



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

It is the goal of Bear Grass Charter School 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 the 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. 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.](#)

For information about Bear Grass Charter School's Promotion and Accountability procedures and Graduation Requirements, please click [here](#).

<https://beargrasscharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/24-25-Student-Handbook.docx.pdf>

The following information covers minimum state graduation requirements from the state to earn a diploma and graduate. It also covers specific cohort information. Local school districts and other public school units may require additional courses and credits to graduate. [Information on NC High School Graduation Requirements.](#)



	<p>For more information on Bear Grass Charter School's graduation requirements, please refer to pg 40: https://beargrasscharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/24-25-Student-Handbook.docx.pdf</p>
<p>1b) What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website</p> <p>Local districts, schools and teachers determine how to teach these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc.</p>



HEALTHFUL LIVING: Reproductive Health and Safety

Bear Grass Charter School is committed to a sound school health program that provides students with accurate information and encourages them to be responsible for their own health and behavior. The school recognizes the primary role of parents/guardians in providing for the health and well-being of their children and seeks to involve parents/guardians in the schools. The school health education program provided by the school will meet all requirements established by state and federal law. The school's health education program will meet all objectives in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study adopted by the State Board of Education.

The healthy living curriculum is taught at Bear Grass Charter School in grades 8-9, in conjunction with reproductive health (family life education) and safety education. Every effort has been made to provide your child with quality family life education instruction. Teachers have received professional training and will only teach approved curriculum material, supplements, and outside professionals when teaching this curriculum in the classroom.

Each school will communicate with parents prior to beginning the Reproductive Health and Safety Unit. All parents/guardians have the right to "opt out" of this unit. If you choose to exclude your child, you must do so in writing to the principal and teacher stating you do not want your child to participate. Alternate and comparable assignments will be given.



	<p>Bear Grass Charter School offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses, allowing students to explore careers and acquire credentials. Access information on CTE Career Clusters, Pathways, Course Details, Credentials, and Course Standards can be obtained from Mrs. Amy Robinette, CTE Director.</p> <p><u>NC Course Management System</u></p>
<p>1c) How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?</p>	<p>BGCS 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. Students and parents also have 24/7 access to real-time grades and attendance in Infinite Campus.</p>



The NC **transcript** contains grades from all high school classes, weighted and unweighted Grade Point Average (GPA), standardized test data and student demographics. Students may ask for an unofficial transcript at any time. BGCS provides each senior with official transcripts at no charge (for college applications, programs, scholarships, etc.). In addition, there is no charge for mid-year senior transcript, final transcript after graduation, and transcript for any award or scholarship requested.

State Assessments:

Individual Student Reports for end-of-grade/course tests and other state assessments are available in the Student Portal.

All NC students take end-of-grade assessments for reading and math in grades 6-8.

Students take end-of-grade science assessments in grade 8. 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.



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 school office at 252-789-1010 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: <https://beargrasscharter.org/about-us/bgcs-admissions-and-enrollment/>
- 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
 - [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 your child's school to stay connected and learn how to support them.

NECP Resources

NC DPI Resources: [Literacy at Home: Digital Children's Reading Initiative](#)

Parent Curriculum Resources (Middle 6 - 8): IXL, Read Theory, Common Lit, Newsela

Parent Curriculum Resources (High School 9 - 12): IXL, Common Lit, Quizlzz

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 [ELA](#)

Parent Guide for [ELD](#)

Math Parent Guides: [6-8](#)

[Social Studies Parent Guides](#)

[Science Parent Guides](#)



<p>2b) How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?</p>	<p>The 24-25 school year has adopted the SEL program “<u>Character Strong</u>”. The program has been integrated into our school from 6th to 12th grades. Character Strong is an evidence-based multi-tiered curriculum that is focused on fostering the whole child with lessons that teach social-emotional learning and character side-by-side. Character education involves developing thoughtful, healthy, and kind humanbeings. Our character is informed by our personal values and choices. Social-emotional competencies of <u>Character Strong</u> are self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.</p>
<p>) How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?</p>	<p>Communication with parents and families is very important to us. Our district website is the primary way that we communicate with parents, students and the community BGCS website, http://www.beargrasscharter.org . The website provides information about activities and events specific to the school community.</p> <p>Additionally, BGCS uses the following platforms for communication between home/school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Remind - https://www.remind.com/log_ino Facebook group – Bear Grass Charter School Informationo School webpage – www.beargrasscharter.org



Tips for Parents:

- Visit the Curriculum and Instruction website for parent/family resources.
- Stay informed of school activities by visiting school websites, registering your Infinite Campus parent account, and reviewing reports and notes.
- Check Infinite Campus weekly (grades 6-12) 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.

