

Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA) Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106

It is the goal of Quality Education Academy (QEA) to offer parents and guardians access to information regarding student achievement via the school's Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA).

Should you wish to obtain paper copies of this document and its contents, you can make a request through the school's main office.

The North Carolina General Assembly recently passed Senate Bill 49—Parents Bill of Rights. This act was voted on to enumerate the rights of parents to direct the upbringing, education, healthcare, and mental health of minor children.

As more information and guidance about the Parents' Bill of Rights is made available from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, we will provide it to you by posting on our school website.

QEA values parental involvement. North Carolina General Statute §115C-76.25 provides a list of parental rights. While pre-existing board policy addresses many of these rights, future changes in board policy to address these rights will be added to this notice. Citations to existing Board policies on the same subject matter are included below.

Parents have the right to withhold consent for their children to participate in all or part of a reproductive health and safety program or other program about sexually transmitted diseases or avoiding out-of-wedlock pregnancy. If you wish for your child to opt-out from participating in all or part of any such program, contact your child's principal and identify the portion(s) of the program for which you are withdrawing consent.

In accordance with North Carolina State law (S.L. 2023-106; Senate Bill 49), parents have legal rights with regard to their child's education, including the following:



- **1.** The right to consent or withhold consent for participation in reproductive health and safety education programs, consistent with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 115C-81.30.
- **2.** The right to seek a medical or religious exemption from immunization requirements, consistent with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 130A-156 and N.C.G.S. § 130A-157.
- 3. The right to review statewide standardized assessment results as part of the State report card.
- **4.** The right to request an evaluation of their child for an academically or intellectually gifted program, or for identification as a child with a disability, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 115C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- **5.** The right to inspect and purchase public school unit textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials, as provided in Part 3 of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- **6.** The right to access information relating to the unit's policies for promotion or retention, including high school graduation requirements.
- **7.** The right to receive student report cards on a regular basis that clearly depict and grade the student's academic performance in each class or course, the student's conduct, and the student's attendance.
- **8.** The right to access information relating to the State public education system, State standards, report card requirements, attendance requirements, and textbook requirements.
- **9.** The right to participate in parent-teacher organizations.
- **10.** The right to opt in to certain data collection for their child, as provided in Part 5 of this Article and Article 29 of Chapter 115C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- **11.** The right for students to participate in protected student information surveys only with parental consent, as provided in Part 5 of this Article.
- 12. The right to review all available records of materials their child has borrowed from a school library.



The information below provides the school policies and resources to support many of the components listed above:

1a) 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. N.C. Grade Level Promotion Guide.
	Quality Education Academy's Promotion Policy: Retention may occur if a scholar is not experiencing appropriate success with grade level content. Scholars are promoted or retained based on growth demonstrated in scholar portfolio, formative and summative assessments. The teacher will notify the parent concerning a possible need for retention by the second reporting period. Scholars must attend school at least 150 days to be promoted.
	Earning Course Credit (Classes included on high school transcript): Scholars must complete 18 weeks of course work and earn a passing grade to earn credit for each course taken. The teacher will notify the parent concerning a possible need for repeating a course within the first nine weeks.
	The following information covers minimum state graduation requirements from the state to earn a diploma and graduate. <u>Information on NC High School Graduation Requirements.</u>
1b) 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 following standards can be found on the website below: • 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.

NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website

QEA's instructional leadership team and teachers determine how to teach these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc.

Access the links below to understand the curriculum at QEA as well as our philosophy for selecting supplemental materials for instruction:

<u>Culturally Responsive Approach</u> QEA System Development Model

At the beginning of each year, the principal and teachers shall communicate to parents how textbooks are used to implement the curricular objectives in their child's classes. Teachers shall also provide a syllabus or other information explaining the major topics to be covered over the course of the class and identifying the textbooks and primary supplementary materials that will be used in the class. Teachers shall periodically update parents regarding changes in the curriculum and additional materials used in the class.

Access information regarding a child's assignments, including homework assignments, and



	the child's attendance and progress through the Parent Portal.
	Quality Education Academy offers dual enrollment with Forsyth Technical Community College (FTCC), allowing students to explore careers and acquire credentials. Access information on the Career and College Promise program through this link .
1c) How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?	Quality Education Academy shares the progress of students through a variety of ways. Progress reports (every 4.5 weeks) and report cards (every 9 weeks) are sent to parents in order to communicate student academic strengths and any areas for improvement. Feedback on conduct is also included.
	Parent and Family Engagement Policy Scholar-Parent Handbook
	Access information regarding a child's assignments, including attendance and academic progress through the <u>Parent Portal</u> .
	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.
	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 NCSIS (PowerSchool). 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.



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	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, and progress monitoring. QEA also shares student's academic growth progress by providing parents with iReady progress reports and NC Check-In score reports.
1d) What are the qualifications of my child's teachers?	Parents may look up your child's teacher licensure status at this website Link to the licensure website. 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 our office at (336) 744-7138 or by email at qualityeducation@qeschools.org to verify an educator's licensure status. Parents Right to Know
1e) What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?	Quality Education Academy is a tuition-free public school. Access the Enrollment Information here . The following are the North Carolina 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: <u>GS_130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov)</u> <u>NC GS 130 A-152</u> <u>graphic</u> (*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 lmmunizations Resources

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

2a) 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 Quality Education Academy to stay connected and learn how to support them.

