



Riverside Leadership Academy

Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA)

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

It is the goal of Riverside Leadership Academy to offer parents and guardians access to information regarding student achievement via the district'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 your child's respective school.

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: https://www.ncleg.gov/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/ByArticle/Chapter_115C/Article_8.pdf The Executive Director shall consider the following criteria when making decisions regarding student promotions: 1. Satisfactory performance on all relevant state End-of-Grade (EOG) assessments 2. Passing final grades in core academic classes 3. Satisfactory performance on PBL project content and presentations 4. Satisfactory classroom performance on all teacher-initiated standards and criteria for advancement and promotion in core academic classes 5. Daily Attendance records
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 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. At Riverside Leadership Academy, a project-based learning approach is used to teach the NCSCOS for all content areas.
1c) How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?	Riverside Leadership Academy 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. Parents have access to gradebooks in Infinite Campus to check grades regularly.



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 (Infinite Campus).

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 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.

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.

Parents and caregivers may view Riverside Leadership Academy aligned literacy resources with their scholar's teacher.

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.
1d) What are the qualifications of my child's teachers?	Parents may look up your child's teacher licensure status at 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 Riverside Leadership Academy's Human Resources office to verify an educator's licensure status.
1e) What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?	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: GS 130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov) NC GS 130 A-152 graphic (*this law was amended but is not reflected on the current GA page; see SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov), 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 - Expected Immunization Schedules - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements
2a) Parental actions that can... strengthen the child's academic progress, especially in the area of reading as provided in Part 1A of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the NCGS.	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: Parent Guides for Academic Standards: The above link provides 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. This link covers ELA Parent Guides Math Parent Guides: K-5, 6-8 Social Studies Parent Guides Science Parent Guide



	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 Digital Children's Reading Initiative (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 Annie Galban, Instruction and School Culture Coordinator: agalban@riversideleadershipacademy.org.
2b) Parental actions that can... strengthen the child's citizenship, especially social skills and respect for others.	Riverside Leadership Academy embeds Portrait of a Graduate skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and will support a child's understanding of citizenship, social skills and respect for others. Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository



	NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills. Parents are encouraged to partner with their student services teams in their work to support academic achievement, develop interpersonal skills, strengthen mental wellness, and explore career activities after graduation. School counseling, psychological services, and social work staff encourage students to learn skills in emotional regulation to support healthy decision-making skills and emotional development.
2c) Parental actions that can... Strengthen the child's realization of high expectations and set lifelong learning goals.	Riverside Leadership Academy 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. Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills.
2d) Parental actions that can... place strong emphasis on the communication between the school and the home.	Communication with parents and families is very important to us. Our website is the primary way that we communicate with parents, students and the community: www.riversideleadershipacademy.org. Additionally, Riverside Leadership Academy uses the following platforms for communication between home/school ○ Infinite Campus ○ Class Dojo ○ Google Classroom



- Facebook
(<https://www.facebook.com/RiversideLeadershipAcademy>)
- Instagram (www.instagram.com/riversideleadershipacademy)

Social Media Policy

Tips for Parents:

- Stay informed of school activities by visiting school websites, registering your class Dojo and Google Classroom accounts, and reviewing newsletters.
- Check Infinite Campus 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.
- Monitor homework by ensuring your child completes his/her homework and it is turned in on time.
- 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. Check school and teacher websites for more details. You can also access the curriculum through the Curriculum and Instruction Parent Canvas Course.

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. 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)
3) What services are available for parents and their children?	Open House: RLA hosts an open house each year at the beginning of the school year. At this event, parents are able to meet teachers and staff, learn about the school and what we offer in an administrative presentation, meet with support staff as needed, and connect with the school through a variety of platforms to include: email, Infinite Campus, Class Dojo, and Google Classroom. Curriculum Event: RLA will host at least two curriculum nights, where parents can come to the school to learn about Title I funding, and how to support their scholars academically. This will include teaching parents more about project-based learning, testing and accountability, and social-emotional skills. Presentations of Learning: Scholars at every grade level participate in authentic presentations of learning as a part of our project based learning curriculum approach. These presentations are generally a capstone of a project, sometimes by class, sometimes by grade level, and sometimes cross-curricular. The presentations are authentic because scholars are presenting to more than just their class peers. Oftentimes community members, expert panels, other classes, and parents are invited



	to these events. Family Literacy Services: RLA is opening a library this year to support literacy for our scholars. Additionally, information goes home to parents about how to support their scholar's literacy at home in each grade level. Literacy at Home: The Digital Children's Reading Initiative, developed by NCDPI, presents literacy activities tailored to each grade level, spanning from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.
4) What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?	Parents are encouraged to participate in a variety of school-based opportunities. Student-led conferences are held quarterly, volunteer opportunities within the classroom and on fieldtrips, authentic presentations of learning for projects, school-based volunteer opportunities like assisting with lunch distribution or volunteering time with the Pirate Support Network (PSN). Additionally, RLA's charter requires a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) which consists of a parent from each grade level, voted on by peer parents. The PAC meets monthly with the Executive Director to provide insights on parent, scholar, and school community needs.
5. What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?	Riverside Leadership Academy offers a variety of options for students to pursue their interests, skills at their academic level. At RLA, there are the following programs available that are more rigorous and challenging than the standard content for students: Differentiated Project-Based Learning across grade levels.



	Riverside Leadership Academy's Project-Based Learning curriculum approach allows for specific opportunities for differentiated and rigorous instruction. At RLA, students are often provided the following: • Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups; • Accelerated opportunities (subject and/or grade acceleration as needed) • 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.
6) What school choices are available for my child?	Riverside Leadership Academy is a public charter school located in Craven County, offering families the choice to attend here in lieu of the assigned district school in Craven or the surrounding counties. Any student who lives in North Carolina can attend RLA. Charter Schools 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.



	If you are interested in NC charter schools, visit NC charter school for information, resources, and contacts. Outside of RLA, there is school choice within the assigned district school system, as well as local private schools.
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. Parent Rights Handbook Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish) IDEA Dispute Resolution Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) Project Child Find Project Child Find (Spanish)
8) What is the contact information for the schools and district office?	<u>RLA Main Office Email:</u> mainoffice@riversideleadershipacademy.org <u>Phone:</u> 252-276-2150 <u>Address:</u> 1955 Old Airport Road New Bern NC, 28562



9) What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?

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 , Seventh Grade, and Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements](#)