



Cabarrus  
County  
Education  
Foundation



BUILDING  
TOMORROW'S  
WORKFORCE

*STARTING TODAY*

[WWW.CCEFNC.ORG](http://WWW.CCEFNC.ORG)

# SHAPING TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE

Today's students are tomorrow's workforce but success requires more than classroom knowledge.

CCEF bridges the gap between education and the real world by providing hands-on learning experiences that build critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.

The result: students graduate better prepared to succeed—and our community benefits from a stronger, more capable workforce.

**HERE'S HOW WE'RE  
MAKING THAT HAPPEN:**



# HOW WE BUILD A WORKFORCE PIPELINE

HANDS-ON LEARNING THAT MIRRORS THE REAL WORLD

**STEM CONNECT** brings real-world learning into the classroom by connecting students with industry partners and hands-on experiences—helping them apply skills, solve problems, and think like future professionals.



## STEM Builds the Future: 1CAN at a Time

Students designed and constructed large-scale structures using donated food cans, applying engineering principles, structural design, and teamwork.

From planning to execution, teams worked through real-world constraints mirroring the process of a project from concept to completion.

Workforce Skills Developed:  
Engineering design | Collaboration | Project execution | Problem-solving

## Keep the Grinch Out

Students designed and built protective systems to keep the Grinch out, applying critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving.

Through testing and redesign, they evaluated failures, refined their approach, and collaborated to develop effective solutions.

Workforce Skills Developed:  
Critical thinking | Design iteration | Teamwork | Adaptability



## All Systems GO: Derby Day Challenge

Students designed, built, and tested functional K'Nex cars, applying concepts in physics, engineering, and performance optimization.

Teams analyzed results, refined their designs, and worked collaboratively to improve outcomes—just as teams do in real-world systems.

Workforce Skills Developed:  
Engineering application | Data-driven decision-making  
Team collaboration | Continuous improvement

# WORKFORCE READINESS STARTS WITH EQUIPPING EDUCATORS

BECAUSE REAL-WORLD LEARNING REQUIRES REAL-WORLD TOOLS



Behind every hands-on learning experience is a classroom equipped with the right tools and resources.

CCEF equips educators, our frontline workforce developers, with the resources needed to deliver high-quality, real-world learning, from essential classroom supplies to funding for innovative, project-based instruction.

Just like a job site requires the right equipment to get the job done, classrooms need the right resources to prepare students effectively.

By investing in educators, we are investing in the workforce developers who prepare tomorrow's talent.

## School Supply & Resupply Drives

Providing essential materials so teachers can focus on instruction—not out-of-pocket costs.

## Inspire IMPACT Classroom Grants

Funding hands-on, project-based learning experiences that bring real-world application into the classroom.

### What This Enables:

- ✓ Hands-on learning experiences
- ✓ Real-world application
- ✓ Student engagement
- ✓ Workforce-ready skill development at scale



Students building their home libraries through Book-a-Palooza

# BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR WORKFORCE READINESS

*Strong readers become strong thinkers and future-ready learners.*

Every career path begins with the ability to read, learn, and adapt.

CCEF's literacy initiatives build strong readers early, ensuring students develop the foundational skills needed to succeed in school, the workplace, and throughout their lives.

In Cabarrus County, only 54% of students are reading proficiently by the end of 3rd grade—a critical milestone for future success.

By strengthening literacy, we are strengthening the future workforce.

## Book-a-Palooza

Provides students with books to build home libraries and foster a love of reading—creating confident learners who are prepared to grow, adapt, and succeed.

### What This Builds:

- Comprehension & communication
- Confidence in learning
- Ability to adapt and grow
- Long-term career readiness

# YOUR INVESTMENT. REAL IMPACT.

*Building the talent pipeline our community depends on.*

Today's students are developing the skills your workforce depends on—problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and adaptability.

Through hands-on learning and real-world experiences, they are not just learning—they are preparing to contribute.

**Your investment builds a strong, prepared talent pipeline for years to come.**

## Real Results. Measurable Impact.



**128,600**

students  
served



**475+**

hands-on learning  
experiences



**50,500+**

books  
distributed



**\$10K**

in school supplies  
provided

**OVER \$1M INVESTED IN  
CABARRUS COUNTY SCHOOLS**

## What this Means for Your Business

A strong education system builds a strong workforce.

By investing in CCEF, you are helping develop the future employees, leaders, and problem-solvers our community depends on.

## Invest in Your Future Workforce

Support high-impact programs that are preparing Cabarrus County students for success in school, in the workplace, and in life.

## Ways to Partner

- Become a Partner in Education Sponsor
- Support a specific program or initiative
- Engage your team through volunteering and mentorship

**Let's build the future workforce—together.**



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