

**Children First/Communities In Schools
of Buncombe County
PRESENTS:**



OTE

**2010 CANDIDATE
SURVEY RESPONSES
& VOTER GUIDE**

NC State Senate District 48

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Chris Dixon (D) Pages 3-5

NC State Senate District 49

R.L. Clark (R) Did Not Respond
Martin L. Nesbitt (D) Did Not Respond

NC House District 114

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In Partnership With:



About This Publication:

Children First/Communities In Schools believes this nonpartisan publication offers an opportunity to raise important issues during the campaign season, educate voters, and build relationships between candidates, voters, and organizations that reinforce civic engagement. We hope you find it useful as you seek to make an informed decision in this year's election.

Children First/Communities In Schools sent survey questions to all candidates that registered to run for the public offices listed on the cover. Candidates were given a 120 word per question limit. No edits for grammar or spelling have been made to the responses.

We thank all the candidates that took time to respond to our survey questions. Candidates receive many surveys during election season and must balance their personal, professional, and political lives amid many competing demands. We especially thank our co-sponsors listed above for supporting this effort.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Children First/Communities In Schools cannot endorse, or oppose, any political candidate or party. This survey and publication is conducted in compliance with our interpretation of applicable laws and regulations related to nonprofits and electoral activity.

GET TO KNOW A LITTLE ABOUT THE CANDIDATES

Chris Dixon (D) Candidate for NC Senate District 48

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** chris@dixon2010.com
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** Dixon2010.com
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** INPUT
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** none listed

John Carroll (R) Candidate for NC House District 114

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** Cell phone 828-808-7123
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** Carroll4nchouse.com
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Owner/Broker, Century 21 All Seasons
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** YMCA downtown Advisory Board, Strong Kids Campaign (YMCA), CarePartners Foundation

Susan Fisher (D) Candidate for NC House District 114

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** electsusanfisher@charter.net or 828.280.6267
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** www.electsusanfisher.org / **Facebook:** Susan Fisher for NC House 114
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** State of North Carolina
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** St John s Episcopal Church, League of Women Voters Buncombe County Democratic Party

Mark Crawford (R) Candidate for NC House District 115

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** [W] (828)-227-3855, [C] 318-4332
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** www.crawfordnchouse.com
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Instructor – Western Carolina University
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** (Past) Chairman, Boy Scout Troop/Cub Scout Pack Executive Committee; (Past) Church Youth Leader for 16 years [in five different churches – while on active duty in the military and afterward]; Coach (21 seasons with High School and Middle School teams – 18 of those as a volunteer

Patsy Kever (D) Candidate for NC House District 115

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** Patsy@PatsyKever.com
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** PatsyKever.com / **Facebook:** PatsyKever for NC House 115
Twitter: @KeverCampaign
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Retired from teaching 2003 • Retired from Buncombe County Board of Commissioners 2004 • Appointed to fill unexpired term in NC House of Representatives
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** Chair of Buncombe County Library Board of Trustees, member of the boards of CarePartners and Pack Place Arts and Science Education Center

Tim Moffit (R) Candidate for NC House District 116

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** 828-651-8920
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** www.timmoffitt.com
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Management Consultant specializing in employment within the Environmental, Biotechnology, Construction, Transportation and Medical industries.
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** Currently involved in Scouting leadership and I am also a Little League Baseball Coach. Previous service includes past Chair of the Civic Center Commission as well as past Chair of the Human Rights Committee for WNC Group Homes for Autistic Adults.

Jane Whilden (D) Candidate for NC House District 116

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** 828-450-0386 or 828-277-0059
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** www.janeforstatehouse.com (link to Facebook on website)
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** My full time job is Representative for the 116th District. My former position was Director of the Western Office of the Governor.
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** VP & P of Big Brother Big Sisters Board, VP & P of PTA Estes Elementary School, Judge & Coach, Odyssey of the Mind

NC State Senator District 48 (vote for one)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Tom Apodaca (R)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. Candidate did not respond

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina's investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. Candidate did not respond

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children's needs?

A. Candidate did not respond

Chris Dixon (D)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. 1) Working with local businesses and educational institutions to find new job-creating uses for vacant plant space across the district. 2) Providing more resources to parents of pre-K children to help them get kids prepared for school. 3) Working with high schools and community colleges to prepare graduates for our local workforce and create a drop-out safety net to help drop-outs get their diplomas.

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina's investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. Only comprehensive tax reform will get state finances back on the right track in the long run. We will need a code that isn't riddled with loopholes, that doesn't favor particular types of businesses, and lowers the overall sales tax rate. In the short term, we will have no choice but to make cuts and give school systems flexibility in where they choose to cut.

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children's needs?

A. We should reward employers who do right by their workers in terms of pay, benefits, and family flexibility with income tax breaks. We should look into allowing some reimbursements to family members for elder and child care as part of Medicare/Medicaid/SCHIP. We should provide economic incentives to promote high-quality, affordable, and around-the-clock child care options.

