal and entering their login credentials. Parents/guardians may access information about how to create or change their PowerSchool login credentials here. Questions related to parents' PowerSchool access not addressed at this link may be directed to each school's data manager.

State Assessments:

Individual Student Reports for end-of-grade/course tests and other state assessments (English language proficiency assessment) are accessible in the parent portal of the NC-SIS (PowerSchool).

In NC, all students take end-of-grade assessments for reading and math in grades 3-8. Students take end-of-grade science assessments in grades 5 and 8. In high school, students take end-of-course assessments in English II, Biology, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3.

Students in grade 10 take the Pre-ACT. Students in grade 11 take the ACT. Students who



	are CTE Concentrators in grade 12 take ACT WorkKeys. Those results are shared by ACT. Students will participate in alternative assessments per the Individualized Education Plan. An Individual Reading Plan (IRP) shall be developed for any student in kindergarten
	through third grade demonstrating difficulty with reading. An IRP will have specific strategies/ideas that can be done at home.
	North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) selected mCLASS DIBELS ® 8th Edition as the state's K-3 Literacy Assessment. mCLASS is an integrated literacy system based on the Science of Reading. mCLASS has been revised and upgraded from the assessment NC districts have used in the past, based on the latest research and the Science of Reading. It is a valid and reliable assessment, supporting universal literacy screening, screening for risk of dyslexia, and progress monitoring.
What are the qualifications of my child's teachers?	Parents may look up your child's teacher licensure status at this website <u>Link to the licensure website</u> .
	The licensure look-up webpage does not include current employment information. Parents may need additional information (i.e., middle name or license number) to identify the teacher accurately. Substitute teachers (either short or long term) may not hold a NC teaching license.
	Please contact your district's <u>Human Resources</u> (Dr. Steele) at (910) 671-6000 ext. 3214 to verify an educator's licensure status.
What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or	Enrollment in PSRC is governed by the following Board policy: Policy 4100: Age Requirements for Initial Entry to the Public Schools of Robeson County. More information on student enrollment can be found in the Complete PSRC Enrollment Packet: Student Enrollment Documentation Checklist for Parents. (Linked Here)
recommended for children?	The following are statutory school entry requirements, this includes required immunizations: - Admission requirements: GS 115C-364.pdf (ncleg.gov) - Immunization records: GS_130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov) - Immunization requirements: GS_130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov) (*this law was amended)



but is not reflected on the current GA page; see <u>SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov)</u>, Section 5.8(e) on page 64")

Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). NCDHHS Immunizations Resources

- Recommended Immunization Schedules
 - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements
 - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements
 - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements

How can a parent help their child learn and make progress?

Engaging with your child about school and what they are learning is pivotal to their learning process.

- Ask questions daily about your child's school day.
- Inquire about topics and assignments they are learning.
- Connect with teachers to understand your child's progress.
- Ask the teachers how you can help your child learn.
- Attend different events at your child's school to stay connected and learn how to support them.

Local Resources:

PSRC Parent Corner

PowerSchool/Homebase parent portal

Parent Guides for Academic Standards:

The following grade-level guides contain information to support parents and caregivers with understanding the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The purpose of these guides is to inform parents about the standards, as well as provide useful strategies to incorporate at home.

ELA Parent Guides
ELD Parent Guide

Math Parent Guides: K-5, 6-8

Social Studies Parent Guides (coming soon)

Science Parent Guide (coming soon)



Reading and Literacy Support:

This following site provides resources for families to practice and reinforce important literacy skills with their children who are being assessed with mCLASS reading assessments: Amplify Parent Resources

Home activities, printables, and games to support reading and literacy are also available at North Carolina's <u>Digital Children's Reading Initiative</u> (DCRI). These activities include the following topics, Pre-K-Grade 5:

- (1) Phonemic awareness
- (2) Phonics
- (3) Vocabulary
- (4) Fluency
- (5) Comprehension
- (6) Oral language

Printable activities will be made available for students who do not have digital access at home and may be provided to all students as a supplement. Digital resources can be found here: DCRI Printables for Families

How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?

