

EDENTON-CHOWAN SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Post Office Box 206, Edenton, NC 27932
Telephone: (252) 482-4436 Fax: (252) 482-7309
www.ecps.k12.nc.us

*Ricky Browder
Paul Clifton
Joan White*

*Jean Bunch
Glorious Elliott
Dr. Rob Jackson, Superintendent*

*Gil Burroughs
Gene Jordan*

Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education Resolution on Legislative Priorities

WHEREAS, the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education (ECSBOE) leads a public school district in Northeastern North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) represents all 115 school boards across the state, including the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the NCSBA legislative agenda is developed after input from school board members across the state through a survey process and district meetings, consideration by the NCSBA Legislative Committee comprised of school board members and is ultimately adopted by school board members comprising the NCSBA Delegate Assembly; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2016, the NCSBA Delegate Assembly adopted the NCSBA Legislative Agenda for the 2017-2018 legislative session; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2016, the ECSBOE affirmed the NCSBA Legislative Agenda, attached hereto as Attachment I, and adopted the ECSBOE Legislative Agenda, attached hereto as Attachment 2; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2014, the ECSBOE adopted a Resolution on Supporting Local Control of School Calendars, seeking restoration of local control of school calendars to allow local boards of education to meet the unique educational needs and school calendar preferences of the children and families within their communities while allowing for innovative experimental approaches to dealing with summer learning loss; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2015, the ECSBOE adopted a Resolution on Supporting Sales Tax Refund/Exemption for Public Schools, seeking either a sales tax exemption or a sales tax refund for local boards of education be reinstated; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2014, the ECSBOE adopted a Resolution on Revision to the State's Grading System for Schools, seeking the development of an alternative grading system which can be used to give parents and taxpayers a truer vision of the performance of our schools; and

WHEREAS, the legislative issues set out in the NCSBA Legislative Agenda for 2017-2018, and further prioritized in the ECSBOE Legislative Agenda, have been identified by the ECSBOE as essential to enhancing the exercise of their school district control and supervisory powers and to improving the quality of K-12 education provided in Chowan County and the State of North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education supports the NCSBA Legislative Agenda and hereby adopts the ECSBOE Legislative Agenda.

Adopted by the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education this 6th day of December, 2016.

Chairman

Rob Jackson, Ed. D.
Secretary

Attachment 1

NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

2017-18 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The North Carolina School Boards Association is the unified voice for ALL school districts across the state. NCSBA is a volunteer membership association representing all 115 local boards of education in North Carolina and the board of the Cherokee nation. For the general improvement and betterment of public education in North Carolina, NCSBA will advocate for the following items during the 2017-18 legislative session.

Ensuring Student Success

NC Pre-K Program

The State-funded prekindergarten program - NC Pre-K – provides high-quality early educational opportunities to North Carolina's at-risk children. Studies have consistently found that children who participate in the program emerge better prepared for school and are more likely to read at grade-level by 3rd grade than their at-risk peers. Current funding levels provide for approximately 20,400 slots but there are tens of thousands more eligible at-risk youth who could benefit from the program. Lawmakers should continue to expand this program.

Early Grade Interventions

State leaders set aside \$20M in 2015 for 1st and 2nd grade reading camps. To help ensure students read at grade level in 3rd grade, NCSBA believes a greater emphasis is required in earlier grades. Therefore, NCSBA recommends expanding K-2 reading opportunities and programs, including reading coaches and reading camps.

School Calendar

The school calendar can have an impact on student achievement. While NC's charter schools have complete flexibility to design calendars that best fit their student's needs, NC's public school districts are subject to calendar restrictions that are not conducive to student learning and success. Some problems created by the current school calendar include:

- Major disruption when scheduling make-up days from significant inclement weather.
- First semester exams are after Christmas break.
- The late second semester starting point shortens the time available for AP/IB students to receive instruction prior to administration of those exams.

NCSBA requests that the General Assembly revise the current school calendar law.

