

A PUBLICATION OF THE ALAMANCE CHAMBER

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President's Message



Recently, I had a chance to visit the new Lotus Bakery facility under construction in Mebane. It has been two years since the Belgium-based producer of Biscoff cookies (known as "the airline cookie"), announced plans to construct its first US-based production facility. It was quite the coup for Alamance County and Mebane.

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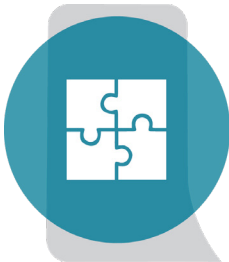
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18th Annual Classroom Collection



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Classroom Collection runs through August 12.



Alamance Youth Leadership Academy  
by alamance chamber™

ALAMANCE YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY WELCOMES NEW 7TH GRADE COHORT



AYLA's newest 7th grade cohort – welcome!



AYLA students participating in a team building activity.

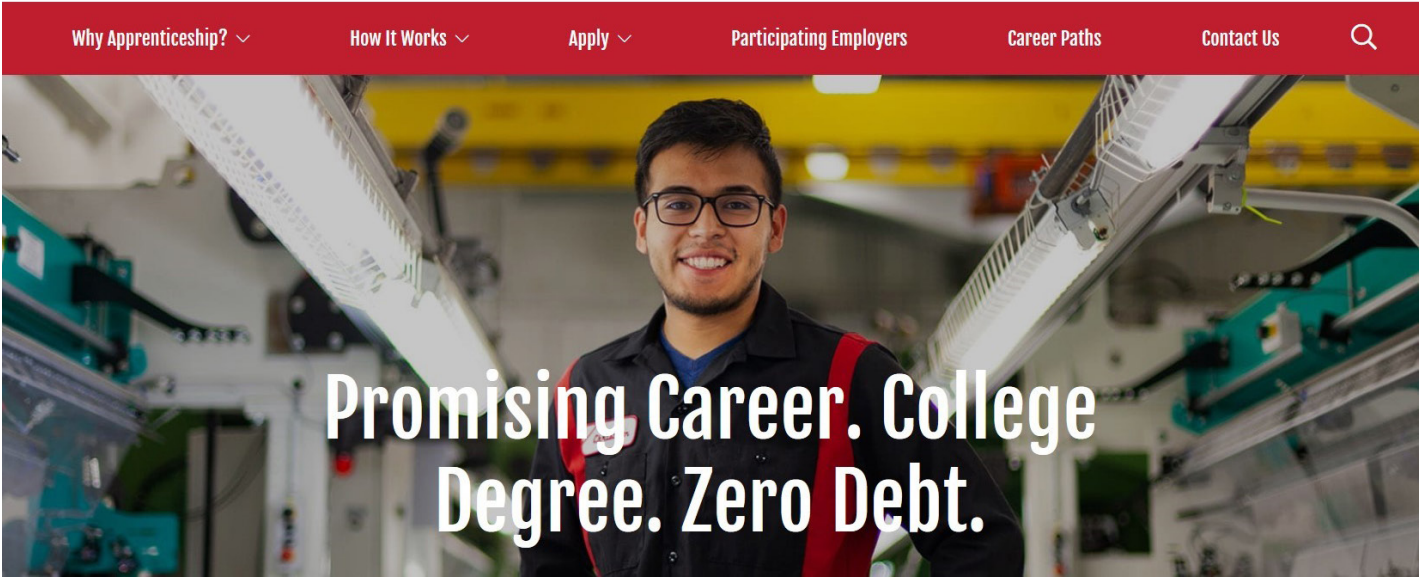
The Alamance Chamber, in partnership with Elon University's Center for Leadership and Alamance-Burlington Schools, welcomed one hundred and twenty 7th graders into this year's AYLA cohort. The new cohort arrived on Elon University's campus on Tuesday, June 18 to kick off their three-day Alamance Youth Leadership Academy (AYLA) orientation.

The summer program is designed to strengthen our youth's leadership skills as well as give them the opportunity to get acquainted with other program participants. A program favorite is the opportunity to take part in an outdoor challenge course experience where students were encouraged to demonstrate leadership skills and work together as a team. Throughout the week, students also participated in group activities, attended workshops that focused on diversity and public speaking, worked to develop a plan for their School Improvement Project, and heard from Burlington Mayor Ian Baltutis and Tracey Grayzer, President

of Impact Alamance. They wrapped up the week with a Closing Ceremony where they presented ideas for their School Improvement Projects to guests.