Public Schools of Robeson County embeds "Portrait of a Graduate" skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and support a child's realization of high expectations and setting lifelong learning goals. These skills include:

- Adaptability
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Empathy
- A Learner's Mindset
- Personal Responsibility

These skills can also be practiced and reinforced in the child's home environment.

A summary of these core competencies can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Please click here for additional "Portrait of a Graduate" resources.



 Grade-level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository <u>NC Portrait of a Graduate -</u> <u>Durable Skills</u>.

Citizenship and character education in PSRC is governed by <u>Board Policy 3530</u>: Citizenship and Character Education.

How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?

PSRC schools and the district use the Thrillshare notification service to send important information to families through phone calls, emails, and text messages. To ensure PSRC and your student's school can reach as many families as possible during emergencies, all families automatically receive text messages from Thrillshare. General school news and updates are shared by email and text message. Urgent information is shared by a phone call.

Information regarding the appropriate use of technology platforms can be located at the following:

Policy Code: 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use

Parents/guardians can stay updated on their children's grades and testing by visiting the PowerSchool/Homebase parent portal and entering their login credentials.

Parents/guardians may access information about how to create or change their PowerSchool login credentials here. Questions related to parents' PowerSchool access not addressed at this link may be directed to the school data manager.

The Public Schools of Robeson County School System policy on parent involvement, including parent communication, participation, and conferences, may be accessed here. (Policy 1310/4002)

A supplemental policy on parent engagement in Title I schools may be accessed here. (Policy 1320/3560)

The following North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) parent guides provide suggestions for building strong relationships with your child's teacher and supporting communication between home and school.



Building Strong Relationships with Your Child's Teacher (NC Rethink Education Program)
How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child's Learning (NC Rethink Education
Program)

Additional NCDPI "Rethink Education" resources for parents and guardians including webinars, can be accessed at the <u>following website</u>.

What services are available for parents and their children?

PSRC and NCDPI provide multiple types of services to parents and their children, including the following:

Family Literacy Services:

NCDPI's <u>Literacy at Home: Digital Children's Reading Initiative</u> provides home literacy activities for grades Pre-Kindergarten through 5.

After-School Tutoring:

Tutoring services are available at select schools. Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about these services.

Other Academic Reinforcement Programs:

Additional academic enhancement opportunities are available at all Public Schools of Robeson County. Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about these services.

Career Preparation and College Planning:

Counselors and Career Coaches are available in all PSRC high schools to offer students the opportunity to plan their college path. Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about these opportunities. More information about college planning is available at the following links:



- Career and Technical Education Website
- <u>College and Career Ready Graduate Program</u> (<u>High School Registration</u> <u>Guide pg.10</u>)

Academic Advisement:

Counselors and other staff are available at each PSRC school to offer guidance to students and parents/guardians on course selection and other academic issues. Parents and guardians are encouraged to direct questions about other services that may be available for them or their children to the school administration.

Student Counseling Services:

Public Schools of Robeson County are staffed with school counselors, school social workers, and other Student Support Services staff who provide support on a wide range of academic, social, and emotional areas. For general information on these services, please consult the <u>Student Services</u>, <u>Counselors</u>, and <u>Social Workers</u> webpages.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to direct questions about the specific counseling services available at their child's school to the school administration or to any school counselor or social worker to inquire about these services.

After-School Programs:

Primetime

Public Schools of Robeson County offer Primetime Before/After-school Care at selected schools. The Primetime Program is a service provided by the Public Schools of Robeson County for the community and for working parents with school-age children who are enrolled in K-8 between the ages 5-12 years old. This program is designed to provide a safe, supervised learning environment that will meet the health and safety needs of our children.



Additional Opportunities

Additional after-school programs are available at select schools. Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about these programs.

- All of our Middle and High Schools offer a variety of competitive athletic programs for our students.
- All of our Middle and High Schools offer a variety of clubs/organizations to participate in. They may be either academic, civil or social.

What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?

