

Early College High School at East Carolina

A Partnership of Pitt County Schools, East Carolina University, and Pitt Community College

Report to the ECU Faculty Senate

“Learn and Earn will provide a new model of high school that will boost graduation rates, boost college-going rates, and boost the preparedness of our students to work in an economy that demands knowledge, talent, and skills.”

Gov. Mike Easley press release, Sept. 8, 2004

What is an early college high school?

- A small, autonomous, nonresidential high school located on a college campus – providing “power of place”
- Supported by Governor Easley’s Learn and Earn initiative, New Schools Project, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the State Department of Public Instruction; list of early college high schools in NC <http://www.newschoolsproject.org/current.html>
- In four years (grades 9 – 12), students earn an NC high school diploma AND 60 semester hours of college credit
- Maximum enrollment of 400 students (At ECU beginning with 40 freshmen)
- NC has 42 early college high schools with 77 scheduled by end of 2008.
- The school includes high school courses taught by high school teachers (employed by PCS) and college/university courses taught by university (ECU) and community college (PCC) faculty at ECU.
- “. . . places for learning, designed to help young people progress toward the education and experience they need to succeed in life and family-supporting careers.”

Why create an early college high school at ECU?

- The class of 2007 in NC represented only 69 percent of the students who had started high school four years ago. The early college high school movement is designed to provide another avenue for offering a high school education and promoting higher education.
- The ECHS provides opportunity for students who have potential for success but may fall through the cracks at a comprehensive high school.
- The ECHS provides small school enrollment (max. of 400), more counselor and other support, and, through exposure to the world of higher education, motivation to stay in school and aspire to college.
- The ECHS provides free tuition for 60 hours of college credit; graduates of ECHS will be eligible for additional financial support in completing a four-year degree.
- The ECHS provides opportunities for integrated high school curriculum and modeling of innovative learning in a smaller setting, with the hope of applying those ideas to larger settings.
- The ECHS provides an avenue to study high school, community college, and university curricula to see how they relate and what we can learn from each other.
- ECU is the largest (and best) educator of teachers in North Carolina; our students will benefit from the opportunity to learn about and participate through tutoring and practica in this significant educational movement.

What is the curriculum and who are the teachers?

- **Course work to complete high school graduation requirements and to support teacher education as a higher education goal**
- **High school courses taught by high school teachers on ECU campus**
- **Selected university and community college courses taught on ECU campus that can be used dually to meet high school graduation requirements and university foundations curriculum requirements; tutoring, mentoring, and other assistance provided by COE and other students in counseling, curriculum instruction, etc., to support student success in regular college courses**
- **No AP courses; regular courses from ECU and PCC – tentative program of study as follows:**
 - 9th - **courses taught in cohort - HLTH 1000, EXSS 1000, CIS 110, ACA 111 – 40 seats first year; 100 seats per year thereafter**
 - 10th - **ENGL 1100 and 1200 in cohort of 25; MUSC 2248, HIST 1050, and 1051 with college students – 40 seats 2nd year; 100 seats per year thereafter**
 - 11th - **ENGL 1000, MATH 1065, PSYC 1000, COMM 2410/231, ART 1910, foreign language, if possible – 40 seats 3rd year; 100 seats per year thereafter**
 - 12th - **ELEM 2123, EDUC 3200, SPED 2000, BIOL 1060/1061, major course, SOCI 2110/SOC 210, ART 1910/111 – 40 seats 4th year; 100 seats per year thereafter**

How will the ECHS at ECU be funded?

- **\$1,435,000 grant total for five years to start up this new school, including textbooks, college liaison, evaluation, support positions, NSP coach, faculty development – granted through PCS**
- **State and Pitt County funding – four high school teachers in first year, principal, counselor; other support; ADM earned by enrollment**
- **State Department of Public Instruction – ECU tuition and fees; transportation**
- **PCC – ADM for tuition**
- **Additional grants to be sought**

Where will the ECHS be located?

- **Under consideration. Initial year will need office space for principal, counselor, and 4 teachers, as well as two classrooms. Classes to be taught 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

When is the ECHS at ECU scheduled to begin?