The summer program is just the beginning of the AYLA experience. AYLA students will spend the next two years meeting with their school's AYLA advisor for school-based chapter meetings, where students will discuss, plan, and implement their school improvement project. In addition to their school-based chapter meetings, each AYLA chapter will also attend joint events each program year to continue growing and strengthening their leadership skills. These joint events are facilitated by Leadership Fellows from Elon University's Center for Leadership. There are currently just over 200 students in 7th and 8th grade, from ten local middle schools, participating in AYLA. We look forward to watching these students grow as leaders in their schools, and ultimately in their community.

APPRENTICESHIP MARKETING ENHANCEMENTS



The Career Accelerator Program has been a significant beneficiary of funding through the Eastern Triad Workforce Initiative (ETWI). Alamance County is part of a four-county partnership along with Guilford, Randolph and Rockingham counties that received an allocation in the North Carolina State Budget for \$3.2 million to support and promote

apprenticeships and work experience training. The ETWI funds have been used for enhanced training materials, apprenticeship employment costs, promotion and exposure for the programs, events to expose students to skilled trades, and programs to educate teachers on local jobs and related necessary skills. The latest significant

project is a new website just in time for fall recruiting. The new site is mobile responsive as most students will access on a mobile device, integrates a new digital application, and overall is more user friendly and informative. Interested as a parent, potential apprentice, or starting an apprenticeship at your company? Visit [www.AlamanceCAP.com](http://www.AlamanceCAP.com). The new

site will be launching early August. At press time, a Phase II ETWI request is in the current state budget for \$4.5 million for each of the next two years to continue the work with the county apprenticeship programs, workforce development offices, plus adding in new programs for connecting veterans to jobs in the region.

ABOUT THE CHAMBER

The Alamance Chamber is a membership-based, volunteer-led, nonprofit community and economic development organization. Since 1914, we have worked hard to enhance the welfare of business as well as promote and stimulate economic vitality for our members and the community. The chamber offers a wealth of networking events, marketing opportunities, business development programs and education initiatives. To become a member, contact the chamber today!

ALAMANCE CHAMBER  
610 S Lexington Ave • PO Box 450  
Burlington NC 27215  
336.228.1338  
[alamancechamber.com](http://alamancechamber.com)

AUGUST 2019

Recently, I had a chance to visit the new Lotus Bakery facility under construction in Mebane. It has been two years since the Belgium-based producer of Biscoff cookies (known as “the airline cookie”), announced plans to construct its first US-based production facility.

After a year of facility planning and another year of constructing, it is now close to opening. During the tour, they were testing one of the equipment lines to be used in baking and packaging the cookies. It was fascinating.

We saw the area where the production starts as raw material, then is brought into the facility, and through a complex system of piping and machinery, is mixed to make the cookie dough. From there, it is transported to the ovens, and progresses through a series of temperatures, where the dough is transformed into cookies.

Afterwards, the cookies go to another system of machines that handle the packaging of the baked cookies.

While I am proud to have Lotus and their facility here, and I love the cookies, this piece isn’t about either Lotus or the cookies. It is about commitment to excellence.

I found myself taking in all the investment by the company and all the work by the employees and using all the available and proprietary food science knowledge to produce.... a cookie – no, actually, millions of them, and all exactly the same. Everybody and everything in the facility was committed



Mac Williams  
Chamber President

to that goal of excellence in product quality.

Lotus is not unique in that goal. Businesses of all types and sizes are also committed to product or service excellence. They do not survive if they are not.

The Alamance Chamber is, similarly, committed to service excellence. We strive to provide a purposeful and enjoyable member experience. We strive to provide a return on the investment the public and private sectors make in our economic development program. We strive to be an impactful partner with other community organizations and institutions to make our communities great places to live, work, and play.

I enjoy coming to work in the morning, and over a cup of coffee, talking with the fine people on our staff and preparing for whatever might come our way during the day. Luckily, I can have a delicious Biscoff cookie with my morning coffee, soon to be baked right here in Alamance County.