Parent Advisory Councils

Advisory Councils serve schools in an advisory capacity and act as a liaison between the Board of Education and the citizenry. Advice to the Board can be given in the form of minutes maintained at the meetings; by direct communication to Board members; individually or collectively, by correspondence or telephone; or by a written report presented at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about these opportunities.

Volunteer Programs

Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about volunteer opportunities. The district has implemented clear guidelines about volunteer procedures in its <u>volunteer handbook</u>. (Refer to <u>Policy Code: 1310/4002 Parental Involvement and Engagement</u> for guidance on volunteer opportunities)

School Improvement Team

The principal of each school, representatives of the assistant principals, instructional personnel, instructional support personnel, and teacher assistants assigned to the school building, and parents of children enrolled in the school shall constitute a school improvement team. The team develops a school improvement plan to improve student performance. Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about



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	these opportunities. (Refer to Policy Code: 3430 School Improvement Plan)
	The PSRC policy on parental involvement, including parent communication, participation, and conferences, may be accessed here . A supplemental policy on parent engagement in Title I schools may be accessed here . Family and community engagement is also a key component of The Public Schools of Robeson County Strategic Plan.
What are the rigorous academic	Public Schools of Robeson County offers a variety of options for students to pursue their interests, and skills at their academic level.
What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?	Career and Technical Education (CTE): NC has made a significant investment in developing students and programs to meet the needs of the future workforce. Through Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, Public Schools offer opportunities for students to develop career awareness in 5th grade, explore careers in grades 6-8, and experience leadership, career development, and career-aligned content in grades 9-12.
	In the Public Schools of Robeson County, students are able to explore these career pathways from grades 6-8: PSRC CTE PSRC Middle School Courses
	In Public Schools of Robeson County, students are able to experience leadership, career development, and career-aligned content from grades 9-12: PSRC CTE PSRC High School Courses
	For more information on CTE in NC, and to learn about Career Clusters, Pathways, and Course Information, Standards, and applicable Credentials please visit: Course Management System .
	Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG):
	In NC, school districts must identify and serve academically or intellectually gifted (AIG) K-12 students. These are students who are performing, or have the potential of performing, at high levels of accomplishment in intellectual and/or specific academic areas, such as



reading and/or math when compared with other students of their age, or in their grade level, experience, or environment.

The Public Schools of Robeson County Local AIG Plan outlines specific opportunities for differentiated, rigorous instruction and accelerated programs. You can find the plan here.

The Public Schools of Robeson County has developed an <u>AIG program brochure</u> to help parents better understand the AIG program. This describes how students will be identified and served across grades K-12. Visit the <u>Academically and Intellectually Gifted website</u> for parent information.

In Public Schools of Robeson County, students are often provided the following services:

- Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups;
- Accelerated opportunities (subject and/or grade acceleration, credit by demonstrated mastery (CDM), AP/CIE courses, dual enrollment courses;
- Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and maybe within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and
- Other opportunities for extension of the content standards.

Services for AIG students may be provided by AIG personnel or within the regular classroom by teachers trained to meet the needs of gifted students.

Contact the district AIG Coordinator, Dr. Debra Dowless, with questions (910)671-6000 ext.3351. You may also reach out to the school's AIG Teacher as well.

Honors Level Courses:

In Public Schools of Robeson County, students have access to a variety of honors level courses in high school. These courses are available in the course catalog located at <u>High School Registration Guide pg.4-5.</u>

Honors level courses typically have a faster pace than standard level courses. They offer additional rigor, complexity and creativity than standard level courses.

Career and College Promise (CCP):

Public Schools of Robeson County partners with Robeson Community College to offer dual



enrollment opportunities through the CCP program. If your high school student qualifies, students may earn high school credit by completing community college coursework.

CCP courses may be taken in the College Transfer or Career and Technical Education pathway. These courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families.

To learn more about this program, contact Jadell Dial at (910)671-6000 ext.3542. Additional information is available on the NCDPI CCP website.

