



North Carolina's Education Vision

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***Excellence* Education Innovation Lab**  
**Reimagining the Pipeline: Preparing PK-12 Teachers for *Excellence***

Thought leaders from around the state and nation gather to imagine innovative solutions for teacher recruitment and retention in North Carolina.

**Cary, NC (Sept 28, 2016)** – Today, BEST NC and RTI International host the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual [Excellence](#) Education Innovation Lab to discuss approaches to [Elevating Educators](#). The goal is to increase student achievement in North Carolina through better recruitment and retention of highly effective, well-prepared, diverse, and supported teachers. We want to innovate, inspire and reimagine the pipeline for excellence.

Across the country and in North Carolina, schools are increasingly unable to recruit and retain the best and brightest teachers to stay in the classroom. The 2016 Education Innovation Lab will kick off a conversation about how North Carolina might address systemic challenges and make teaching the life-long profession of choice for young career seekers, as well as experienced teachers.

This effort is a unique, nonpartisan collaboration of education stakeholder groups in the state from early childhood education to PK-12 to higher education, including educators, policymakers, business leaders, researchers, and philanthropists from across North Carolina and the country. Together we will build ideas and continue the commitment to transform PK-12 teacher recruitment and retention in our state.

The 2016 Education Innovation Lab is the first step toward creating an Innovation Team that will tackle one or more approaches for improving teacher recruitment and retention, which will commence in early-November. Videos and materials from the Innovation Lab will be released in early-October.

[View our 2016 Excellence Education Innovation Lab video to learn how we can prepare our PK-12 Teachers for \*Excellence\*](#)

For more information, visit the *Excellence* website: [www.ExcellenceNC.org](http://www.ExcellenceNC.org).

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**About BEST NC**

[BEST NC](#) (Business for Education Success and Transformation in North Carolina) is a non-profit, non-partisan coalition of over 130 business leaders who are committed to improving North Carolina's education system through policy and advocacy. Our vision is that every student in North Carolina will graduate with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors to succeed in a competitive global economy. Our mission is to unite an engaged and informed business perspective to build consensus toward dramatically transforming and improving education in North Carolina.

**About RTI International**

[RTI International](#) is one of the world's leading research institutes, dedicated to improving the human condition by turning knowledge into practice. Our staff of more than 3,700 provides research and technical services to governments and businesses in more than 75 countries in the areas of health and pharmaceuticals, education and training, surveys and statistics, advanced technology, international development, economic and social policy, and energy and the environment.