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**Tyronna Hooker**  
Alamance Achieves

**Ryan Moffitt**  
Vernon Law Firm

**John Peterson**  
The Peterson Agency

Events Calendar

- AUGUST 12**  
Classroom Collection Campaign Ends

**AUGUST 14**  
Workforce Council Meeting  
Alamance Chamber; 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.  
*\*Contact Andrea Fleming to register (andrea@alamancechamber.com)*

**AUGUST 14**  
Ribbon Cutting  
Nicole Cockerham State Farm; 9:30 a.m.

**AUGUST 16**  
Ribbon Cutting  
Graham Dermatology; 12:00 p.m.

**AUGUST 22**  
Office 365 Workshop  
Alamance Chamber; 8:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m

**AUGUST 22**  
Education Council

**AUGUST 27**  
Business After Hours  
Alamance Regional Medical Center; 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER 2**  
Labor Day – Chamber Office Closed

**SEPTEMBER 4**  
Leadership Alamance Class of 2020 Social
- SEPTEMBER 12 – 13**  
Leadership Alamance Class of 2020 Retreat

**SEPTEMBER 13**  
Annual Golf Classic  
The Challenge Golf Club; 11:30 a.m.  
*\*Register at alamancechamber.com to participate*

**SEPTEMBER 17**  
Tuesday Tours for Teachers  
Location TBD; 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER 19**  
Leadership Alamance Class of 2020 History Day

**SEPTEMBER 24**  
Business After Hours  
Location TBD; 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER 26**  
Education Council

**SEPTEMBER 26**  
Travel Presentation: Ecuador, the Amazon & Peru with Machu Picchu  
Alamance Chamber; 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

New Members

- CRITTER CONTROL OF THE TRIAD**  
1535 E Webb Avenue #101  
Burlington, NC 27217  
(336) 370-0445  
[www.crittercontroltriad.com](http://www.crittercontroltriad.com)

**ALL ABOUT ROOFING CO., LLC.**  
1761 W. Webb Avenue  
Burlington, NC 27217  
(336) 524-8607  
[www.allaboutroofing.net](http://www.allaboutroofing.net)
- KRI’ SHAWN**  
(336) 350-4531

**MITCHELL’S AUTO CARE & DETAILING**  
1115 Maple Avenue  
Burlington, NC 27215  
(336) 587-7157
- FROST CONVERTING SYSTEMS, INC.**  
2056 Willow Springs Lane  
Burlington, NC 27215  
(336) 395-6200  
[www.frostconverting.com](http://www.frostconverting.com)

**TOMMY HILFIGER (STORE #187)**  
4000 Arrowhead Boulevard  
Suite 570  
Mebane, NC 27302  
(919) 304-2605
- DRAKE’S**  
1377 Boone Station Drive  
Burlington, NC 27215  
(336) 336-567-4780  
[www.drakescomeplay.com](http://www.drakescomeplay.com)

**CHICK-FIL-A**  
1311 Mebane Oaks Road  
Mebane, NC 27302  
(919) 568-6080

Chamber Staff

- Mac Williams**  
President

**Reagan Chandler Gural**  
Vice President

**Laura Fehlhafer**  
Director, Workforce & Leadership Development

**Andrea Fleming**  
Director, Existing Industry Services
- Lisa Foster**  
Office Manager/Bookkeeper

**Kelly Roberts**  
Membership & Marketing Coordinator

**Julia Huneycutt**  
Economic Development Associate

**Jenna Heydt**  
Workforce & Leadership Development Coordinator

Recycle this newspaper

Shared goals. A can-do spirit.  
That’s community.

Chris Bryan, Market President  
336-570-5888  
Chris.Bryan@BBandT.com

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**3286 S. Church St, Burlington  
336.584.4160**

# Save the Dates



Workforce Council  
by alamance chamber

## WORKFORCE COUNCIL: FAMILY FORWARD WORKPLACE Wednesday, August 14 Alamance Chamber

The August Workforce Council will host Lisa Finaldi with for a presentation to members on Family Forward Workplaces. A statewide initiative, Family Forward NC is working to improve children’s health and well-being while keeping NC businesses competitive. She will be sharing information on

how companies can gain access to research based, family friendly practices to help boost employee retention and recruitment. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 14 from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. at the Alamance Chamber. Interested in attending? Contact [andrea@alamancechamber.com](mailto:andrea@alamancechamber.com).