School Technology – Fines and Forfeitures

In August, 2008, the courts found that the State owed public schools \$747 million in technology funding. North Carolina's Constitution requires the clear proceeds of all civil penalties, fines and forfeitures collected by State agencies to be distributed to the public schools and the court

ruled that this requirement was not being followed. An arrangement for settling the full debt has still not been established. School board members have identified school technology funding as a high priority with public school classrooms transitioning into the digital learning age. The General Assembly could help districts address these needs by setting up a method to repay the money owed through the court order. NCSBA is committed to working with the General Assembly to find a method of repaying the debt that is viable for all parties.

Grades 4-8 Initiatives

While early grade initiatives are important, the General Assembly should make sure not to lose focus on areas like upper elementary and middle school. School board members believe that:

- Reading coaching services should be established in grades 4-8 to help sustain student reading gains.
- Students in grades 4 and 5 should be allowed to attend reading camps.
- School board policies on class size limits in grades 4-8 should be required.

Ensuring Efficient Operations

School Board- County Commission Relations

Local education funding in North Carolina is structured differently than most other states. While over 90 percent of the 15,000 school boards in the nation are able to raise their own revenue, North Carolina's local school boards must rely on another local governmental unit, the county commissioners, to provide their funding. Good governance and policymaking starts with elected bodies respecting each other's authority and autonomy but this becomes difficult when funding for one is tied to the other.

Local school boards have the ability to initiate lawsuits against county commissioners if local funding is not sufficient. This tool provides important checks and balances that force county commissioners to the negotiating table. In recent years, representatives of county commissioners have pushed bills to restrict this one method school boards have to influence local school funding. This authority should not be taken away as long as the current funding mechanism is in place.

At the same time, to improve efficiency, the General Assembly should enact legislation that would allow a transfer of fiscal accountability to requesting school boards so that they can be held directly accountable for all aspects of public education in that service area.

Public School Accountability

Lawmakers should do the following with regard to school accountability:

- Create a single statewide accountability system for schools that is aligned with the requirements of the federal Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA).
- Revamp the A-F grading formula to give more credit to growth, at least at a 50-50 split, which will more accurately reflect what is going on in our public schools.

Low-Performing Schools

The definition of a low-performing school was changed by the General Assembly in 2015. The new definition needs further revision to better identify those schools that are most in need of assistance. Specifically, a school that has met growth should not be identified as low-performing. When a school or school district is identified as low-performing there needs to be a funding stream available to allow for additional interventions. NCSBA recommends that the General Assembly set up a program where low-performing schools and districts could secure additional State funds through an application process where they explain how the funds will be used to improve outcomes.

Charter Schools

The current public school funding structure should be revised so that school districts and charter schools both receive local tax dollars directly from county commissioners, essentially funding charter schools like city districts. This would disentangle the financial relationship between local school boards and charter schools and ensure that charter schools are receiving their fair share of local tax dollars.

Sales Tax Refund/Exemption

From 1998 until 2005, local boards of education could provide additional educational opportunities with savings from a sales tax refund. Currently, cities, counties, public universities, charter schools, private schools, and countless other entities either receive a sales tax refund or are exempt from ever paying sales tax. *If North Carolina's tax code is going to continue to allow some governmental entities and others to not pay sales tax to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars, then local boards of education should either be granted a sales tax exemption or have its sales tax refund reinstated.*

School Construction/Capital Funding

School environment and infrastructure are strongly linked to student outcomes. DPI's most recent survey shows public school capital infrastructure needs is \$8 billion over the next five years. The General Assembly needs to develop methods to assist school districts in handling this staggering backlog in order to better serve students. NCSBA believes the best way to help districts is through a two-pronged approach:

- A significant one-time infusion of dollars in the form of a statewide bond.
- Set up dedicated funding streams so that districts have ongoing access to school capital funds from the State, which could be done by returning the lottery allocation for school construction to 40% and/or establishing more local option sales taxes for school construction.

School Safety

The State offers grants to school districts for staffing School Resource Officers in elementary and middle schools. However, in order to access the grants a school district has to commit to putting up a local match of one dollar for every two dollars of State money. This local match requirement has become a barrier for many school districts. NCSBA requests that the General Assembly eliminate the local match requirement.

