



BOONE
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BOONE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
"State of the Community"
Wednesday, October 1, 2025

CCC&TI FALL 2025 Enrollment



- 3849 Curriculum Students
- Caldwell Campus- 2766
- Watauga Campus- 1083
- Watauga HS- 277
- Watauga Innovation Academy- 168

CCC&TI Career & College Promise

For 2024 - 2025

- 515 WCS students earned 4,705 credit hours at CCC&TI
- Completed 14 college credentials
- Saved \$357,580 in tuition
- Automotive, Welding, Drafting, Nurse Aide, Transfer



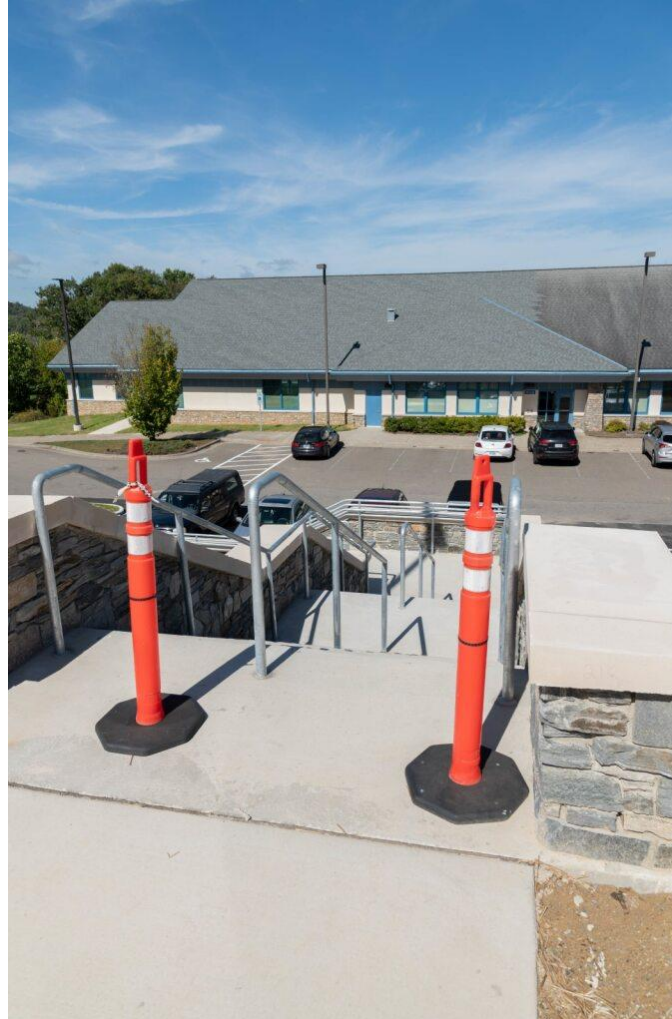
Valle Crucis School Update



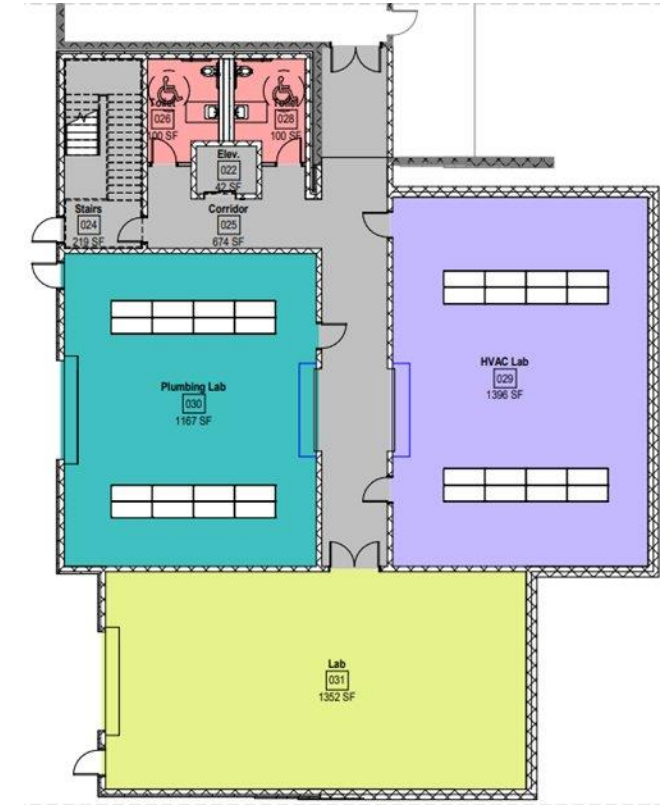
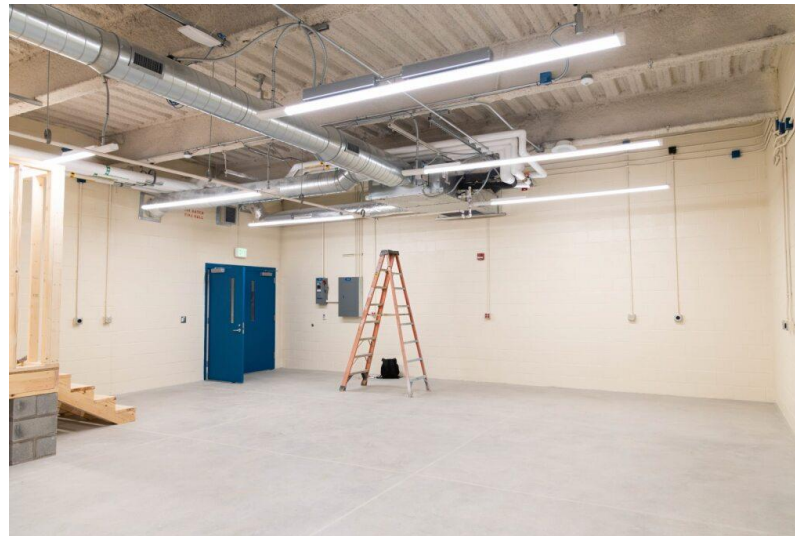
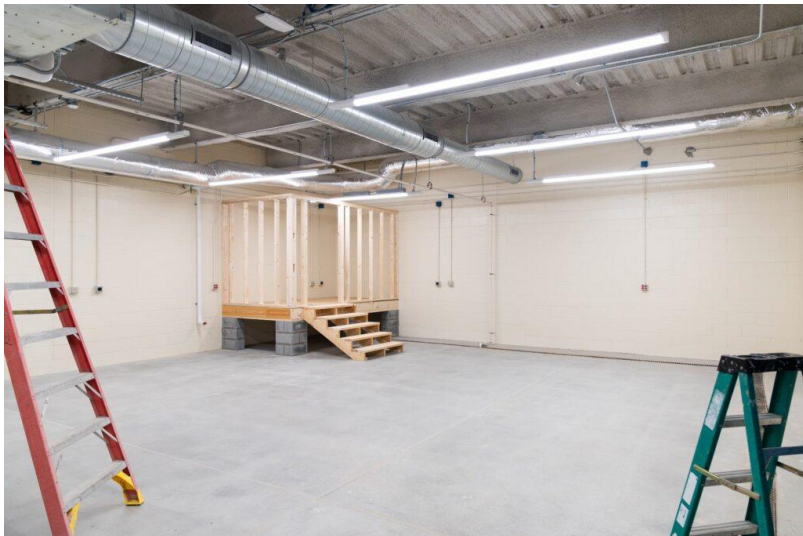
Watauga Campus Expansion



