THE PROMISE

All students in Butte County will be prepared for success beyond high school in order to become productive members of the workforce and engaged citizens. Success is defined as earning a certificate in a career education field, completing an associate’s degree, achieving a bachelor’s degree and/or obtaining an advanced degree.

BACKGROUND

The Butte County education community has a responsibility to prepare its young people for successful careers and productive lives. In today’s world, our regional economy is tied to the global economy. To prepare our young people for success, we must offer nothing less than an exceptional education. Each student deserves a realistic opportunity to earn certification and/or a degree. The Butte County Promise ensures that all students meeting the enrollment criteria for Butte College and California State University, Chico will be provided this opportunity. The future of our county depends on our effectiveness in developing a well-educated workforce to sustain the economy of our cities and the surrounding region.

The Butte County Promise is the culmination of over a year of planning and collaboration between representatives from every district in the county led by the following partners:

- ADVANCE North State
- Butte College
- Butte County Office of Education
- California State University, Chico
- Chico Unified School District
- First Five Butte County

There are two complementary aspects to our partnership. The first is to align our educational programs with the needs of employers. The second is to coordinate the programs, pathways, and processes within the segments of the educational system (Butte County Office of Education and K-12 districts, Butte College, and California State University, Chico).

It is anticipated that this partnership will expand, over time, to include the Glenn County Office of Education and the school districts in Glenn County.
GOALS OF THE BUTTE COUNTY PROMISE

To meet this challenge, we commit to the following goals:

- Provide exceptional education from preschool to graduate school that prepares Butte County students for successful engagement in the regional and global economies;
- Increase the percentage of Butte County high school students who are prepared for and attend college directly from high school;
- Increase the percentage of Butte College students who earn associate’s degrees and/or career certificates;
- Increase the percentage of Butte College students who successfully transfer to California State University, Chico or another four-year institution;
- Increase the percentage of Butte County students who graduate from California State University, Chico or another four-year institution with a bachelor’s degree and/or advanced degree;
- Maximize the ability of our educational systems to meet employer needs;
- Increase civic engagement and community service;
- Close educational achievement gaps between ethnic groups and special populations.

OUR COMMITMENTS

In order to build college-going expectations, the Butte County Office of Education and K-12 school districts, supported by Butte College and CSU, Chico will:

- Support professional development of Butte County educators in the areas of curriculum, instructional excellence and the cultural and societal needs of our students;
- Provide information to students and parents about college opportunities, the value of a college education and the financial resources available to make college attendance a reality;
- Provide college preparatory services, campus visits and college application assistance;
- Provide financial aid application assistance;
- Support the development and maintenance of a college-going culture in elementary, middle and high schools;
- Include a college and career commitment statement during promotion and graduation ceremonies at elementary and middle schools.
PARTNER COMMITMENTS

To prepare students for college and career success the Butte County Office of Education and K-12 school districts, supported by Butte College, California State University, Chico and Advance North State will:

- Work collaboratively to reduce remediation requirements through curriculum alignment and dialogue between educational systems;
- Encourage students to meet the requirements of their chosen college and career pathways (e.g. A-G, work experience, internships and dual and concurrent college enrollment);
- Keep students engaged during their senior year in their chosen college and career pathways (e.g. A-G, work experience, internships and dual and concurrent college enrollment);
- Work with community partners to provide resources to bring students to Butte College and CSU, Chico during elementary, middle and high school;
- Provide students with access to instructors for assistance outside of scheduled class time.

In order to provide all students from Butte County the opportunity to earn an associate’s degree, technical certificate and/or successfully transfer to a four-year institution, Butte College will:

- Offer guaranteed enrollment, priority registration, support programs and services to enable college-prepared students to graduate within two years;
- Continue to facilitate the transition of graduating high school seniors to Butte College through programs such as Reg2Go;
- Work closely with high school partners to increase college readiness in English and Math;
- Provide high school students with opportunities to take college courses while in high school to accelerate their progress along their chosen pathways;
- Enhance programs designed to assist students to learn about and apply for financial aid;
- Ensure all students who intend to transfer to a four-year institution are enrolled in a transfer program (e.g. Associate Degrees for Transfer) that provides ongoing assistance and monitoring;
- Offer career education in numerous fields that is aligned with the needs of regional employers;
- Work collaboratively with university partners to provide assistance to students to learn about opportunities, complete requirements and apply for transfer to California State University, Chico or another four-year university;
- Implement the California Community College Promise Program and raise funds to supplement this program to pay for tuition, fees and textbook costs for Butte County high school graduates who are on a path to graduate within two years.
In order to provide the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree and/or an advanced degree to all Butte County and Butte College students who successfully prepare for college, California State University, Chico will:

- Offer guaranteed admission to all Butte County high school students who successfully complete minimum college preparatory and admissions requirements to give them the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree. There may be additional requirements for students in impacted programs;
- Offer guaranteed admission to all Butte College students who complete minimum college transfer and admissions requirements to give them the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree. There may be additional requirements for students in impacted programs;
- Enhance programs designed to assist students to learn about and apply for financial aid;
- Work closely with local high schools to increase college readiness in English and Math;
- Enhance programs designed to assist students transitioning from Butte County high schools and Butte College to create the conditions for these students to be successful at the university;
- Enhance programs designed to assist students in preparing for careers and graduate school.

OUR GOALS

Butte County Office of Education, Butte County school districts, Butte College, California State University, Chico, Advance North State and First Five Butte County will work together to achieve the goals and commitments of the Butte County Promise:

- To support and encourage success for all students from preschool to graduate school and, ultimately, in the workforce;
- To increase college-going expectations, streamline college and career pathways and facilitate completion;
- To encourage students to select a college and career pathway as early in their progression as possible and to meet the requirements of their selected pathways;
- To inspire students to be civic-minded and engaged in the community;
- To ensure that the students completing our pathways are prepared to succeed in the workforce;
- To provide, assess, improve and expand high quality, world-class educational opportunities in Butte County that will increase the economic viability and quality of life in our communities.