Printed/Digital Textbooks

Textbook funding has been low for a number of years now. School districts have not had the resources to replace out of date textbooks. This funding needs to be increased.

Staffing for Student Success

Teacher Pay

School districts must be able to offer attractive compensation packages in order to hire and retain the highest quality classroom teachers. Lawmakers have improved teacher pay in recent years but more work remains to ensure the state is regionally and nationally competitive. In addition to ensuring base salaries remain strong, lawmakers should reinstate salary supplements for teachers who earn Master's and Advanced Degrees.

School Administrator Compensation

The salary schedule for the state's school administrators needs significant reform. Compensation levels of school administrators have become problematic around the state. Studies show that school administrator salaries in NC are ranked 50th in the nation.

Non-Certified Personnel Compensation

Raises for non-certified school staff have been relatively low in recent years. School districts need to be able to offer competitive compensation in this area as many of these positions are difficult to recruit and fill.

Teacher Assistants

Lawmakers should invest in additional teacher assistant positions. School districts continue to have significant needs for more teacher assistants in early grades especially with the implementation of Read to Achieve and the amount of one-on-one assessing that is required.

Staff Professional Development

The State has not provided funding for professional development since 2008. Local funding has not been able to make up for this shortfall. Professional development programs are more important than ever as teaching methods have evolved and the role of school staff has become more complex. The State should once again provide professional development funds.

Teacher Licensure

Lawmakers should consider ways to smartly reduce barriers to licensure and entry into the teaching profession to help districts address classroom staffing challenges. One specific method of doing this would be to allow districts to accept an out-of-state teacher's license without additional testing if the candidate has classroom experience.

School Vouchers

Opportunity Scholarship Program Accountability

The state's school voucher program for low-income students needs to be accountable and transparent to the taxpayers of North Carolina who fund it. There are several options the State could implement to accomplish this at schools accepting public monies, including:

- Course of Study/curriculum standards.
- Requiring that no more than half the school's curriculum can be online.
- Testing requirements, whether EOG/EOC, or a State Board-approved alternative.
- Establishing that classroom teachers must have earned at least a bachelor's degree.
- Setting a cap on the percentage of a school's total enrollment that can be comprised of

voucher-funded students.

- Directing that schools must have been open for at least three years.
- School Accreditation requirements.

Education Savings Accounts

NCSBA opposes Education Savings Accounts (ESAs), which are part of the voucher family. Unlike the Opportunity Scholarship program where funds can only be used for a private school, ESAs provide much more flexibility. ESAs divert funds from the public school system directly to the parent and the funds can be used for home schooling expenses, tutoring, private school, computers, and building up savings for college.

Guiding Principles

North Carolina has long recognized the essential nature of public education by providing an opportunity for a sound, basic education. Legislative and policy making bodies must dedicate themselves to maintaining the common system of public education. During each legislative session there are always unanticipated bills introduced that affect public schools. The following are guiding principles NCSBA will use to evaluate legislation that is introduced during the legislative session.

- NCSBA opposes any legislation that would violate federal laws or the state constitution.
- NCSBA opposes any legislation that would require school systems to expend additional financial resources without the State providing those necessary resources. NCSBA also will continue to advocate for funding for currently existing mandates.
- NCSBA opposes any legislation that attempts to diminish or take away local control and supports legislation that provides additional local control and decision making.
- NCSBA supports legislation that creates safe environments for students and staff as long as it is consistent with the aforementioned principles.
- NCSBA supports providing school districts with funds sufficient to guarantee full funding of all funding formulas.
- NCSBA supports an efficient hiring system for employees that will provide a competitive salary and benefits package for all school employees.

