

Research Triangle High School Abstract Narrative
Planning, Program Design, and Initial Implementation 84.282B

Research Triangle High School
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Research Triangle High School (RTHS) is an independent public charter high school serving 9th through 12th graders in Durham, North Carolina with a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focus. RTHS will open in the fall of 2012 with 160 9th graders and expand to 420 students in grades 9 to 12 in 2015. RTHS will bring a globally competitive education to a broad spectrum of students. RTHS is committed to enrolling students who reflect the Research Triangle region's diversity in ethnicity, socioeconomic status, rural vs. urban composition, gender and non-English-speaking origins. Two founding personnel responsible for the conception and implementation of RTHS were key in the founding and successful implementation of Raleigh Charter High School, a nationally acclaimed NC school, and the Contemporary Science Center, a successful science education non-profit. RTHS's education will offer college-preparatory course content built on the NC Common Core Curriculum and the *Framework for K-12 Science Education*. The school will rely upon cutting-edge instructional techniques that blend online material of open educational resources and industry-based experiences. Coursework will be Flipped so that students will learn from online lectures and material *outside* of class time, and learn from group labs, seminars and collaborative hands-on projects *during* class time. Teachers will have more opportunity to work closely with students while students will have greater opportunities to learn from instructional experiences that best match their learning styles, schedules, and needs. The school will employ an extended day designed to provide more opportunities for instruction and help outside of class, as well as overcoming transportation barriers. RTHS will endeavor to provide more than one year of learning gains per year of instruction. RTHS will leverage the school's public and private support base in and around the Research Triangle Park where the school is located. Students will engage in applied science project work emulating the work going on at companies and universities in the area preparing them for the global workplace of the 21st century. RTHS will strive to provide Research Triangle industry internships. Learning Teams of RTHS teachers, resident teachers from across the state, industry experts and retirees will support students and key STEM learning objectives. Ultimately, RTHS is committed to scaling its innovative offerings to the greater NC educational community through its model of blending virtual and experiential learning, Learning Teams, and a teacher residency program to achieve the school's mission of increasing access to a globally competitive STEM education for students and teachers across NC.