NC State Senator District 48 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Tom Apodaca (R)

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. Candidate did not respond

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. Candidate did not respond

Chris Dixon (D)

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. These services have historically been underfunded in even the best of times, so it is unlikely that they will be funded adequately given current budget conditions. Only comprehensive tax reform that create fairness and stability in revenues can provide long-term hope for adequate funding in these areas.

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. The #1 thing a legislator in state senate district #48 (Buncombe, Henderson, and Polk counties) can do is to demonstrate real interest in local educational and economic concerns. We need to make it easier for drop-outs to get back on track and provide more off-hour learning opportunities for working parents (along with convenient child care).

NC State Senator District 48 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Tom Apodaca (R)

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. Candidate did not respond

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. Candidate did not respond

Chris Dixon (D)

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. The foremost obligation is to ensure that no cultural bias is manifested in the testing programs. We can't overlook that white students from economically challenged areas also struggle with testing and graduation. This means that we must continually monitor per pupil funding disparities, utilize student/teacher performance data, and facilitate more sharing of best practices in educating students from underperforming populations.

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. The legislature should consider providing some level of matching/incentive funds for appropriate nutrition and physical activity programs. The state could leverage its purchasing power to give school systems access to statewide contracts with local growers and grocers to provide more healthful meal and snack options.

NC House District 114 (vote for one)

Candidates listed alphabetically

John Carroll (R)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. Jobs, Preserve Our Schools, Stop Wasteful Spending

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina's investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. Stop wasteful spending in other parts of the budget to support spending in necessary services.

Susan Fisher (D)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. a.Sustainable living wage jobs for our region in the area of green technology, with particular support for our small businesses.
b.Quality Education for all students.
c.Access to Quality Healthcare for all North Carolinians

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina's investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. We must concentrate on prevention to meet the challenge of keeping our citizens healthy. Money spent on prevention in the short term will result in money savings in the long term. We must look at the best possible practices for keeping our students in school and preparing for the world of work and in doing so we will see fewer of our young people in the juvenile justice system. We must also continue our efforts at early childhood education and support, with an eye toward a common core of standards for all students in North Carolina so that we can compete internationally instead of across state lines.

NC House District 114 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

John Carroll (R)

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children s needs?

A. Children and families must be protected. Common sense answers can be achieved if the members are committed to work together to solve these problems. We must also include employers in the discussions.

Susan Fisher (D)

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children s needs?

A. Just this past interim, I served on a study commission dealing with the issues confronted by working families, the Joint Select Committee on Work and Family Balance. There were several pieces of proposed legislation that came from our work and I hope to continue to push forward a bill in particular that makes it easier for employees, particularly women, to request time off to care for family members or for routine medical appointments for themselves or family. This Right to Request legislation would ensure that an employee could not lose his or her job just because they request leave.

This committee is due to report out its findings on this and other related legislation by February 2011.

NC House District 114 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

John Carroll (R)

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. Again, wasteful spending that can be discovered in the budget need to be eliminated. The process needs to have bipartisan support to achieve this goal. Members need to be serious about serving the North Carolina citizens and not promoting their political careers.

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. I have a great deal of compassion for the families in the poverty level in NC. This group has grown from 13.9% to 16.9% in the last two years according to a recent government report. We need to establish priorities in the budget that addresses these families. This will take support of all members to do this.

Susan Fisher (D)

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. The Study Commission on Children and Youth met during the 2009 interim and the findings included that funding should be provided for programs that have proven to be successful. The Program Evaluation Division of the General Assembly is currently researching which programs are most effective. We must also find the courage to raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction to 18 rather than the current 16. This will require the state to have preventative resources on hand to meet the needs of 16 and 17 year olds, keeping in mind that it is more costly to incarcerate our young people than to effectively educate them.

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. I was a cosponsor and helped to pass the legislation to increase to the state minimum wage. I also helped to pass the state's first Earned Income Tax Credit law which directly targeted the states lower income individuals and families with a credit when filing their income tax return.

It is important that any work that is done by the legislature on modernizing the states revenue structure begin with looking at the disproportionate effect any changes might have on the hard working lower and middle income families in our state. I will work hard to include programs that directly effect the health and well being of the children of poverty in our state. This economy demands it.

NC House District 114 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

John Carroll (R)

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. We need to promote an educational system that serves this large forgotten body of students. We need to find funding to give these students the skills to have a job or ready to continue their education in a two year community college or four year college or university. In order to do this, we have to set priorities in the funding of our educational system.