Golf Classic  
by alamance chamber  
#AccessNetworking

## ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC Friday, September 13 The Challenge Golf Club

Save the date for the 2019 Alamance Chamber Golf Classic! This year’s tournament is scheduled for Friday, September 13 at The Challenge Golf Club. Lunch and registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m.

The Chamber’s Annual Golf Classic is an excellent opportunity to advertise your business, as well as treat clients or potential clients to a great day in a relaxed atmosphere. The Golf Classic provides the opportunity to enjoy

a day of fun on the course with business colleagues, clients, or prospects, while networking with Alamance Chamber staff and volunteers.

Sponsorship opportunities for the tournament are still available, as well as registration for teams and individuals. Visit [alamancechamber.com](http://alamancechamber.com) to reserve your spot! For more information, contact Reagan Gural ([reagan@alamancechamber.com](mailto:reagan@alamancechamber.com)) or Kelly Roberts ([kelly@alamancechamber.com](mailto:kelly@alamancechamber.com)).



Business  
Development Series  
by alamance chamber

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERIES: MAXIMIZING PRODUCTIVITY WITH OFFICE 365 Presented by: ComTech Network Solutions Thursday, August 22 Alamance Chamber

You’ve made the investment in Office 365, but chances are you’ve only scratched the surface of what it can do. Most users of Office 365 rarely venture beyond the core Office components, such as Word, Excel and Outlook. There is a wealth of additional productivity available to Office 365 subscribers that you may not be aware of.

Join us on Thursday, August 22 at 8:00 a.m. at the Alamance Chamber for our next Business Development Series Session, titled Maximizing Productivity With Office

365. Throughout the session, a representative from ComTech Network Solutions will provide an interactive demonstration on how to make the most of your Office 365 subscription using productivity tools that are already part of your paid subscription. You’ll learn practical methods of how to increase personal productivity and enhance collaboration with your coworkers.

Space is limited. Register now at [alamancechamber.com](http://alamancechamber.com). For more information, contact Reagan Gural ([reagan@alamancechamber.com](mailto:reagan@alamancechamber.com)).



Economic Summit  
by alamance chamber

## 14TH ANNUAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT Thursday, October 17 Elon University

Save the date for the 14th Annual Economic Summit! This event provides community leaders with the opportunity to gain information on the economic outlook for Alamance County, the region and state. This year’s event is scheduled for Thursday, October

11 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Elon University in the Ernest A. Koury, Sr. Business Center. Additional details will be announced soon. For more information, contact Julia Huneycutt ([julia@alamancechamber.com](mailto:julia@alamancechamber.com)) with any questions.



Business  
At The Ballpark  
by alamance chamber

## BURLINGTON ROYALS HOST CHAMBER MEMBERS FOR BUSINESS AT THE BALLPARK



Alamance Chamber Board Chair, Lisa Pennington (Cone Health) threw out the first pitch of the game in honor of the Chamber’s Annual Business At The Ballpark.

On Thursday, July 25, the Alamance Chamber hosted their Annual Business At The Ball Park event, where the Burlington Royals took on the Bristol Pirates. Each year this night/event brings out chamber members and their families for a fun night at the field. Chamber members have the opportunity to network with other members and staff as well as enjoy stadium refreshments and watch the game – maybe even snag a photo with Bingo.

It is tradition each year that the Chamber Board Chair throws out the first pitch. This year Board Chair, Lisa Pennington, of Cone Health, had the honor of throwing out the first pitch to start Thursday’s game.

Thank you to everyone that joined us for Business At The Ballpark and to the Burlington Royals Baseball Club for hosting us!

