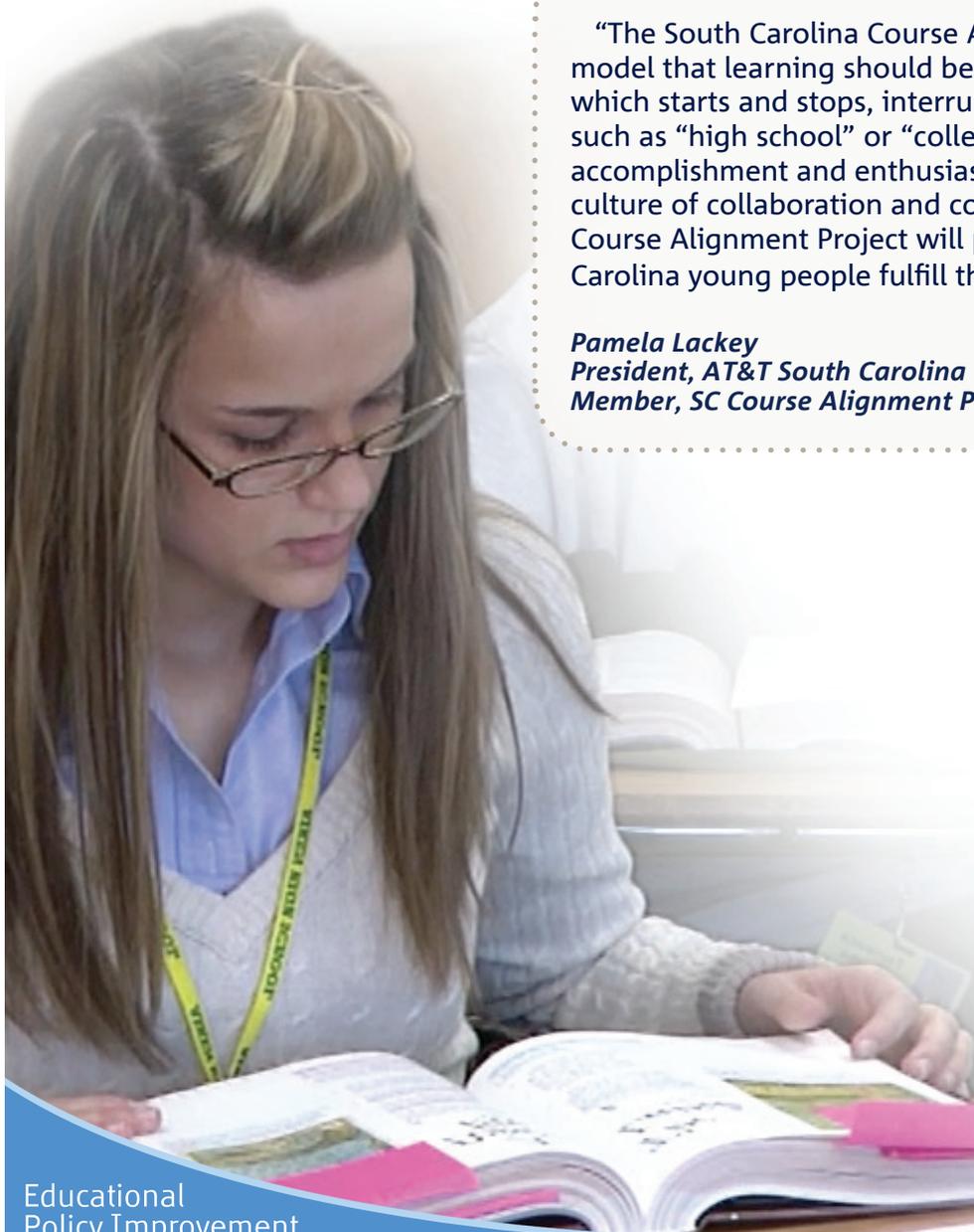


The South Carolina Course Alignment Project

Read what business and education leaders have to say about the nationally recognized South Carolina Course Alignment Project.

“The South Carolina Course Alignment Project wisely reflects the model that learning should be an ongoing process, not something which starts and stops, interrupted by artificial designations such as “high school” or “college.” By creating a continuum of accomplishment and enthusiasm among students as well as a culture of collaboration and cooperation among educators, the Course Alignment Project will play a significant role in helping South Carolina young people fulfill their potential and reach their dreams.”

