

**RESOLUTION OF THE CURRITUCK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUPPORTING A HIGH SCHOOL CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
DIPLOMA TRACK**

WHEREAS, as not all students want to or need to go to a four-year college as evidence presented by myFutureNC on November 4, 2022 shows that in 2021, 51% of high school graduates enrolled in a post-secondary institution after graduation in 2021 (myFutureNC11/4/22); and

WHEREAS, North Carolina currently recognizes only one pathway to high school graduation for all students that is in accordance with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Future-Ready Course of Study; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's current math requirements for all students are NC Math 1 (Algebra I), Math 2 (Geometry) and Math 3 (Algebra II, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus), plus a fourth math course; and

WHEREAS, the current math requirement for North Carolina high school student graduation may present a barrier for students, increasing the number of dropouts which potentially contributes to 84% of Currituck 9th graders completing high school in four years as shown by the myFutureNC November 4, 2022 report; and

WHEREAS, students could benefit from personalized learning options to include technical math courses as evidenced by Currituck's Math I and Math 3 performance of 63% and 39%, respectively, and by data that indicates Currituck County students completed 152 Career and Technical Education concentrations in 2021; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's educational system should be designed to allow all K-12 students a personalized education as approved in the North Carolina State Board of Education Strategic Plan 2019-2025; and

WHEREAS, offering students a personalized education experience in K-12 would give students a direct pathway to the region's community college, College of the Albemarle (COA), that provides numerous opportunities for students to transform their future through career and technical pathways as well as those seeking four-year university experiences, and

WHEREAS, students and local communities could benefit from the certifications, diplomas and degrees available through College of The Albemarle, contributing to positive economic impacts throughout the region;

and

WHEREAS, renewed emphasis should be placed on opportunities for high school students to pursue professional/technical certificates through Career and College Promise and Career and Technical Education (Vocational Education) pathways; and

WHEREAS, students earning a trade or vocational diploma can enter into meaningful careers and accrue little to no student loan or college debt; and

WHEREAS, there must be a joining together of practice, policy and law to support all students with meeting their educational and career goals as identified by the North Carolina State Board of Education's Strategic Plan 2019-2025, to eliminate opportunity gaps and to improve school and district performance as identified by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Truitt's Operation Polaris, Reforming Accountability and Testing Vision, and to transform North Carolina's K-12 accountability system to ensure a sound, basic education for every student by measuring success based on preparedness for the workforce, higher education and robust civic participation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Currituck County Board of Commissioners that:

Section 1. Currituck County requests that the North Carolina State Board of Education amend the career and college-ready graduation requirement framework to provide an additional secondary diploma track that recognizes and values Career and College Promise and Career and Technical Education (Vocational Education).

Section 2. Currituck County supports the recommendation of the Currituck County Board of Education that a Career and Technical Education (Vocational Education) diploma track include:

- Technical Math course options after the completion of Math II
- Informational Literacy as it relates to Career and College Promise, Career and Technical Education (Vocational Education).

Section 3. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the county's legislative delegation and State Department of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt.

ADOPTED the 6th day of February, 2023.

Bob White, Chairman

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

(COUNTY SEAL)