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. Good nutrition of our students should be the responsibility of the legislature to ensure students have the physical ability to learn. Again, setting priorities in the educational budget must be set to serve the critical needs of our educational system. It will take a systematic approach where all members are willing to come to the table and make an honest evaluation of the needed cuts and stop the wasteful spending that prevents the legislature from funding the necessary programs that directly impact

Susan Fisher (D)

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. Any work done in this area should begin in the most obvious place; with our youngest children. From preschool all the way through high school and beyond, we need to focus on preparing all our children for the 21st century and the competitive world of work. I am proud to say that my focus in the legislature has been and will continue to be on education. As a member of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability, I helped to establish new recommendations for the state board of education around how and what we should be testing and how and what we should be teaching in order to provide a depth of knowledge for all students.

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. I co-sponsored the new law that requires schools to use evidence-based fitness testing for students in grades K through 8. The bill is based on the recommendation of the Legislative Task Force on Childhood Obesity. I will continue to look for ways to improve the school nutrition programs in our schools. Another bill I introduced from the work of the Childhood Obesity Task Force would have created a way for the Department of Agriculture to work cooperatively with the schools to provide more locally grown foods as a way to not only improve nutrition, but to save money and boost the local farm economy. The challenge is finding funding in the current budget crisis. It remains my priority.

NC House District 115 (vote for one)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Mark Crawford (R)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. Creating Jobs; Enhancing and Improving Our Schools; Creating a Better Economic Climate

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina s investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. In order to support North Carolina s investments children and families (in both the short and long term) it would be immensely helpful to identify and eliminate wasteful expenditures still found in the budget in order to ensure that those same investments will not have to be cut at all where possible.

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children s needs?

A. The State legislature can ensure family friendly workplaces by ensuring that the statutes created and written which apply to these are focused on just those ideals, especially regarding removing those burdensome regulations which prevent this from happening and allowing the businesses themselves to flourish. Parity of pay for equal work, enhancing the state s contributions to the Legislative Tuition Grant Program, and less burdensome taxes would all favorably impact upon working families, and working mothers, in particular.

Patsy Kever (D)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. a) Education - specifically early childhood education and a 9th grade mandated course which incorporates comprehensive sex education, early childhood development, financial literacy and civic responsibility.
b) Economy -creating more living wage jobs in the region and supporting local businesses, including green jobs
c) Environment - protection of our natural resources through regulation, including statewide steep slope regulations.

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina s investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. In the short term, we need to ensure that no essential services are cut. When necessary cuts are made, they need to come from administrative funds rather than from our classrooms. Since the first five years of a child s life are the most important in terms of development, investments which ensure a safe, healthy beginning will save the state money in the long run. We need to invest in preventive resources which help young families - especially single mothers - raise their children in healthy, stable homes.

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children s needs?

A. The state can and should mandate flexible policies which allow workers to respond to the needs of their children and families. I would support legislation that would allow the state to give tax incentives to businesses which provide nurseries on site. Finally, the state must fully fund SCHIP, so that all of North Carolina s children have access to quality healthcare.

NC House District 115 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Mark Crawford (R)

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. In order to ensure adequate funding of the NCJJDP and JCP Councils are adequately funded, I would begin with an item-by-item examination of the exact needs of every single Council, attempt to fully fund as needed by legislative appropriations and an equally shared burden with those communities/municipalities in which they function.

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. In order to strengthen the economic security of low-income housing, we must take steps to ensure the economy itself is strengthened, thereby resulting in higher paying jobs, as well as greater potential availability of higher wages. At the same time, by reducing burdensome taxes which disproportionately effect the working poor the most [e.g. gas taxes, sales taxes, etc.] we can allow for more funds to stay with these low income families which may then be allocated to gaining better housing opportunities, potentially better health care, etc.

Patsy Keever (D)

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. Having taught middles school students for 20 of my 25 years of teaching, I know that the programs for juveniles are essential to the well being of our youth as well as our society and must continue to be funded. We need to take a look at the way our system is organized and see if we can find savings and/or ways to better coordinate with our Department of Corrections. Right now there are two separate departments which may be a good thing, but the communication between those departments could improve and they can better support each other.

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. In order to strengthen the economic security of low-income families, the state must ensure that everyone has the best education possible. The state must fully fund our community college system which is essential for training specific skills and retraining workers who have lost their jobs. The state can also help create jobs and support our local businesses through tax incentives. We should also explore incentives which encourage green jobs to come into the state.

NC House District 115 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Mark Crawford (R)

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. The legislature might consider streamlining educational efforts by allowing a greater concentration of authority and decision-making capability within local school boards hands rather than relying on a “cookie cutter” and “one-size-fits-all mentality driven by bureaucrats at the state level. This should help ensure a more proactive approach and allow school systems (LEAs) to more accurately address any specific problems and tailor solutions more closely to overall needs. This should result in better results, not only for African-American, Native American and Hispanic students, but all students.

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. As touched upon in question # 6, if the legislature allows local school systems to address issues such as diminishing time for physical activities, school nutrition, etc., these can be remedied directly by local authorities directly addressing the situational needs.