CIHS/Early College:

The Public Schools of Robeson County also partners with Robeson Community College to offer PSRC Early College at RCC.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program developed by the College Board to offer college-level curricula and examinations to high school students.

In NC, 40 Advanced Placement courses are offered in public high schools. Please find the available AP courses for high schools here.

Several AP courses satisfy graduation requirements for NC students as outlined in <u>State Board policy</u>.

AP exams are free for NC public high school students enrolled in these courses.

Colleges and universities may likely offer college credit for these courses if your child scores a 3 or above on the exam. All of the colleges in the UNC System offer credit.

More information is available on the NCDPI AP website.

Accelerated Access

NCVPS:

North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) is NC's state supplemental program and leader in online education, providing inclusive learning opportunities for students across



the state. Founded in 2007, with a strong commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, regardless of location, NCVPS has over 16 years of experience serving diverse learners.

Students may enroll in NCVPS courses for a variety of reasons. Work with your school counselor if you are interested in taking NCVPS courses. Please find the available NCVPS courses here.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM):

Public Schools of Robeson County offers opportunities for students to earn credit for a high school course without enrolling in the course. All high school courses, with a few exceptions as noted by the state, are available for students to try to receive CDM. There are two phases of assessments that a student must go through to earn credit for the course. More information is available on the NC Credit by Demonstrated Mastery website.

Governor's School: Each summer, NC Governor's School offers a unique opportunity for high-achieving rising juniors and seniors to learn with their peers from across the state in a 4-week residential program at two college campus sites.

For more information on eligibility and the application process, contact Valerie Hammond, valerie.hammond@robeson.k12.nc.us or visit the Governor's School website, www.ncgovschool.org.

What school choices are available for my child?

Students in public school districts are assigned to certain schools based on a local assignment plan approved by the Local Board of Education.

There are other options for families to choose for their education:

Charter Schools

If you are interested in NC charter schools, visit NC charter school for information, resources, and contacts.

Nonpublic Education and Scholarship Grants

Nonpublic education is overseen by the NC Department of Administration.

For a list of private schools, visit this NC Private Schools.



	For information on how to start a homeschool visit: Homeschool Information
	Scholarship grant programs/voucher information is available via the NC State Education Assistance Authority.
What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?	For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding the procedural safeguards available to ensure a free, appropriate, public education. Parent Rights Handbook Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish) IDEA Dispute Resolution Special Education Surrogate Parents
	Project Child Find Please contact your district's <u>Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability</u> office (Dr. Windy Dorsey-Carr at (910) 671-6000 ext. 3502) for further information.
What is the contact information for the schools and district office?	PSRC School Contact Information (Linked Here) PSRC District Office Contact Information (PSRC Directory) (Linked Here) Public Schools of Robeson County 100 Hargrave St Lumberton, NC 28358 910-671-6000
What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?	The PSRC Health Services Department offers the following information and resources to support your child's health and well-being: • PSRC Health Services Department Resources for Students - www.pbnc.org • Vision Screenings are performed annually for selected grade levels • Hearing Screenings are performed annually for selected grade levels • Dental Screenings are conducted annually for students in Kindergarten and 5th



grade by a Public Health Dental Hygienist with the North Carolina Dental Health Section.

Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS):

- Immunizations
- Health Assessment
- Annual Health Assessment and Immunization Compliance Reporting

Recommended Immunization Schedules

- Notice of Immunization Requirements by grade
- Grade Level Requirements-English
- Grade Level Requirements-Spanish

Influenza is a virus spread from infected persons to the nose or throat of another. Influenza can cause fever, sore throat, chills, coughs, headache, and muscle aches. A yearly vaccination is available.

Meningococcal disease is a serious illness caused by bacteria. It is an infection of the brain and spinal cord coverings and can cause blood infections. The vaccine for this is required for individuals entering 7th grade or by the age of 12.

For more information on these and other vaccines go to the <u>Centers for Disease Control & Prevention</u>.

Please contact your district's <u>Health Services</u> office (James Newman) at (910) 671-6000 ext. 3550) for further information.