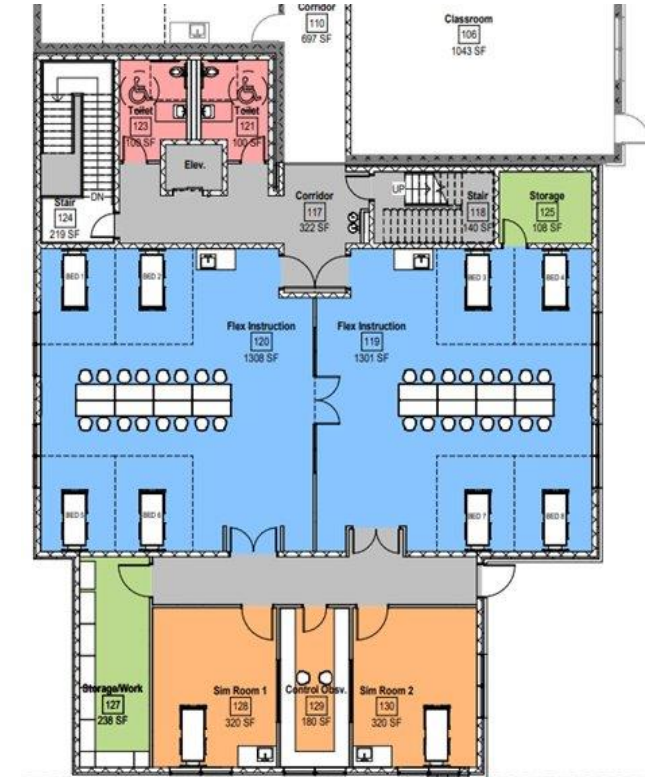
**CONSTRUCTION
TRADES & NURSING
EXPANSION**



Construction Trades – HVAC /Plumbing/Electrical



Nursing – Flex Instruction Lab & SIM Rooms



Caldwell Campus Expansion



Health Sciences Building





NCINNOVATION

OPTIMIZING INNOVATION FOR NORTH CAROLINA



CULINARY ARTS



BIOTECHNOLOGY



EARLY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT

PARTNERSHIP

Appalachian
STATE UNIVERSITY.

ccc&t1
Caldwell Community College
& Technical Institute

Business & Industry in the High Country

A collaborative effort led by CCC&TI to expand work-based learning opportunities.

- **Mission-Driven Approach:** Supports CCC&TI's mission to provide educational opportunities in Caldwell and Watauga counties.
- **Collaborative Partnerships:** Built on partnerships with local schools, economic developers, employers, and state initiatives like myFutureNC.
- **Work-Based Learning Focus:** Offers internships, apprenticeships, and other experiential opportunities based on models like Surry-Yadkin Works.
- **Barrier Reduction:** Provides financial and academic support to help students overcome obstacles to postsecondary education and workforce entry.



Our Executive Committee



**Dr. Don Phipps,
Superintendent**



**Ashley Bolick
Economic Development Director**



**Dr. Mark Poarch
President**



**Dr. Leslie Alexander
Superintendent**



**Joe Furman
Director of Economic Development**

Our Advisory Committee

B E R N H A R D T

*my*FUTURENC

2 million by 2030



NC DEPARTMENT
of COMMERCE
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS



WATAUGA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



BOONE
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



UNC
HEALTH®
Caldwell



UNC
HEALTH®
Appalachian



HIGH COUNTRY
workforce
development board

Our Grant Partners



John M Belk
Endowment
ELEVATE THROUGH EDUCATION



Google

How RISE will Deliver Results



- We are starting with a strategic guide with practical tools and templates with the help of **CORI - Center of Rural Innovation**
- **Student Support:** Advising, academic programming, and financial aid (e.g., travel stipends).
- **Employer Engagement:** Incentives to increase business participation in training program with a clear pathway to increase retention and leadership growth from within.
- **Leadership & Coordination:** Oversight by a cross-sector Executive Board; with implementation by our Executive Director.

Four areas of focus

- Goal is to address critical skill gaps in all four sectors, to support local industry and provide life changing career opportunities for residents of Caldwell and Watauga Counties
- Students will receive stipends to help overcome financial barriers and support the efforts
 - o Students receive up to \$300 per month
- Incentives for participating employers



What does success look like?



- **Primary Goal:** Increase students earning postsecondary credentials that lead to sustainable employment.
- **Growth Targets:** 270 total participants over 3 years (150 in Caldwell, 120 in Watauga).
- **Advancing State Goals:** Supports myFutureNC's 2030 educational attainment targets and regional economic growth. (For 2 million North Carolinians aged 25 to 44 hold an industry-valued credential or postsecondary degree by 2030)

Thank you



Mark Poarch
President

Email: mpoarch@cccti.edu



Tara Brossa
Executive Director

Email: tbrossa@cccti.edu