Patsy Keever (D)

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. The Legislature needs to allow flexibility to the local school systems to create programs which meet the needs of the children they serve. That being said, the Legislature must make every effort to set standards, fund necessary programs and provide resources early on in a child s development. The state also needs to invest in resources to prevent problems which may show up later in life when a child has not had adequate support to be successful.

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. The legislature has the constitutional responsibility to ensure that our children are educated. That includes providing a safe and healthy environment in the schools and in the community. Nutritious food programs in the school are a must, as is requiring adequate physical activity during the school hours. Finally, snack and drink machines in schools must provide more healthy options for students. A healthy body is the base for a healthy mind.

NC House District 116 (vote for one)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Tim Moffitt (R)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. Private Sector Job Creation, Education and Reducing the size of Government

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina's investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. Without strengthening the economy and shoring up the private sector, we will continue to see multi-billion dollar budget shortfalls in Raleigh. Our legislators have failed to reach an appropriate balance between government and keeping our private sector healthy.

Jane Whilden (D)

Q. What are your top three policy priorities should you be elected?

A. My top three priorities are 1) to create & expand job opportunities 2) to support our small businesses and 3) to protect education at all levels. If we have good paying jobs, our economy will be back on track and problems with tight school budgets and health and human services will be alleviated. I have worked to help WNC receive its fair due from the state. Our area is unique for small businesses and therefore we have been hit a bit harder by the economic crisis. But we are resilient in Buncombe County and economic indicators show we will soon be back on track. I am confident in our ability to turn this crisis around

Q. Over the past two years, the legislature has made deep cuts to education, health and human services, and juvenile justice budgets. With another multi-billion dollar budget shortfall looming, what must be done to support North Carolina's investments in children and families for the short and long term?

A. The deep cuts made to the education, health & human services and juvenile justice budgets have been serious. Yet we were able to protect our children's education, retain & rehire teachers, and keep Camp Woodson from being cut. Protecting funding for all of these programs is critical and something I feel strongly about. However, I will also continue to look for fraud & waste in all areas of state government. I firmly believe in being fiscally responsible and at the same time protecting those programs that are most needed by our youth & older populations.

NC House District 116 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Tim Moffitt (R)

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children s needs?

A. Most companies have moved to PTO time which can be used in any manner the employee chooses. Also, most small businesses are relatively unstructured and provided the employee and employer have a good relationship, most small businesses will tend to be more lenient and work with the employee v. seeking to be punitive. In regards to disparate earnings between men and women, it is inappropriate never acceptable to compensate men and women differently for the same job. Within my office I make sure that the children of my employees receive balanced care with our two parent families. For them and our single parent households I allow them to bring those children to work. This allows homework to be done...(candidate reponse exceeded 120 word limit)

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. I would need to evaluate this issue in greater detail. It is a disturbing premise and requires more than just a single faceted answer.

Jane Whilden (D)

Q. According to the NC Justice Center, almost half of workers in NC do not have paid sick days to care for themselves, their children, or their parents when ill. Additionally, working women continue to earn less than their male counterparts and the cost of child care can exceed the cost of college tuition. What can the state legislature do to promote family friendly workplaces that help working parents – especially working mothers – provide for their children s needs?

A. Most single and two parent families are working or looking for work. The problem of child care subsidies continues in Buncombe County and I hope will soon be addressed. I have been keeping up with the committee s work. DHHS is aware of our concerns and we are close to an agreement that will bring us in line with other counties of our size. Because many of Buncombe County s jobs are in the service industry, they do not pay well and often do not offer benefits such as paid sick days or child care options. I think government needs to look at tax incentives as well as working with public and private partnerships to encourage businesses to provide these benefits.

Q. In NC, about 25,000 youth annually receive locally provided juvenile justice services, but funding has not kept pace with demand or inflation. How will you ensure that the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils are adequately funded to provide safety, treatment and education to the youth they serve?

A. Delinquency and juvenile crime prevention programs are extremely important to our community. Prevention is the key. I will continue to encourage my colleagues to support the alternative sentencing programs programs that are successful, such as Camp Woodson. Law enforcement has played a key role in reducing gangs violence. Community involvement from churches and other community organizations are also vital. We have to use whatever resources we can muster to help our youth. In these tough economic times we must often look at more creative approaches to solve problems.

NC House District 116 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Tim Moffitt (R)

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. North Carolina must improve the climate for private sector job creation and growth. We are considered the most expensive and anti-business State in the Southeast. That reputation benefits no one. It is our responsibility to provide an environment conducive to job growth, not government growth.

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. I would need to study this issue. This has been a problem for as long as I can remember and we continue to put the same people in office over and over. We need to put people in office that have proven problem solving skills and who are willing to take the courageous stands necessary to affect meaningful and lasting change.