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# Ribbon Cuttings

**DRAKE'S**  
June 24, 2019  
1377 Boone Station Dr.,  
Burlington



**THE CHAIRMAN'S RETREAT**  
June 25, 2019  
2378 River Rd., Burlington


**AMERISOURCE**  
July 25, 2019  
1205 S. Main St., Burlington




 **Alamance Regional Medical Center**  
**Exceptional care**  
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**Alamance Regional Medical Center** provides a broad range of medical and surgical services for the people of Alamance County and the surrounding communities. The hospital features a newly expanded Emergency Department, Cancer Center and Surgical Services, along with Women's Services, a Heart and Vascular Center and the latest in imaging technology. Satellite imaging and laboratory services as well as urgent care, cancer and surgical services are also available at Cone Health MedCenter Mebane. Alamance Regional strives to deliver exceptional care every day and is proud to be part of Cone Health.

Visit [armc.com](http://armc.com) to learn more.



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# CHAMBER CHAMPION SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



## Prime Personnel Resources:

Prime Personnel Resources, Inc. is locally owned and managed (not a franchise) and is founded with the express purpose of providing clients with personal and professional services while giving qualified individuals the opportunity to make the most of their abilities. Prime

Personnel Resources, Inc. employees a staff with over 50 years of experience in human resources, management, recruitment and staffing throughout Alamance County. Owner and Founder Randy Perkins and his team of staffing professionals have the knowledge and commitment to make the right connection between employees

and employers.

In addition to serving citizens in Alamance County Prime Personnel Resources also supports the community as an Alamance Chamber member since 1998.

Prime Personnel Resources is located at 2640 Ramada Road, Burlington, NC 27215 and can be reached at 336-226-5100. To learn more about this business visit [www.](http://www.)



## Glen Raven, Inc.:

Founded in 1880, Glen Raven, Inc. began as a small cotton mill focused almost exclusively on the apparel market. Today, 139 years later, Glen Raven has transformed and expanded, driven by a culture that embraces innovation and transformational change.

Customers count on Glen Raven for everything from research and development, dying, spinning, weaving and finishing, all the way down to distribution and logistics. In the markets they serve – awning, marine, furniture,

protective, military, geosynthetics and more—customers trust Glen Raven associates as experts in their fields.

Glen Raven offers a broad range of offerings and their global presence allows customers to get the innovative solutions they need. However, Glen Raven is not a typical large company. Individual customers get the attention and focus on detail typical of a small organization. Not only do customers get the solution they need, but our unparalleled support is there every step of the way.

With 40 locations in 17 countries and six continents, Glen Raven

is a global presence serving clients, consumers and more than 3,000 associates around the world. The Corporate Office is located at 1831 North Park Avenue, Glen Raven, NC 27217 and can be reached at 336-227-6211. To learn more about this business visit [www.glenraven.com](http://www.glenraven.com). You can also find the company on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Glen Raven has been a member of the Alamance Chamber since 1978.



Looking for **access** to business resources? Join the Alamance Chamber today!

To learn more about membership with the Alamance Chamber, contact Reagan Gural at (336) 228-1338 or [reagan@alamancechamber.com](mailto:reagan@alamancechamber.com)



## Business Park Signage To Be Installed

Signage for the North Carolina Commerce Park has been approved and steps are being taken towards installation. The 1,100-acre park, with land both in the Mebane and Graham city limits, is home to the Walmart and Lidl distribution cen-

ters, Prescient and two speculative buildings. The signs will serve as monuments on the interstate side of the park as well as mark the entrance at the intersection of Trollingwood Hawfields Road and Sen. Ralph Scott Parkway.

# TALENT RETENTION, RECRUITMENT & CULTIVATION

The Alamance Chamber is embarking on a Talent Retention, Attraction and Cultivation Project in response to tight labor market conditions. We just received the Discovery Findings & Recommendations

report from North Star Marketing, a local marketing agency, which conducted focus groups and interviews with local business leaders, human resources representatives, workforce development representatives

and staffing agencies. They also researched other organizations talent programs to determine what initiatives and components for retaining, attracting and cultivating talent may work best in Alamance County. Staff and

task force members will be prioritizing recommendations and beginning implementation of the project over the next several months. Want to learn more? Contact Andrea at [Andrea@alamancechamber.com](mailto:Andrea@alamancechamber.com).



## ACCESS ADVENTURE with the Alamance Chamber

*Ecuador, the Amazon & Peru with Machu Picchu*

**May 3-13, 2020 | \$3499 Per Traveler**

Interested in traveling on this trip? Join us for a Travel Presentation on 9/26, 5:30 PM at the Alamance Chamber. Register online at [alamancechamber.com](http://alamancechamber.com) or call 336-228-1338.



