

# Save our Schools NC

VOTE 2018



# Why Elections Matter

## Public School Funding Source

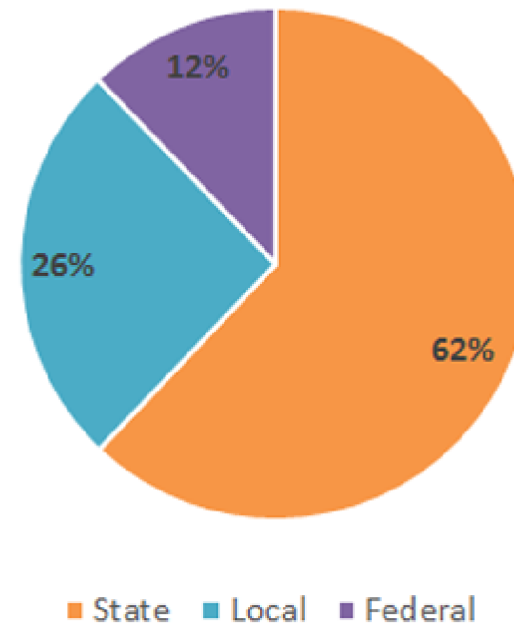
62% Comes from the State

26% Local or County Funding

12% Federal

Graph provided by: NC Justice Center

North Carolina: Public School Revenue  
by Source of Funds



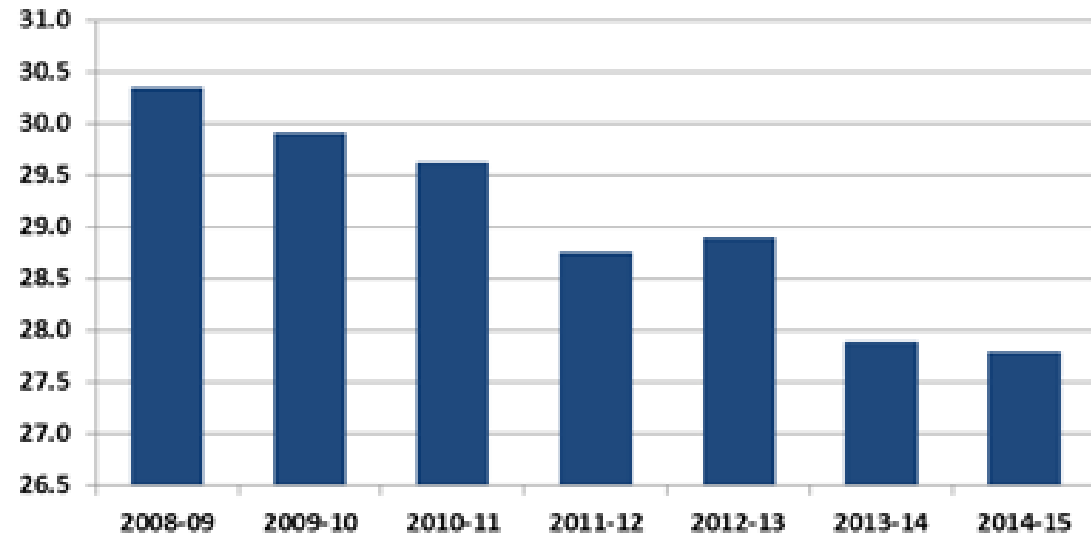
# What's At Stake?

NC Public Schools have 8 years of inadequate funding. We have lost TA positions, textbook funding, and teacher pay.

We have enacted harmful laws like the class size mandate with no funding for facilities and inadequate funding for the teachers we need to meet the mandate.