Please go to the Governmental Relations section at www.ncsba.org for Issue Briefs on each of these items. For more information, please contact:

Leanne E. Winner
Director of Governmental Relations

(919) 747-6686
lwinner@ncsba.org

Bryan R. Holloway
Associate Director of Governmental Relations

bholloway@ncsba.org (919) 747-6677
ncsba.org

Attachment 2

**Edenton Chowan Schools Board of Education Legislative Agenda
2017-2018**

The Edenton Chowan Schools Board of Education (UCBOE) leads a public school district in Northeastern North Carolina, serving approximately 2,000 students in 4 schools and having approximately 300 employees; and

The Edenton Chowan Schools Board of Education supports the NCSBA Legislative Agenda as written on many issues, but is identifying the following issues as priorities:

1. **Class Size Mandate** - The new K-3 ratio adopted in the 2016 state budget will adversely impact the educational opportunities of students in the Edenton Chowan Schools system. To accommodate the class size mandate in the 2016 state budget, the school system may have to cut almost one-half of the art, music, and physical education positions in the school district. The ECSBOE supports a restoration of the previous individual class size exceptions and district-wide average allowable for grades K-3 to prevent a negative impact on each district's ability to hire non-core teachers in art, physical education, technology, and other special subjects who enhance instruction in early grades.
2. **NC Pre-K Program** - As stated in the NCSBA Legislative Agenda, "The State-funded prekindergarten program - NC Pre-K – provides high-quality early educational opportunities to North Carolina's at-risk children. Studies have consistently found that children who participate in the program emerge better prepared for school and are more likely to read at grade-level by 3rd grade than their at-risk peers. Current funding levels provide for approximately 29,400 slots but there are tens of thousands more eligible at-risk youth who could benefit from the program. Lawmakers should continue to expand this program." The Edenton Chowan Schools Board of Education believes that universal prekindergarten is needed and should be a part of the sound, basic education provided for the children of the great State of North Carolina through the state's constitution.
3. **School Calendar** - ECSBOE supports amending the Calendar Law to provide greater flexibility for LEAs to create school calendars that meet the needs of students. Restoring local control of school calendars will allow local boards of education to meet the unique educational needs and school calendar preferences of the children and families within their communities while allowing for innovative experimental approaches to dealing with summer learning loss. Please also see the Resolution adopted by the ECSBOE on November 3, 2014, attached at Attachment 3.
4. **Sales Tax Refund/Exemption** - As stated in the NCSBA Legislative Agenda, "From 1998 until 2005, local boards of education could provide additional educational opportunities with savings from a sales tax refund. Currently, cities, counties, public universities, charter schools, private schools, and countless other entities either receive a sales tax refund or are exempt from ever paying sales tax. *If North Carolina's tax code is going to continue to allow some governmental entities and others to not pay sales tax to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars, then local boards of education should either be granted a sales tax exemption or have its sales tax refund reinstated.*" Please also see the Resolution adopted by the ECSBOE on November 3, 2014, attached at Attachment 4.

5. **A-F Grading of Schools** - ECSBOE supports abolishing the A-F Grading of Schools. A single grade for a school is not as revealing as the current abundance of data provided for each school on the state report cards. The report cards already allow for comparisons across schools and across school districts in North Carolina. In addition, the formula of 20% growth and 80% performance needs to be retooled to better reflect growth in schools. As stated in the NCSBA Legislative Agenda, "lawmakers should do the following with regard to school accountability:
- a. Create a single statewide accountability system for schools that is aligned with the requirements of the federal Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA).
 - b. Revamp the A-F grading formula to give more credit to growth, at least at a 50-50 split, which will more accurately reflect what is going on in our public schools."

Please also see the Resolution adopted by the ECSBOE on November 3, 2014, attached at Attachment 5.

6. **Principal Pay** - As stated in the NCSBA Legislative Agenda, "the salary schedule for the state's school administrators needs significant reform. Compensation levels of school administrators have become problematic around the state. Studies show that school administrator salaries in NC are ranked 50th in the nation." ECSBOE supports a significant increase to the base pay for principals and assistant principals.
7. **Low-Performing Schools** - As stated in the NCSBA Legislative Agenda, "a school that has met growth should not be identified as low-performing. When a school or school district is identified as low-performing there needs to be a funding stream available to allow for additional interventions." During the 2015-2016 school year, the only school in the Edenton Chowan Schools system to be labeled as low-performing met expected growth. This is not a low-performing school. To label the school as such does a tremendous disservice to the community, the school, the students, and the staff of the school.

