

Strengthening the connection between CCS schools and our local businesses

Cabarrus LINK is a new program from the Cabarrus County Education Foundation (CCEF) to bring schools and businesses together to bring innovative classroom and school-wide projects to life—projects that enrich student learning and encourage students to understand how their learning applies in a real-world context.

During the LINK event, schools and businesses will develop a project plan to be implemented during the 2019-2020 school year. The event wraps up with the Innovative Showcase where teams will “pitch” their innovative project ideas to a panel of judges for funding.



Fall Program Timeline

Sept 20

Project profiles due

Oct 2

Schools notified of participation

Oct 15th or 16th

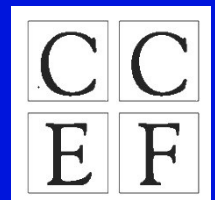
Cabarrus LINK event

Oct 30

Cabarrus LINK project plan due

Jan 24

Projects due date
(may ask for extension)





Frequently Asked Questions

What type of projects will be selected?

We are seeking hands-on learning projects for students to understand how their learning applies in a real-world context. Examples of potential projects include designing and coding a temperature-seeking robot for a search and rescue mission, building sound booths for language art students to record podcasts or starting an afterschool program. Be creative!

What is the role of the school in this program?

The school is responsible for providing the project concept, identifying a project leader, implementing the project and ensuring all documentation is submitted according to deadlines.

What is the role of the business partner in this program?

The business partner brings their expertise and time to help make the project happen. No financial investment in the project may be made through the business partnership. The role and responsibilities of the business partner will be project-dependent and determined in partnership with the school during the project planning phase. It is expected that the business partner will provide knowledge and skills to enhance the project and support the project as needed with volunteers. The commitment by the business partner is just for the specific project, but we invite our business partners to make a longer term commitment if they so desire.

What is the Cabarrus LINK event?

The Cabarrus LINK event is broken into two portions. The first is the networking portion that brings matched schools and business partners together to finalize the project concept and begin work on the project plan. The second portion of the event is the Innovative Showcase.

What is the Innovative Showcase?

Schools will be invited to share their project with a panel of judges and fellow participants in a "Shark-Tank" type presentation. Each project that presents during the Innovative Showcase will receive \$1,000 toward their project. A panel of judges will select a Grand Prize Winner who will receive \$1,500.



Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register my school to participate?

Participation is open to all Cabarrus County Schools. The first step is to complete a project profile. The project profile outlines the type of project the school is seeking assistance with and what time and talent resources you are seeking from a business partner. The Project Profile is a Google form and can be found at <https://goo.gl/forms/8M2ewel9E5f4Q4tT2>. If response is large, a selection team will decide on which projects can participate during this session. We plan to host Cabarrus LINK twice a year—spring and fall so you may be invited to participate in the next round.

What is the role of the Project Leader?

The project leader serves as the primary contact for both the Cabarrus County Education Foundation and the local business partner. This person will need to respond to email and phone calls in a timely manner to ensure a positive experience for our business partners. They will also be responsible for submitting the project plan and final report.

When do projects need to be completed?

For the fall program, projects must be completed by January 24, 2019. An exception may be granted for extenuating circumstances but a request must be made to CCEF for approval.

What are the program requirements?

The program requirements ensure that the project comes to fruition. As such, CCEF asks for the following:

- ◆ Project plan completed and submitted to CCEF by October 30, 2019.
- ◆ An invitation to CCEF to visit the project in action
- ◆ Pictures and videos of the project
- ◆ Schedule a project debrief session with CCEF to discuss the project's impact by February 15, 2020.