8+ years of inadequate funding

## Public School Spending as Share of GDP

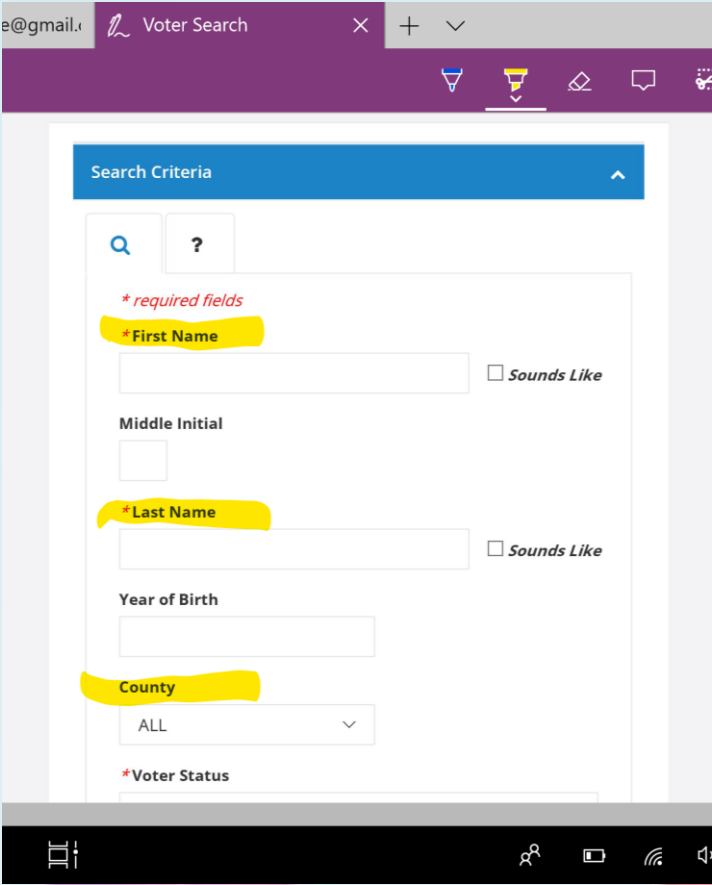
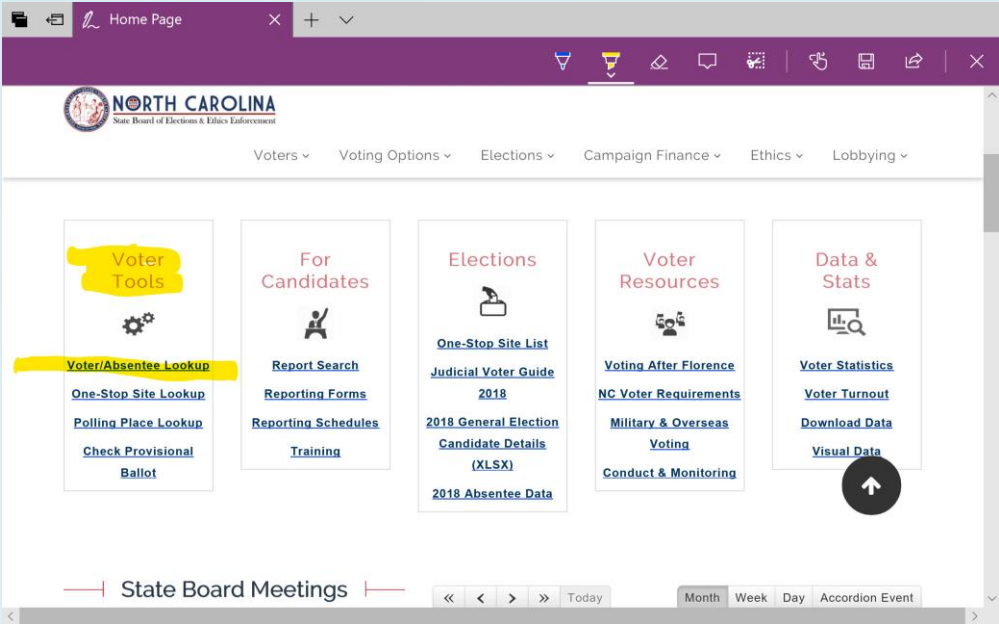


# **Know Your Ballot**

**Look up Your Voting Information and  
View Your Sample Ballot**

**<https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/>**

Look Under Voter Tools and Click Voter/Absentee Lookup.  
Then Fill out the Required Fields.



# How to Spot a Good State Candidate for Senate or House

## Candidate A

Blank's background as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill has led to a great understanding of North Carolina's education system.

Blank is passionate about their work in the Senate for improving early childhood and K-20 public education.

Governor Blank appointed Blank to succeed Blank in representing North Carolina on the Southern Regional Education Board.

## Candidate B

Right now, our per-pupil spending is ranked 39th, more than \$2,300 behind the national average, and \$600 below what we were spending before the Great Recession. This funding pays for everything from textbooks to supplies. By not providing sufficient funding, the legislature in Raleigh is failing our students.

The legislature is also failing to show our teachers the respect they deserve. We rank 39th in the country for teacher pay and we're losing great teachers to other higher paying states. When I was in first grade I had trouble reading, but my first-grade teacher worked with me and by the end of second grade I was up to speed. Teachers like this can make a huge difference in the lives of their students and we need to make sure they're staying in North Carolina schools.

I'll fight to bring our per-pupil funding and teacher pay to the national average.

# Questions We Need to Ask Our Legislators

- Did you vote for HB13 or promote an end to the class size mandate?
- Did you enact legislation or speak out about class size chaos? Go to a Rally, speak to constituents?
- Did you vote against putting the tax cap on the ballot?
- Did you vote for HB514, allowing towns to open charter schools?
- Did you push for a state-wide school bond?