Jane Whilden (D)

Q. About one in five NC children live in families earning below the poverty level (about \$22,000 for a family of four). Children experiencing poverty are more likely to have poorer health, lower school achievement, and live in substandard housing than their non-poor peers. What can the legislature do to strengthen the economic security of low-income families and reduce child poverty?

A. North Carolina has been able to address some of the needs of those in poverty because we continue to be smart with our available resources. We have cut vacant positions in state government, merged parts of state government to reduce duplication and are better tracking our expenses. These actions have freed the state to continue to provide free lunches for students in need, medical care for those who are sick, and re-training for people who have lost their jobs. I am committed to expanding the job market, protecting education, and supporting community colleges in their role in job training.

Q. In NC, white students (on average) score higher on 6end of grade tests and have higher graduation rates than African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. How can the legislature address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. The legislature has an obligation to address the problem of low performing students. Our state is known for its innovative early childhood programs that are designed to provide a good start for those that need it. Non-white students often score lower on standardized tests and graduate at a lower rate. Many schools and some churches in our area provide free tutoring and other assistance. While I will work in the legislature to provide state resources, we must allow each school district to create programs that work best in their area to reduce the achievement gap.

NC House District 116 (continued)

Candidates listed alphabetically

Tim Moffitt (R)

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. I was not aware of this fact. Thank you for bringing it to my attention. The State legislature should have a significant role in establishing standards within primary education insuring that good nutritional and health programs are available and funded.

Jane Whilden (D)

Q. Public schools do not receive state funds to support their school nutrition (school lunch/breakfast) programs and time for physical activity in schools has shrunk. What role does the legislature have, if any, in supporting the nutrition and health of students?

A. The legislature can and must encourage teachers and school personnel to be knowledgeable about the importance of good nutrition and exercise. In addition it is important to encourage guidelines to be used by schools to have healthier options in the cafeteria. In many cases, the food children received at school is the most nutritious and substantive they will receive each day. Finally, we must also encourage schools to have healthier options in the snack and drink machines. To encourage more physical activity and healthy eating, we must all band together, schools and the community at large,

GET TO KNOW A LITTLE ABOUT THE CANDIDATES

Bob Rhinehart: Buncombe County Board of Education Enka

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** Bob.rhinehart@charter.net • 828-273-1789
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** none listed
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Former Owner Asheville Fire & Safety
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** Fields of Hope-Candler Project Coordinator (Raising fresh produce for Manna Food Bank) Upper Room Ministries-Board of Directors (Building Homes/Churches/Medical facilities in Central America) Involved with Enka High Athletic Boosters, Enka High Band Boosters and Enka Schools Foundation (Founding Member)

Pat Bryant: Buncombe County Board of Education Erwin

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** 828-215-8765 or pat.bryant@bcsemail.org
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** none listed
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Realtor with Beverly-Hanks & Associates
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** Erwin High School Booster Club, United Way Day of Caring, volunteer work with fundraising event(s) through the athletic dept. at UNC Asheville, Santa Pal project at Christmas each year through the Asheville Optimist Club

Lisa C. Baldwin: Buncombe County Board of Education Reynolds

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** 828-628-9537 or email lisa@electlisabaldwin.com
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** www.electlisabaldwin.com
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Elect-Lisa-Baldwin-Buncombe-County-School-Board/120646861316453#!/pages/Elect-Lisa-Baldwin-Buncombe-County-School-Board/120646861316453?v=wall>
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Former USDA Home Economist – research instrumental in the development of the original Food Pyramid, an education tool used to promote a healthy lifestyle. Also worked as a team member to analyze data from the USDA Food Consumption Surveys. This data is valuable in determining WIC and food stamp program allotments.
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** Family Ministry Coordinator at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, A.C. Reynolds High School PTSO Vice-President and 4-H Club Leader in Fairview.

Henry D. Mitchell: Buncombe County Board of Education Reynolds

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** mitchellhenry2010@yahoo.com • **Cell number:** 828-768-3419
Home number: 828-274-3419
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** www.electmitchellschoolboard.com
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** Buncombe County Schools – Substitute teacher
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** Fairview Mountain Lions Club, Greater Optimist Club of Asheville, and Oakley Neighborhood Association

Chuck Radford: Buncombe County Board of Education Reynolds

- 1. If voters have questions, they can reach me at:** none listed
- 2. Campaign website/Facebook page:** none listed
- 3. Current or most recent employment:** none listed
- 4. List up to 3 volunteer positions:** : 1) President, AC Reynolds Booster Club 2) President, Board of Trustees, Covenant Community United Methodist Church 3) League Commissioner, East Asheville Youth Activities

Buncombe County Board of Education ENKA

Candidates listed alphabetically

Bob Rhinehart

Q. What are your top three priorities if elected to the school board?

A. Continue to recruit and Retain Top Teachers/ Staff, Work with Local and State Politicians to restore lost funding, improve four-year cohort graduation and dropout rates.

