

sync[®] NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES FROM N.C. COMMERCE



(L-R) N.C. Commerce Secretary Copeland, HondaJet CEO Michimasa Fujino and Governor Cooper during a recent tour of the company.

Governor Cooper & Secretary Copeland Visit HondaJet

Governor Roy Cooper and **Commerce Secretary Tony Copeland** recently visited HondaJet's 680,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Greensboro. The company's world headquarters is located at the Greensboro site and the company also operates an engine plant in the state.

HondaJet Chief Executive Officer Michimasa Fujino hosted the Governor and Secretary and briefed both leaders on the company's growth in North Carolina. More than 1,800 people now work at the company's Greensboro location.



Lockhart Taylor.

Leader for Employment Security Team Named

North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland has appointed **Lockhart Taylor** the department's Assistant Secretary of the Division of Employment Security. Taylor has served as Interim Assistant Secretary since September 1 of this year.

Taylor will guide the department's administration of unemployment insurance for the state. The Division administers the state's unemployment insurance program, helping people who lose their jobs through no fault of their own.

"Lockhart Taylor has many years of experience in the state's unemployment insurance and workforce systems, and his expertise is invaluable for the Division and for the citizens of North Carolina," said **Secretary Copeland**. "I am confident that Lockhart will continue leading the Division of Employment Security with success."

Taylor has been employed with the Division of Employment Security, previously the Employment Security Commission, for 24 years. He worked for the Office of Governmental Relations for 20 years before he was named Chief Deputy in April, 2017.

Taylor is a native of Wadesboro, N.C. in Anson County. He studied history at



Governor Cooper and Secretary Copeland inside a HondaJet.

During the visit, Governor Cooper and Secretary Copeland toured the company's Delivery Center, where new aircraft are delivered to customers from around the world. They also visited the main production facility where the HondaJet is hand built, toured the Flight Safety area, where the company operates flight simulators and conducts flight training programs, and boarded a HondaJet for an up-close look at the aircraft.

More information about the HondaJet is available at the [company's website](#).



Secretary Copeland talks to students at Neal Magnet Middle School in Durham on Monday, November 13.

Governor Cooper's Cabinet Highlights American Education Week in North Carolina

Governor Roy Cooper has declared this week, November 13-17, as American Education Week in North Carolina.

Sponsored by the National Education Association and the American Legion, American Education Week has been recognized and celebrated the week before Thanksgiving since 1921. The observance honors the role public schools play in

Appalachian State University.



Governor Cooper visits Walter M. Williams High School in Alamance County.

Governor Announces \$2 Million Grant to Support College and Career Readiness

Governor Roy Cooper visited Walter M. Williams High School in Alamance County November 9 to announce a \$2 million grant to support college and career readiness programs in middle and high schools through Communities In Schools of North Carolina. Funded through statewide funds from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, the grant will pilot the Jobs for North Carolina's Graduates program to assist students in middle and high school with graduating and preparing for a career.

"Jobs for North Carolina's Graduates will help ensure that our young people have the skills they need to succeed in the workplace and live productive, rewarding lives," **said Governor Cooper.** "Employers need skilled workers, and this program strengthens our state's workforce by giving students who need it extra help to finish high school ready for additional training and fulfilling careers."

With this grant, Communities In Schools will pilot the Jobs for North Carolina's Graduates program, which will include two models: a model for seven high schools across the state and a model for six middle schools in Nash County, called AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination). These models will

providing opportunity and strengthening communities and our democracy.

As part of the week's activities, **N.C. Commerce Secretary Tony Copeland** visited Neal Magnet Middle School in Durham to speak with students and administrators.

"Education is not only in our state's Constitution, it is in our DNA," said **Governor Cooper**. "It represents who we are as a people in North Carolina. A strong public education is the best way to create good jobs and grow the middle class and it's right that we recognize the role public education plays in increasing opportunity in our communities."

Throughout the week, Governor Cooper and members of his cabinet are spreading out across North Carolina to visit classrooms and highlight the importance of public education.



Commerce's Office of Science, Technology & Innovation Featured in National Publication

A poster exhibit created to highlight the state's One North Carolina Small Business Fund has won recognition from a respected national publication that covers developments in science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship.

SSTi, a national organization that supplies information about technology-based economic development, featured the North Carolina program in the November 9 edition of its newsletter. Earlier, the artwork was displayed at SSTi's national conference for its *Building a Better Future* program.

The Office of Science, Technology & Innovation supports North Carolina communities and businesses by expanding North Carolina's technology infrastructure, enhancing public and private innovation, and fostering a dynamic and diverse entrepreneurial economy.

More information about the Office and its work is [available online](#).

identify the best strategies for helping students prepare for college and career.

"Walking across the graduation stage is truly an amazing accomplishment for students," said **Blaine Morehead, Board Chair, Communities In Schools of North Carolina**. "Our new Jobs for North Carolina's Graduates program will provide purpose to the walk by ensuring graduates are prepared for what comes next - career or college. We are pleased to add this program to Communities In Schools' family of integrated student supports."

[Read more.](#)

On Our Radar

- [N.C. Rural Center, Golden LEAF & The Friday Institute Launch Pilot Initiative to Build Community Capacity And Regional Leadership in the Northeast Prosperity Zone](#)

N.C. in the News

- [Made in the USA: Dead or Alive?](#) (*Business of Fashion* - Nov. 13)
- [Fayetteville wants a new brand](#) (*Business North Carolina* - Nov. 3)
- [Guest opinion: North Carolina and Italy - a great relationship building for the future](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal* - Nov. 3)
- [Furniture Company Expanding Operations to Robbins](#) (*The Pilot* - Southern Pines - Oct. 18)

About Us

SYNC is North Carolina Commerce's electronic newsletter for local government officials, private-sector allies, state policy makers, and other economic development leaders. We offer unfiltered details about new economic development projects and events, useful news about your peers, and opportunities to synchronize with statewide programs and tools in order to advance economic development in your community. [Send your story ideas to the editor.](#)

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