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.



	<p>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)</p> <p>Additional general parent guides and parent resource webinar recordings can be found at the following website.</p>
<p>3) What services are available for parents and their children?</p>	<p>Bear Grass Charter School hosts a Financial Aid night each year for parents to learn, about various scholarships, financial aid, and how to fill out the FAFSA (Federal Application for Federal Student Aid). The session is coordinated with a representative from CFNC.</p> <p>CFNC & NCSEAA: What You Need to Know About the Better FAFSA</p> <p>NC Promise Program</p>



<p>4) What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?</p>	<p>Volunteer information on pg. 7 of handbook: https://beargrasscharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/24-25-Student-Handbook.docx.pdf</p>
<p>5. What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?</p>	<p>Bear Grass Charter School provides a range of options for students to explore and develop their interests and skills at their academic level.</p> <p>Career & Technical Education (CTE) program description: <u>Pathways</u> Career Pathways are the heart of Career & Technical Education. A career pathway is a structured sequence of courses that lead to an industry credential, post-secondary employment or further training and development. The purpose of a career pathway is to guide students through a continuum of courses leading to the development of advanced technical skills.</p>



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.](#)



Honors Level Courses: BGCS students have access to a variety of honors level courses in high school.

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): NECP partners with Beaufort County Community College, Martin Community College and Pitt 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 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 BGCS Student Services.



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.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery is the process by which a student may earn credit for a high school course by demonstrating a deep understanding of the content without course enrollment or seat time.

Students will demonstrate mastery through a multiphase process, consisting of:

Phase 1: A standard examination (EOC where applicable) or a final exam developed locally; Score of 90% or higher on exam in order to proceed to Phase 2;

AND

Phase 2: A portfolio which requires the student to apply knowledge and skills relevant to the content standards.

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 an 4-week residential program at two college campus sites.



For more information on eligibility and the application process, contact your child's guidance counselor or visit the Governor's School website, www.ncgovschool.org.

Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics is a no-cost, state-funded program for academically talented North Carolina students who aspire to careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Students presently in the 10th or 11th grade in high school whose custodial parents or guardians established legal residency in North Carolina no later than December 1 of the current year can apply to this program. These students must have high academic ability and motivation and have a keen interest in science and mathematics. The program is not designed to provide incentive for students whose academic performance reflects a lack of self-motivation or discipline. Consideration is given to students whose abilities are not accurately reflected in grades and standardized test scores, such as those for whom English is a second language and those who have exceptionalities. Applications are completed online through CFNC.org beginning in October (students must know their CFNC ID). Students should see their counselor for more information. Official application information can be found at: <https://www.ncssm.edu/summerventures>.

Honor Graduates are classified as follows and weighted GPAs are not rounded up (graduation cords are given prior to graduation):

Summa Cum Laude 4.25 or higher

Magna Cum Laude 4.00-4.249

Cum Laude 3.75-3.99



6) What school choices are available for my child?

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.

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](#).



	<p>For information on how to start a homeschool visit: Homeschool Information</p> <p>Scholarship grant programs/voucher information is available via the NC State Education Assistance Authority</p>
<p>7) What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Special Education/Programs for Handicapped/Disabled/Exceptional Students (Policy 510410)</p> <p>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 your child's school or the Exceptional Children Coordinator.</p>



8) What is the contact information for the schools and district office?	Parents/guardians may contact Bear Grass Charter School at (252) 789-1010. BGCS – http://www.beargrasscharter.org
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
 - [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.