Pamela Lackey
President, AT&T South Carolina
Member, SC Course Alignment Project Steering Committee



Established under the auspices of the Education and Economic Development Act of 2005,

The South Carolina Course Alignment Project

is an innovative statewide approach that builds educational partnerships between high schools and colleges. The project uses explicitly aligned paired courses in English, mathematics, and science to promote a seamless transition for students from high school to postsecondary education. Paired courses are two sequenced courses: an exit-level high school course which is deliberately aligned with an entry-level college course in the same curricular area.

As students move from South Carolina high schools to two- and four-year postsecondary institutions, they take courses that use parallel teaching methods, common scoring practices, and aligned course content that promote student success.

In each of the first three years of the project, the number of participating South Carolina faculty members has grown. These faculty members come from high schools, two- and four-year colleges, and universities from every region of South Carolina. They have designed the paired courses, tested course materials in their classrooms, collaborated between institutions, and trained in the practices of the project.

High school and college educators who have already taught in the program have engaged in meaningful discussions and activities that support the implementation of the best ways to approach teaching particular topics and in what order. These educators have also created opportunities for professional development and have scheduled joint faculty meetings with colleagues at other institutions.

By working collaboratively across institutions and systems, participating faculty members are actively implementing better ways to ensure the success of the students they teach and are helping to validate a statewide model for college readiness.

Video Testimonials

Engaging video testimonials by faculty members and students who have participated in the project can be found at www.epiconline.org/South_Carolina (please note the underscore character between the words "South" and "Carolina" in the web address). You are highly encouraged to view these short video testimonials to see for yourself how the project is helping to achieve one vital component of the strategic vision for education created by the Education and Economic Development Act.

Following are quotes from business and education leaders as well as participating faculty members about the South Carolina Course Alignment Project:

"South Carolina businesses are competing in the global economy where knowledge workers must have education beyond high school. The Course Alignment Project will significantly improve students' preparation to succeed when they enter college. This initiative will help our state attract high wage jobs and expand our economy. The business community fully supports this innovative project."

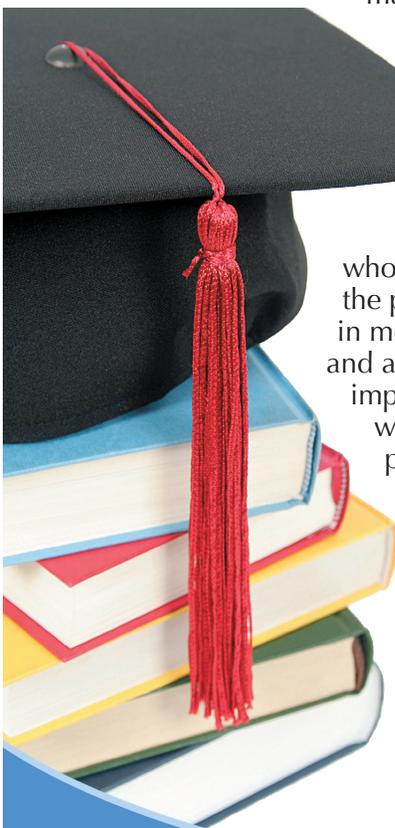
Jim Reynolds
Chief Executive Officer, Total Comfort Solutions
Member, Education & Economic Development
Coordinating Council

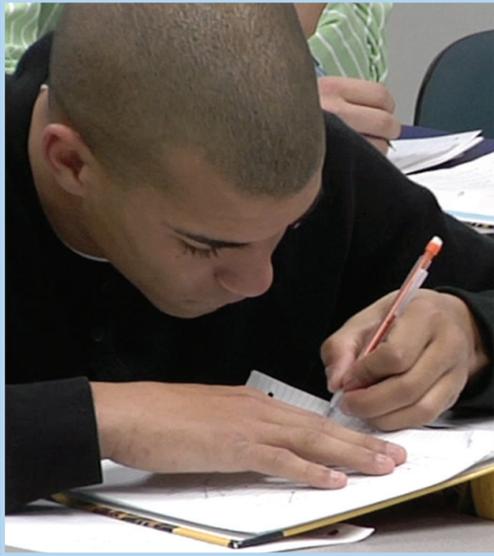
"We need to think about how we can involve teachers from other area high schools and broaden the conversations to include other professors. This will be an important direction for the future of this project."

