



**State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor**

20301 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

December 2007

Dear Parents,

This year, North Carolina high school students have the opportunity to get a jumpstart on college while they are still in high school. *Learn and Earn Online* is North Carolina's new program that allows high school students who have completed the prerequisite courses to take online college level classes at no charge. The General Assembly has provided the funds to make this possible. These classes count toward high school graduation requirements, and also earn college credit. The goal of *Learn and Earn* is to allow students to actually get an Associate Degree or two years of college credit with just one additional year of study at high school.

Learn and Earn Online is a partnership of my office, the state Department of Public Instruction, the University of North Carolina and the Department of Community Colleges. This innovative partnership provides access to courses during the regular school day. Courses can be taken online through the community colleges or the University of North Carolina-Greensboro's UNCG-i program. Nearly 300 high schools are now participating in *Learn and Earn Online*, and all high schools are expected to take part by next year.

There is a broad range of course offerings, from computer programming, psychology and criminology, to physical fitness, instructor pilot flight theory and business law. You can view the list of participating schools and the available online courses at www.ncpublicschools.org/learnandearnonline.

Learn and Earn Online provides qualified students the chance to earn college course credits before high school graduation. The guidance counselor at your high school can help you find out more about *Learn and Earn Online* and how to get your child registered for next semester's classes. Deadlines for class registration vary by school.

I encourage you to consider *Learn and Earn Online* carefully with your children, guidance counselors and teachers. In North Carolina, we are committed to bringing educational opportunity into every community for all families.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Easley".

Michael F. Easley