Visit Colonial Quito, the Middle of the World Monument, Amazon region, Quecha community interpretation center, Ancient citadel of Machu Picchu via The Voyager Inca Rail Train, City tour of Lima



## Classroom Collection Campaign

by alamance chamber™  
#AccessEducation

# 18TH ANNUAL CLASSROOM COLLECTION RUNS THROUGH AUGUST 12

We are two weeks out from the final day of the Classroom Collection Campaign! Organized by the Alamance Chamber, this campaign is designed to support area students by supplying items needed for a successful school year. Approximately 54% of students enrolled in Alamance-Burlington Schools receive free or reduced meals. The opportunity for these students to receive basic school supplies at no cost to their families is essential for a successful school year. Donated supplies are stored in a central location and distributed by school social workers to students with the greatest need.

Last year's campaign brought in nearly 35,000 school supplies and helped over 3,100 students. You can help local students by purchasing items from the supply list and dropping the items off at one of the public drop sites listed below. Cash donations can be made to the Classroom Collection Campaign through the Alamance Chamber. For tax deductible donations, make checks payable to the Alamance County Economic Development Foundation.

Thank you to our campaign sponsors, America's Self Storage, LabCorp, and The Times-News for making an investment in the success of our local students.



Chamber staff kicked off the campaign with a supply run to Walmart. Items were purchased with sponsor dollars to support the start of year-round schools.

### PUBLIC DROP SITES:

- Alamance-Burlington School System Administrative Office (Vaughn Road)
- Alamance Chamber
- Alamance County Public Libraries (May Memorial Library, Graham Library, Mebane Library)
- Allen Tate Realtors of Burlington
- Chick-fil-A (Huffman Mill and University Commons locations)
- Sylvan Learning Center of

### Burlington

*\*Receive a coupon for a FREE Chick-fil-A Sandwich with donation of \$5 in school supplies – see store for details*

- The Times-News
- United Way of Alamance County

### SUPPLY LIST:

**\*\*Priority Items are bolded**

- **Book Bags (appropriate for both middle and high school students)**
- **Three-Ring Binders (1.5 in., 2 in., and 2.5 in.)**

- Composition Notebooks (Not Spiral-Bound)
- Pocket Folders (either with prongs or without)
- Pencils
- Scissors
- Colored Pencils
- Markers
- Pencil Pouches
- Pencil Boxes
- Glue Sticks
- Pencil Top Erasers
- Pink Erasers

- Tab Dividers
- Sheet Protectors
- Ear Buds
- Flash Drives
- TI-84 Graphing Calculators
- TI-30XS Multiview Calculators
- Notebook Paper
- Mechanical Pencils
- Highlighters
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Index Cards (3x5 and 4x6)
- Rulers



## Education Council

by alamance chamber™

Each month (with the exception of July and November) the Education Council meets at the Alamance Chamber to hear from a guest speaker as well as discuss programs, events, and initiatives that look to advance local education. This forum is a benefit of chamber membership and encourages business leaders to be actively involved in education and school leaders to examine the needs of the business community.

Most recently the council had the opportunity to hear from NC Education Lottery representatives, Van Denton, Director of Corporate Communications, and Hayden Bauguess, Director of Government Relations. Van and Hayden shared the history of the North Carolina Lottery earnings which shows substantial growth since its inception in 2006. The council also learned the break down of how each dollar spent on the lottery is used. Over seven-hundred million dollars has been budgeted to go back

into North Carolina schools in 2019. This funding will cover non-instructional support, school construction, prekindergarten, lottery scholarships, LEA (local education agencies) transportation, and UNC need-based financial aid.

We know that the lottery funding is statewide, but a portion of the funds have directly impacted many of our schools in Alamance County. Among other projects, funds have been used to provide additional classroom space, repair roofs, remove asbestos, and add wheelchair ramps at multiple schools in our county. The improved accessibility, plus safer and more adequate learning environments, is an integral part in the school improvement process.

Thank you to Van and Hayden for sharing such informative information on the NC Education Lottery! For more information visit [www.nc lottery.com](http://www.nc lottery.com).



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Randy Perkins  
Owner