Dr. Matt Nelson, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
Assistant Professor, English Department, Francis Marion University,
Florence, SC

"As a result of this project, my students have done more research, more multi-drafting, more reading, and have been tested on more college-level materials than in my previous four semesters of teaching this course."

Art Basler, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
English Teacher, South Pointe High School, Rock Hill, SC





“The Course Alignment Project has provided unprecedented opportunities for collaboration between faculty in high schools and in two- and four-year colleges and universities. This important work will help our high school students achieve higher levels of college readiness and success, and should also reduce the remediation that must take place after high school, thereby reducing costs at the college and university level.”

Anita G. Zucker
Chairperson and CEO, The InterTech Group
Member, Education & Economic Development Coordinating Council

“The Education and Economic Development Act recognized the critical connection between student success in high school and students being college ready. The Course Alignment Project is a significant collaboration of high school and college educators designed to do just that. I believe this standout EEDA initiative may be one of the most significant steps we have taken to assure college success and the future success of our graduates.”

Dr. Karen Woodward
Superintendent, Lexington County School District One
Member, Education and Economic Development Coordinating Council

“I have always felt there was a gap between the senior year of high school and the freshman year in college. The course materials [used in the project]—the rubrics, curricular guides, and suggestions for writing assignments—have been very helpful. Also, the connection with my partner, a professor at USC Aiken, has been great for me as a high school teacher. It really confirms what I’m trying to do.”

Francesca Pataro, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
English Teacher, Aiken HS, Aiken, SC

“Change has got to start somewhere. I am hoping that we can make these small changes to give teachers a guide for how to accomplish the project’s goals. Doing so could benefit everyone at any level.”

Jeremy Pruett, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
Biology Teacher, Spartanburg High School, Spartanburg, SC

“Working with the professors has helped me to fine tune what I do. The project has helped me to make the writing assignments a much more effective reflection of what will be expected of students in their freshman and even sophomore years in college.”

Carla Summersett, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
English Teacher, West Florence High School, Florence, SC

“My participation in the Course Alignment Project has really opened my eyes to the preparation students get in high school. The best thing that has come out of the project is being able to work with other professors and high school teachers, and to gain an understanding of what we expect at each level.”

Dr. Amy Pope, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
Instructor, Physics Department, Clemson University,
Clemson, SC

“Being involved in the Course Alignment Project really made me aware of my students’ skill level and their expectations for college. Having that knowledge helps me to meet students where they are and take them as far as I possibly can. Without a doubt, the most salient feature of the Course Alignment Project is the collaboration with members of my cluster and other clusters in my subject.”

Leslie Hendrix, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
Instructor, Statistical Literacy, University of South
Carolina, Columbia, SC

“High school students navigating the road to college or the workforce encounter conflicting signals and too many off-ramps. The problem lies in a lack of alignment between secondary and postsecondary education. In addressing this problem, the P-20 Council of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with the South Carolina Course Alignment Project to develop seamless education experiences for the youth of our state.”

Dr. Tony W. Johnson
Professor and Dean, The Citadel School of Education
Chair, The Education Foundation’s P-20 Council



“The South Carolina Course Alignment Project is one of the best ideas that South Carolina has had during my 31 years of teaching. I hope the economic trend does not hamper the ability for the project to form lasting roots in the education of our students.”

*John Kinard, SC CAP Pilot Implementer
Physics Teacher, Greenwood High School, Greenwood, SC*

“The Education and Economic Development Act seeks to ensure that every single high school student in this state experiences a more seamless transition to a higher education institution or the workplace. The South Carolina Course Alignment Project is a win-win for students, employers, and all of South Carolina.”

*Otis Rawl
President and CEO, South Carolina Chamber of Commerce
Member, Education & Economic Development Coordinating Council*

“As a member of the Education and Economic Development Coordinating Council, I fully support the South Carolina Course Alignment Project. The project enhances our students’ ability to recognize the relevance of their high school course work and the importance of that work in moving toward college. The collaboration between high school educators and college faculty helps students become more successful in their ability to complete a postsecondary education and become our future workforce. “

Val Richardson
Workforce Development Manager,
Palmetto Health
Member, Education & Economic
Development Coordinating Council

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