

Background of the 1:1 Laptop Initiative

The 1:1 Laptop Initiative is a partnership that has been formed to provide computers to students and teachers in school districts across the state of North Carolina. Focusing mainly on rural communities, the Initiative involves teachers and students using computers and other technology to facilitate interactive personalized learning experiences through specialized software applications like and the Internet.

Supported by the Office of Governor Mike Easley, the partners in the Initiative are providing the following:

- The William and Ida Friday Institute for Educational Innovation – Professional development and evaluation of the Initiative
- Golden LEAF – Student laptops and related technology applications
- SAS Institute, Inc. – Teacher laptops, professional development, and assistance with Curriculum Pathways
- The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction – Connectivity, professional development and other related applications
- The North Carolina New Schools Project – Professional development and implementation of the Initiative

Students attending Macon Early College and other participating schools will benefit as our state becomes more competitive in obtaining 21st century jobs. This Initiative will:

- Encourage collaboration between students, teachers and parents
- Teach problem-solving skills
- Sharpen teaching skills
- Encourage students to take ownership of learning
- Level the playing field between urban and rural communities
- Improve educational infrastructure
- Make classrooms look and function like the real world
- Develop best practices for repeatable success throughout the state

Goals for the Laptop Initiative



To improve equity of access to technology

To improve the quality of learning

To institute and support best practice in technology integration

To improve student learning of content

To institute formative assessments and differentiated instruction

To increase performance on standardized tests

To improve student ability to become lifelong learners

To improve the school-home connection

To prepare students for the world of work

To increase student engagement in the learning process

1:1 Computing: A Guidebook to Help You Make the Right Decisions. Special Section of Technology and Learning. Underwritten by HP Invent, Microsoft, Intel.