Q. Public schools have been hurt by the economic recession. With fewer state and local funds, how will you evaluate and prioritize services?

A. Prioritize services- Providing a sound K-3 grade foundation of balanced Literacy, Ensure that high school students meet requirements for graduation, Facilitating the system wide integration of current technology.

Q. Buncombe County Schools social workers, counselors, nurses, school resource officers, principals, and other staff address students behavioral, emotional, and physical needs outside the classroom. Additionally, extra-curricular activities, afterschool programming, and community partnerships serve students beyond the school day. As a school board member, what is your vision for the role of these staff, services, activities, and partnerships to support student success? Are there needed improvements or expansions?

A. Community Connections- Buncombe County schools are very fortunate to have a large number of Community Partnerships: Eblen Charities, YMCA, YWCA, Children First of Buncombe County, United Way, ARP-Phoenix, a host of civic organizations, local Churches and businesses. We must continue to utilize and expand these partnerships to help meet the basic needs of students and their families. .

Q. In Buncombe County Schools, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have a higher graduation rate than African-American and Hispanic students. What can the school board do to address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. Closing the Achievement Gap- Smaller Class Sizes (especially for K-3), Balanced Literacy, Recognize Early need for tutoring, Parental involvement & education, Encourage Honors Level Courses. Buncombe County Principals are currently taking a professional development course to help identify and close the achievement gap for all students in need of extra help.

Nathan Taylor, the other candidate for Buncombe County School Board Enka, did not respond to the questions for the candidate survey.

Buncombe County Board of Education ERWIN

Candidates listed alphabetically

Pat Bryant (Running Unopposed)

Q. What are your top three priorities if elected to the school board?

A. The top priority we face in the next several years are the issues with our budget. The second priority is to continue the progress we are making system wide in our drop-out prevention work. My third priority is to continue looking at issues that pertain to the health and well being of our young people and ways we can improve childhood obesity and other health related education issues.

Q. Public schools have been hurt by the economic recession. With fewer state and local funds, how will you evaluate and prioritize services?

A. Our top priority is and will continue to be to make decisions, budgetary and otherwise, that we make those decisions on what is best for our students. Having said that we always look at the programs we have that relate to our graduation initiatives through all grade levels and make our decisions accordingly.

Q. Buncombe County Schools social workers, counselors, nurses, school resource officers, principals, and other staff address students behavioral, emotional, and physical needs outside the classroom. Additionally, extra-curricular activities, afterschool programming, and community partnerships serve students beyond the school day. As a school board member, what is your vision for the role of these staff, services, activities, and partnerships to support student success? Are there needed improvements or expansions?

A. I believe that all of these people and groups are important to the success of our students. Ideally it would be nice to expand these and other services when needed. Our world is such today that we need continued support from many groups and individuals to help our children succeed in today's world. All budgetary expenses in education I feel are investments in our greatest resource, our children who are our future leaders.

Q. In Buncombe County Schools, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have a higher graduation rate than African-American and Hispanic students. What can the school board do to address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. I do not have in front of me the scores and breakdown for the different subgroups of students in Buncombe County Schools. I do know that we encourage the Superintendent and his staff to address these and other issues so that we provide as many opportunities and services for ALL of our students as we can so that they are all successful and graduate from Buncombe County Schools. We need more involvement and connection with many of our parents and communities, and the Superintendent and his staff have and are making a huge effort to meet in our communities and address the parent/family involvement in the lives and education of our students. I believe I as a parent have.... (candidate response exceeded the 120 word limit)

Buncombe County Board of Education REYNOLDS

Candidates listed alphabetically

Lisa C. Baldwin

Q. What are your top three priorities if elected to the school board?

A. With an M.S. in Economic Policy and Law I stand committed to fiscal responsibility by focusing taxpayer dollars on classroom instruction. Teachers must receive the financial and professional support they need to excel at creating lifelong learners, not just good test-takers. Maintaining small elementary classroom sizes and k-3 teacher assistants give students a significant achievement advantage, particularly in math and reading. Drop-out prevention begins in elementary school.

I back a school calendar that maximizes learning opportunities and minimizes disruptions. Working within the parameters of the law, I am committed to assisting the BCS Calendar Committee in designing a school calendar with consistent start and end dates, and allowances for adequate snow days, eliminating the possibility of Saturday school.

Henry D. Mitchell

Q. What are your top three priorities if elected to the school board?

A. To be fiscal conservative, look at ways to reduce waste starting at the top and provide cost saving measures while still protecting teachers jobs and quality of classroom instruction.

B. Have broader input and more local control over the school calendar. The calendar should be first developed in the interest of children s safety and welfare and to obtain quality classroom time.

C. Improve graduation rates and develop better incentives to reduce the dropout rate. Partner with local churches, civic groups and community organizations to provide out of school support for dropout prevention.

