



PRESS RELEASE

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Libraries and Schools in Rutherford County to Launch the Read, Engage and Discover Initiative in March

Spindale, NC – Rutherford County Library is very excited to announce the March launch of the Read, Engage and Discover initiative. This project, better known as REaD Access, provides students in the Rutherford County Public Schools and Lake Lure Classical Academy with access to library resources.

Our schools and libraries share a strategic partnership to help ensure student success and support literacy initiatives. Together, the heart of our missions is to promote literacy, a love of books, and the importance of reading as a foundation for lifelong learning. For this new initiative, we have worked together to provide students with access to print and online digital resources at all Public Libraries in Rutherford County (Haynes, Mooneyham, Mountains, Norris, Rutherford County Library, and Spindale). The mission of the REaD Access program is to support and encourage students to connect to these resources by allowing for easy access.

Beginning this March, all students in Rutherford County Public Schools and Lake Lure Classical Academy will be able to participate in this initiative. Participation offers the following advantages:

1. Students will have access to learning resources offered through libraries in Rutherford County
2. Students will be able to access and check out public library resources by using their Student ID number.
3. Students may borrow from participating libraries' online digital collections and databases.
4. Students may borrow up to 10 print items, at one time. (CDs, DVDs, DVDs, and other non-print items are excluded).
5. There are no overdue fines for those students who sign up through this initiative. However, students are responsible for fees on lost or damaged books.
6. Teachers and students will be able to access and use these instructional resources for academic enrichment both at home and school.

"We are so excited to see this initiative come to fruition," said April Young, Rutherford County Library Director. "Literacy is of critical value, and together with our local schools, we are grateful to be involved in facilitating a love for learning in our communities."

Rutherford County Library encourages everyone to utilize the libraries to Read, Connect, Explore and Share. As a vital asset of Rutherford County Government, the library promotes several aspects of the county's Strategic Plan by enhancing partnerships, improving quality of life and access to services. For more information about the library, visit rutherfordcountylibrary.org.

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