

Connect with careers

Thanks for your March 20 article on the Wake Early College of Health and Sciences school. It's encouraging to see educators think outside the box when it comes to preparing our kids for the future.

During the next decade, we face a labor shortage as the baby boomers reach retirement age. Yet public schools struggle with low graduation rates and insufficient resources to help students achieve their goals. For example, in North Carolina the counselor-to-student ratio is 1:400 on average.

Futures for Kids (F4K) is a nonprofit organization that bridges the gap between the goals of students and the work force needs of our communities. We provide an online career tool that lets students access information on careers that match their interests and connect to career coaches. Counselors and teachers can reach all their students and deliver resources such as scholarships and internships.

F4K (www.F4K.org) is endorsed by the State Board of Education and this year more than 16,000 students have come to F4K to explore careers. If you want to help, please volunteer to be a career coach and share information about your career with students on our online discussion boards.

Susan Milliken

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