Chuck Radford

Q. What are your top three priorities if elected to the school board?

A. First, to guide and administer the decisions of the Buncombe County Board of Education in a manner that promotes the providing of the necessary resources which the students and teachers of Buncombe County need to be successful. Second, due to the projected shortfall of funding, the above stated initiative will need to be accomplished in a fiscally responsible directive thus enabling us to maximize the public monies available that we must never forget are tax payer funded. Finally, to conduct these services and all other school board business with total transparency in an effort to continually maintain the community s trust.

Buncombe County Board of Education REYNOLDS

Candidates listed alphabetically

Lisa C. Baldwin

Q.Public schools have been hurt by the economic recession. With fewer state and local funds, how will you evaluate and prioritize services?

A. The top funding priority of the school system should be directing dollars to classroom instruction. With my background in production management at Burlington Industries I see a need to drive organizational efficiency and performance, eliminating wasteful central office expenditures and duplication of services. With race-to-the-top funds coming it is crucial that this money is directed toward classroom instruction, particularly in the areas of science and math. Priority should be given to 1) recruiting and retaining quality teachers, 2) reducing the student achievement gap, particularly between demographic subgroups, 3) raising expectations for low-performing schools and increasing parental and community involvement, and 4) utilizing technology to track student progress and assess students academic strengths and weaknesses.

Henry D. Mitchell

Q.Public schools have been hurt by the economic recession. With fewer state and local funds, how will you evaluate and prioritize services?

A. The number one concern is the budget crisis facing Buncombe County Schools. There are sufficient amounts of money appropriated for education; it is how we choose to spend the money. We must maintain good balance in schools and focus on academics as well as giving students exposure to the Arts Programs. Students need an outlet to be more successful. Research shows that students exposed to the Arts Program excel in regular classroom environments. We should partner with community and government groups to provide the extracurricular activities (athletics, band, etc.) that students need to develop and maintain healthy minds and bodies. We need to keep students hands and minds occupied in constructive measures to help reduce juvenile problems.

Chuck Radford

Q.Public schools have been hurt by the economic recession. With fewer state and local funds, how will you evaluate and prioritize services?

A. When setting the priorities for Buncombe County Schools, you have to start in the classroom with the teachers. They are the day-to-day facilitators of our children s educational experience, and it is vital that we have quality instructors throughout the system. Also, within the classroom setting, it is imperative that the student-teacher ratio be kept as low as possible to help ensure quality instruction time. The litmus test I will administer for the funding of services is simple, How will this impact the kids?

Buncombe County Board of Education REYNOLDS

Candidates listed alphabetically

Lisa C. Baldwin

Q. Buncombe County Schools social workers, counselors, nurses, school resource officers, principals, and other staff address students behavioral, emotional, and physical needs outside the classroom. Additionally, extra-curricular activities, afterschool programming, and community partnerships serve students beyond the school day. As a school board member, what is your vision for the role of these staff, services, activities, and partnerships to support student success? Are there needed improvements or expansions?

A. Many school districts in North Carolina are forming networks with various agencies, realizing the need for collaboration between groups. Children First is an excellent example of the effort to boost graduation rates through mentoring. Social services, mental health and education agencies can also work together to equip parents with the skills and resources needed to increase their children's academic success. Effective parenting strategies are linked to school readiness, school achievement and healthy physical and emotional outcomes for children. Research shows parent involvement is key to closing the achievement gap. Adoption of schools by faith-based and civic groups and tapping into local resources (industry/apprenticeships) to supplement traditional academic resources is also an excellent way to support student success.

Henry D. Mitchell

Q. Buncombe County Schools social workers, counselors, nurses, school resource officers, principals, and other staff address students behavioral, emotional, and physical needs outside the classroom. Additionally, extra-curricular activities, afterschool programming, and community partnerships serve students beyond the school day. As a school board member, what is your vision for the role of these staff, services, activities, and partnerships to support student success? Are there needed improvements or expansions?

A. We need to continue and monitor the necessary programs provided for the students. Any current program that is not producing positive results must be eliminated. All resources that are available should be monitored and the responsible group should be held accountable by reporting back to the appropriate supervisors. We must monitor funds, equipment, and manpower to make sure that they are being used properly to ensure the best positive outcome. In other words, let us get the bang for our bucks. We really do not need to expand any current programs. We need to evaluate, screen and modify the current procedures in place.

Chuck Radford

Q. Buncombe County Schools social workers, counselors, nurses, school resource officers, principals, and other staff address students behavioral, emotional, and physical needs outside the classroom. Additionally, extra-curricular activities, afterschool programming, and community partnerships serve students beyond the school day. As a school board member, what is your vision for the role of these staff, services, activities, and partnerships to support student success? Are there needed improvements or expansions?