- **Fall Semester 2008**
- **Will follow the ECU calendar**

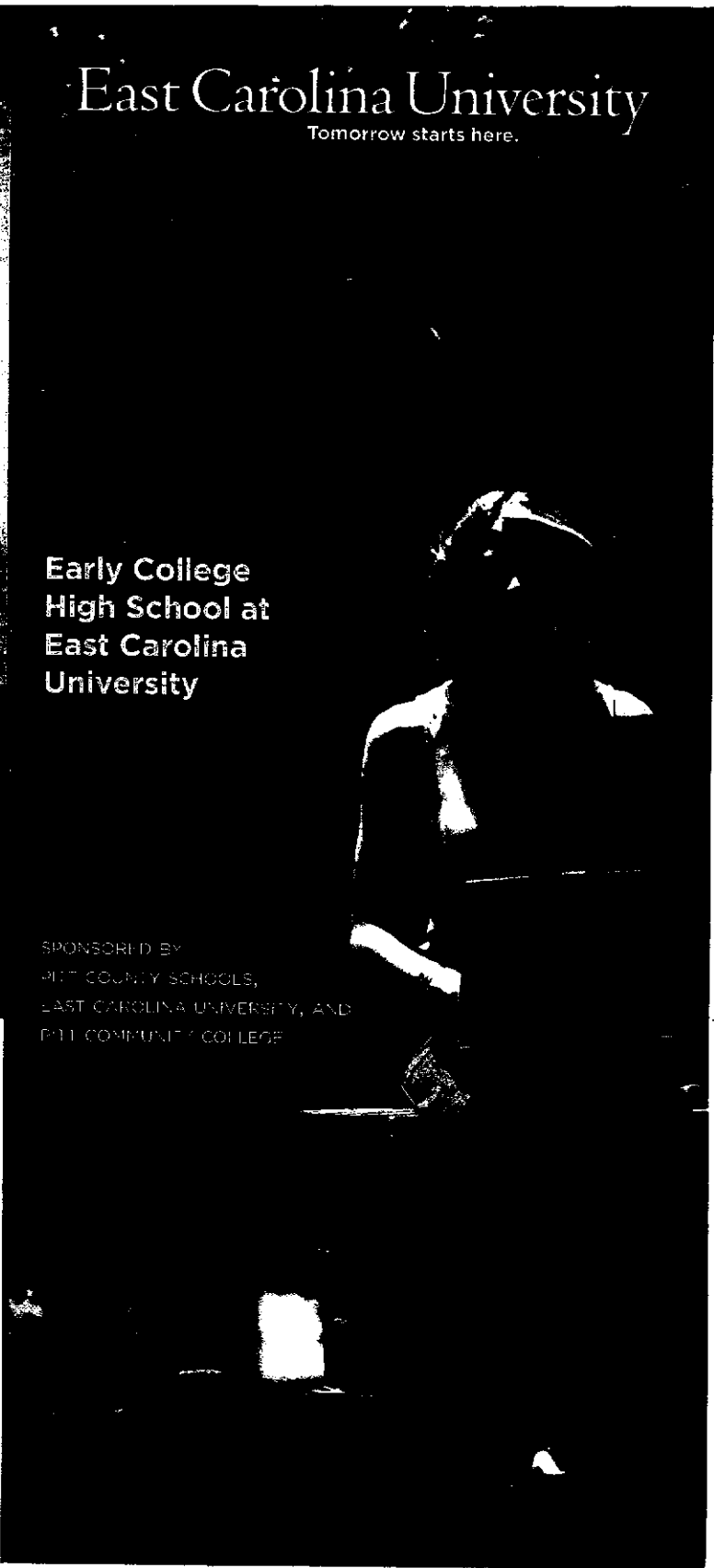


East Carolina University

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Early College High School at East Carolina University

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EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY, AND
PITT COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Pitt County
Schools

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Stepping into Your Future

A college experience can make a big difference in your future. It opens your mind to new ideas and brings many rewards. You'll find it easier to choose a career and enjoy a professional salary with a college degree.

The Early College High School at East Carolina University can help make your college education possible sooner than you think. You'll spend your high school years on the East Carolina University campus, taking college-level classes while completing your high school graduation requirements. You'll also have smaller class sizes, with more individual attention.

You'll have the chance to prepare for a career in teaching as part of your high school experience.

Graduates of the ECHS will be ready to start college with almost two years of course work completed.

What is the Early College High School?

The ECHS replaces a traditional high school experience. It provides four years of high school education on the ECU campus. It is a partnership among Pitt County Schools, ECU, and Pitt Community College.

Is it high school or college?

It's a little of both. Students can take college-level classes and graduate with college credit. It can also serve as preparation for a career in teaching.

- No college tuition charges
- First class of ninth-graders begins in fall 2008
- Classes held on ECU campus
- Special graduation ceremony
- Ideal for students who want to become teachers or teacher assistants

What are the advantages of the Early College High School?

Earning college credit without paying tuition can be a big cost-saver for families. It can also speed up your studies if you think you want to be a teacher.

What's more, students will be encouraged to practice teaching skills by serving as mentors and tutors in Pitt County Schools.

While enrolled in the ECHS, students can use the university's Student Recreation Center, J. Y. Joyner Library, and other campus resources. East Carolina's rec center is one of the largest, best-equipped facilities of its kind on the East Coast. Joyner is the largest library in the state east of Interstate 95.

Exercise and physical education classes, art, instrumental music, and other areas of personal interest may be studied. There are no formal sports teams associated with this program.

While the ECHS does not offer Advanced Placement (AP) classes, students will take college-level courses. Students will also be able to pursue an associate degree from Pitt Community College.

Is the Early College High School right for me?

Give these questions some serious thought:

- Are you a Pitt County resident?
- Can you commit to the program for four years?
- Do you think you want to become an educator?
- Are you interested in attending college?
- Do you make mostly As and Bs?
- Do you enjoy individual attention from your teachers?
- Do you enjoy a challenge?

When can I apply?

Applications and more information about the Early College High School will be available in January 2008. Admission is open to eighth-graders only for fall admission as ninth-graders. ECHS will grow to four hundred students by fall 2011.

Visit our partners online.

Pitt County Schools

Dr. Beverly Reep, superintendent
www.pitt.k12.nc.us

East Carolina University

Dr. Steve Ballard, chancellor
www.ecu.edu

Pitt Community College

Dr. Dennis Massey, president
www.pitt.cc.nc.us

The Early College High School at East Carolina University is a North Carolina Early College on the campus of ECU. It is part of the New Schools Project in North Carolina, a project of the Governor's Office supported by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

www.newschoolsproject.org

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