# Wake County Commissioners

- 7 Districts
- Vote for One in **EACH** district
- Have Taxing Authority. All tax increases and county wide bonds must go through them. Sometimes called the “banker” of the school system
- Their views on Public Education are important and have lasting effects on the school system’s budget.
- Also handle things like county health and housing offices



# Judges: No Primaries were held for judges who now run partisan races

N.C. Supreme Court has 7 justices (one seat is up for a vote) and is the final say on matters of state law. Pay attention this one effects education issues. State laws can be overturned if ruled unconstitutional by this body.

Court of Appeals (There are 3 seats, we choose one for each seat) They determine if the law was applied correctly in the trial court

Superior Court (One Seat, one vote) handles felonies and larger civil cases. The N.C. Business Court is also under its purview.

District Court (There are 3 seats. We choose one for each seat) hears civil cases involving less than \$25,000 and criminal misdemeanors. District Court also oversees juvenile court and the magistrates, which handle things like small claims and evictions.

# Board of Education

There are 9 Districts in Wake County. Your school may be located in a different district than where you live.

## What makes a good school board member?

- Advocate for district in the County and in the General Assembly.
- Non Partisan and simply stands for public education
- Open and accessible to constituents.
- Not here just to score political points for future office runs.

# Right to Hunt and Fish

**Constitutional amendment protection the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife.**

- **Creates a constitutional right to hunt and fish**
- **Already a right with no known threats**
- **Could override municipalities to decide hunting laws**

# Victims Bill of Rights

**Constitutional amendment to strengthen protections for victims of crime, to establish certain, absolute basic rights for victims, and to ensure the enforcement of these rights**

- **Expands rights of crime victims.**
- **Estimated cost is 30.5 million per year for additional prosecutors.**
- **Already have one? In 1995, voters approved the addition of “Section 37. Rights of victims of crime” to Article I of the North Carolina Constitution. That section enumerates several “basic rights” for victims of crimes”**

# **Income Tax Cap**

## **Huge Impact on Public Education!**

**Constitutional amendment to reduce the income tax rate in North Carolina to a maximum allowable rate of 7%**

- **Lowers cap on income tax from 10 to 7%**
- **limit on the tools available to future policymakers and voters to fund public schools, health, and disaster recovery.**
- **Given the experience of other states, the likely result would be increases in sales and property tax to ensure revenue is available for these priorities, resulting in taxpayers with middle and low incomes paying more as a share of their income than millionaires do.**

# Voter Photo ID

**Constitutional amendment to require voters to provide photo identification before voting in person.**

- **381,000 eligible voters do not have a photo ID.**
- **There is no plan to ensure that all voters who need an ID get one.**
- **Types of photo ID that would be allowed or exceptions won't be decided until AFTER the amendment vote**

# Judicial Appointments

Constitutional amendment to change the process for filling judicial elections.

See Ballot for more wording

- Removes Governor's power to appoint judges when there is an opening between elections
- Gives NC Legislature the power to choose two names to send to the Governor for approval of one appointment
- Legislature could add two Supreme Court seats in special session.

# Ethics and Elections

**Constitutional amendment to establish and eight member Bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections Enforcement in the Constitution to administer ethics and elections law.**

- **Transfers power from Governor to NC Legislature to make appointments to the board.**
- **Reduces current 9 member board to 8.**
- **Possibility of deadlock**



# Wake County School Bond

- We need to build in Wake County and bonds offer us a way to buy with a lower interest rate and therefore save taxpayers money We are constitutionally obligated to build new schools. We'll be building these schools anyway. Might as well do it economically
- Bond will renovate 11 schools including AC
- Build 5 new Elem. Schools, 1 new Middle School and 1 new High School
- Money will improve school safety and security
- Money will also be used for new classroom technology
- See Wake PTA Council Resolution or Write your own

# Wake County Community College Bond

- Wake Tech now serves more than 74,000 students annually – the equivalent of 1 in 10 Wake County adults. The county's population is growing by 63 residents a day.
- Addresses infrastructure repairs
- Build new parking structures as well as new buildings across Wake Tech Campuses across the county

# **Wake County Parks, Greenways, Recreation, and Open Spaces Bond**

- **Acquiring 1,800 acres for future parks and open space, building about 15 miles of greenways to bridge gaps in the greenway system or to bridge gaps to major parks and renovations or upgrades to current parks ranging from adding park benches to adding a nature or education center.**
- **Specific parks that could open or be renovated include Lake Myra Park, Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve, Robertson Millpond Preserve, Sinclair Nature Preserve and the Southeast Park.**