A. Not only are we in the educational business, but we are also in the developmental business as well. In my opinion, the role of the Buncombe County schools and their collaborative entities is to provide the students with the support necessary to maximize their learning experiences and promote solid citizenry. Within our diverse system, each community has different needs involving student wellness services so there is no broad based template to install. Also, given our current economic climate, additional funding for the expansion of those services under the direction of the Buncombe County Board of Education would need to be considered on a case by case basis.

Buncombe County Board of Education REYNOLDS

Candidates listed alphabetically

Lisa C. Baldwin

Q. In Buncombe County Schools, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have a higher graduation rate than African-American and Hispanic students. What can the school board do to address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. The school board can ensure that all students have the same educational opportunities. Interventions such as pre-kindergarten programs, class size reduction and after-school tutoring need to be continued. Standards must be in place to measure the outcomes of these programs; this data can be used to track students progress and individual student needs.

Successful models to increase performance at the school and district level must be sought and strategies to turn around low-performing schools need to be researched. We need to raise expectations and academic standards for demographic subgroups and encourage students to take honors and AP classes. Equipping teachers with new ways to teach core content can raise interest levels, particularly for these subgroups.

Henry D. Mitchell

Q. In Buncombe County Schools, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have a higher graduation rate than African-American and Hispanic students. What can the school board do to address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. Many of these results have to do with the home environment. It has been proven that any student in similar family environments perform and do equally well in school. When the home environment is effected by being a single parent or the child living with grandparents with limited resources and educational materials and with minimum family involvement, the child s education suffers. Living conditions and family economics has a major effect on the students success. We must support activities at school as well as in the community to help children develop and excel in the classroom. As the old Indian saying: It takes the whole village to raise the child.

Chuck Radford

Q. In Buncombe County Schools, white students (on average) score higher on end of grade tests and have a higher graduation rate than African-American and Hispanic students. What can the school board do to address this education achievement gap and realize success for all students?

A. One thing the school board can do is promote the hiring and retaining of qualified instructional personnel within our system regardless of race, ethnicity, culture or gender. Then, with the assistance of school administrators, support these teachers fully in their preparation for classroom instruction. To make strides in raising the level of academic performance by any student requires early awareness that a trending problem exists. Specifically in this instance, the school board should look to the system superintendent for means and methods of assisting any underperforming group(s) of students.

DON T FORGET TO VOTE!! TUESDAY NOV. 2

There Are Three Ways To Vote Early!

One Stop:

Beginning Thursday, October 14, 2010, a voter can vote in person at an early voting location. Please call 250-4200 for details about the early voting location nearest you.

Written Request:

Send a written request to: Rachel Brown, Board of Elections, PO Box 7468, Asheville, NC 28802. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, date of birth and the address where the ballot should be mailed if different from your residential address. The written request must be signed by the voter in order to receive a ballot.

Requests may be submitted annually for all elections within the calendar year. The desire for an annual request must be notated and on the written request.

Absentee Request Form:

Do you need to help a near relative get a ballot who is away at college or is housebound and is unable to travel? Request it now by sending an email to: absenteeballot.request@buncombecounty.org.

Near Relative Request:

You can request an absentee ballot if you are the voter s spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild, or verifiable legal guardian.

NOTE: No one with Power of Attorney is allowed to request an absentee ballot for a voter unless he or she is the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian.

ABOUT THE NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The House of Representatives consists of 120 members who serve a term of two years. The presiding officer of the House of Representatives is the Speaker of the House. The Speaker is elected by the members from their membership for a two-year term. The Speaker s duties include maintaining order in the House and appointing members to the House standing committees.

Source: www.ncga.state.nc.us

ABOUT THE NC SENATE:

The Senate consists of 50 members who serve a term of two years. The Lieutenant Governor is President of the Senate and presides over the daily session. The Lieutenant Governor is elected by the citizens of North Carolina for a four-year term. He/ she has no vote in the Senate except to break a tie. The Senate elects officers from their membership including the President Pro Tempore.

Source: www.ncga.state.nc.us

ABOUT THE BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION:

There are seven members of the Board of Education who are elected to serve 4-year terms. One candidate is elected from each of the six districts and one at-large. Candidates are elected on a nonpartisan basis. Voters in each district vote for candidates from all districts and for the at-large candidate. The Superintendent is appointed by the Board and serves as Secretary to the Board.

Board meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month. Meetings begin with a closed session that typically starts at 5:30 p.m. and the general session at 6:30 p.m. (Board meeting times are subject to change.) Meetings are held at the Administrative Services Building, 175 Bingham Road, in the Board Auditorium.

Source: www.buncombe.k12.nc.us



Communities
In Schools

Children First/Communities In Schools of Buncombe County improves the lives of children, youth and their families through community collaboration, advocacy and programs.

Children First/Communities In Schools of Buncombe County is a not-for-profit organization advocating for Buncombe County's children while providing innovative programs for vulnerable children, and engaging the community in creating a better future for all children.

To get involved visit www.childrenfirstbc.org or call 828-259-9717

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