

AN NC CHAMBER EVENT

## Education & Workforce Conference

AUGUST 11, 2022  
DURHAM, NC

**Kristie VanAuken**  
**Special Assistant to the Superintendent: Workforce Engagement**  
**Department of Public Instruction**



Kristie VanAuken serves the Department of Public Instruction as the special assistant to the superintendent: workforce engagement. With more than two decades of leadership experience in the public and nonprofit sectors, VanAuken is a seasoned facilitator. Before coming to DPI, she served as vice president of stakeholder engagement for Research Triangle Park (RTP), connecting blue chip companies to the foundation and to each other. She facilitated the Owners and Tenants Association and the Service District Advisory Committee, helping to attract new resources to support STEM education, diversity, communication and the environment. VanAuken was also the chief economic development representative for RTP. She is a member of the NC Works Commission Skills and Attainment Committee, the myFutureNC Credentials work group and serves as a board member for the North Carolina Education and Workforce Innovation Commission. VanAuken will help grow connections between K-12 education and businesses to expand post-secondary pathways for students. VanAuken lives in Cary with her husband, two children (both Tar Heels), and two lively pups- Mikki and Peaches.