QEA Resources:

Scholar-Parent Handbook

School-Parent Compact (QEA Commitment to Excellence)



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.

Parent Guides for <u>ELA</u> Parent Guide for <u>ELD</u>

Math Parent Guides: <u>K-5</u>, <u>6-8</u> <u>Social Studies Parent Guides</u> Science Parent Guides

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 to digital resources. For paper copies, please contact the school's main office: 336-744-7138. DCRI Printables for Families
2b) How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?	
2c) How can a parent help their child to strengthen the realization of high expectations and setting lifelong learning goals?	
2d) How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?	Communication with parents and families is very important to us. Our school website is the one way that we communicate with parents, students and the community Quality Education Academy Website . The website provides information about activities and events specific to the school community. QEA also provides paper memos and flyers to parents during the student arrival and dismissal process, providing paper copies of announcements, memos and forms to parents directly. Additionally, Quality Education Academy uses the following platforms for communication between home/school Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/qeschools) Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/qeschoolsNC/) Youtube (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqjfaWNWjxbF6rNtRFAK6TQ/videos)



Tips for Parents:

- Visit the Curriculum and Instruction website for parent/family resources.
- Stay informed of school activities by visiting the school website and reviewing newsletters and notes sent home.
- Check PowerSchool weekly for missing assignments and current grades.
- Review progress reports and report cards with your child. Set goals with your child.
- Communicate with your child's teacher about his/her progress and upcoming events.
- Talk to your child about his/her school experience. Indicate to your child that you
 expect school to be a positive experience.
- Encourage daily reading by providing opportunities for your child to read both fiction and non-fiction books and articles.
- Utilize digital resources to support your child's individual learning.

Conferences:

Teachers and parents working together can help a child reach his/her potential; therefore, we encourage and welcome conferences. Parent conferences may be scheduled at any time before or after the instructional day. Contact your child's teacher through e-mail or voicemail if you would like to request a conference. Scheduled parent conferences will be held before school or after school by appointment only. Teachers will not be interrupted to receive phone calls during the school day.

The following are NCDPI developed parent guides that provide suggestions for building strong relationships with your child's teacher and supporting communication between home and school.

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



	Program)
	Additional general parent guides and parent resource webinar recordings can be found at the <u>following website</u> .
3) What services are available for parents and their children?	After school tutoring/enrichment is available for students to enhance the classroom learning experiences and provide interventions in reading in math. QEA teachers serve as after school tutors in the P.O.P. After School Program.
	Quality Education Academy offers counseling services for all grade levels within the school. Beginning in 8th grade, all QEA students are assigned a counselor. With their school counselor, students develop a plan and set goals towards graduation. Students can begin to take classes at Forsyth Technical Community College in 10th grade.
	CFNC & NCSEAA: What You Need to Know About the Better FAFSA
	Counseling services are available for parents and families through Hope Counseling and Consulting Services. Access more information about this organization



	Parent and Family Engagement
5. What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?	Quality Education Academy provides a range of options for students to explore and develop their interests and skills at their academic level. At QEA, 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), advanced instruction, dual enrollment courses) Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and may be within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and Other opportunities for extension of content standard.
	Advanced Instruction: Advanced instruction is differentiated learning that has a faster pace than standard grade level instruction. Advanced instruction offers additional rigor, complexity and creativity.
	Career and College Promise (CCP): QEA partners with Forsyth Technical Community College to offer dual enrollment opportunities through the CCP program. If your high school student qualifies, students may earn high school and college credit. CCP courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families. To learn more about this program, contact your child's high school counselor or principal.
	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.

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, visit the Governor's School website, www.ncgovschool.org.

QEA also offers the Purpose Over Power (P.O.P.) After School Program. For more information about this program, click <u>here</u>.

6) What school choices are available for my child?

Quality Education Academy is a public charter school. Charter schools are public schools of choice that are authorized by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. State and local tax dollars are the primary funding sources for charter schools, which have open enrollment and cannot discriminate in admissions, associate with any religion or religious group, or charge-tuition. Charter schools operate with freedom from many of the regulations that govern district schools, but charter schools are held accountable through the State assessment and accountability system.

Visit NC charter school for information, resources, and contacts of charter schools.

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

Nonpublic education is overseen by the <u>NC Department of Administration</u>.

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
7) 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. Parents Rights Handbook Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish) IDEA Dispute Resolution Special Education Surrogate Parents QEA Policies: https://www.qeschools.org/exceptional-children The Exceptional Children Division of North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is looking for all children and youth ages birth through 21 with special needs who may not be receiving the help needed. These include children and youth with physical disabilities, emotional disabilities and/or intellectual disabilities, and children and youth with suspected disabilities who are highly mobile, migrant and/or homeless. If your child has a disability, or you suspect that he/she may have a disability please contact the school's Exceptional Children Coordinator at 5012 Lansing Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27105 or call (336) 744-7138 or (336) 666-2323.
8) What is the contact information	Parents and guardians may contact Quality Education Academy at (336)-744-7138.



for the school?	Quality Education Academy Website Quality Education Academy Staff Directory
9) What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?	Quality Education Academy has an in-house nurse service available to students. Information about our school's counseling and mental health partner, Hope Counseling and Consulting Services, is accessible here. 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 - Expected Immunization Schedules - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements Information about Influenza, Meningococcal disease, and HPV are accessible at the embedded links or on the School Health webpage.