Attachment 3



EDENTON-CHOWAN SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Post Office Box 206, Edenton, NC 27932
Telephone: (252) 482-4436 Fax: (252) 482-7309
<http://ecps.schoolfusion.us/>

John Guard
Chairman

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education Resolution Supporting Local Control of School Calendars

Kay Wright
Vice-Chair

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Statutes give local boards of education powers of supervision and control of local school systems; and

Ricky Browder

WHEREAS, local control over establishing school calendars is an integral component of school system supervision and administration powers with which local boards of education have been vested; and

Jean Bunch

WHEREAS, state law has limited local control by imposing a one-size-fits-all mandate on how school calendars are to be set; and

Gil Burroughs

Glorious Elliott

WHEREAS, by limiting local control, the current calendar law has led to the calendar for high schools, community colleges and universities being out of alignment by approximately two weeks, causing scheduling problems for students with college courses now beginning before high school students complete January final exams; and

Gene Jordan

Rob Jackson
Superintendent

WHEREAS, by limiting local control, the current calendar law has created a situation where the fall semester cannot be completed before the winter break, forcing exams to be administered after the break; and

WHEREAS, by limiting local control, the current calendar law has led to a decrease in the amount of instructional time students have prior to taking Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests; and

WHEREAS, the state calendar law strictly limits the number of days that can be scheduled as inclement weather days, increasing the likelihood of unpopular days like the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, spring break, and Saturdays being used as make-up days; and

WHEREAS, it is well-documented through multiple studies that children experience learning loss during the summer months when they are away from the classroom and not engaging in educational activities, a phenomenon which has a disproportionate impact on low-income children; and

WHEREAS, long summer breaks can also negatively impact child nutrition, as low-income children who have access to regular meals at school through the free and reduced priced meal program may not have access to regular meals at home; and

WHEREAS, restoring local control of school calendars will allow local boards of education to meet the unique educational needs and school calendar preferences of the children and families within their communities while allowing for innovative experimental approaches to dealing with summer learning loss.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Edenton- Chowan Schools Board of Education requests that local control over school calendars be returned to local boards of education.

Adopted this 3rd day of November 2014

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John E. Guard", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rob Jackson", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary

Attachment 4



EDENTON-CHOWAN SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Post Office Box 206, Edenton, NC 27932
Telephone: (252) 482-4436 Fax: (252) 482-7309
www.ecps.k12.nc.us

Ricky Browder
Jean Bunch, Vice-Chair
Gil Burroughs

Glorious Elliott
John Guard, Chair

Gene Jordan
Kay Wright

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education Resolution Supporting Sales Tax Refund/Exemption for Public Schools

WHEREAS, from 1998 until 2005, local boards of education were able to provide additional educational opportunities with savings from State and local sales and use tax refunds; and

WHEREAS, a 2005 budget provision revoked LEA sales and use tax refund authority and attempted to supplant the estimated \$33.3 million in lost revenues by authorizing a quarterly transfer of revenue to the State Public School Fund; and

WHEREAS, during the 2006 legislative session, the General Assembly reinstated local school boards' authority to apply for the local sales tax refund, but declined to do likewise with regards to the State sales tax refund; and

WHEREAS, today school districts remain one of the few public entities that cannot apply for a State sales tax refund at a cost the General Assembly's Fiscal Research Division has estimated to exceed \$40 million a year; and

WHEREAS, many other entities, including cities, counties, public universities, charter schools, private schools, and other non-profits, can apply for a State sales tax refund or exemption; and

WHEREAS, no entity in recent history, other than public schools, has lost the ability apply for a State sales tax refund or exemption; and

WHEREAS, even after a comprehensive tax reform, local boards are still excluded and are rightly troubled at being excluded from the group of entities eligible for a State sales tax refund; and

WHEREAS, one of the most problematic aspects of school districts' inability to apply for a State sales tax refund is that no alternative revenue options are available to supplant the lost funds; and

WHEREAS, county governments are already appropriating almost \$2.7 billion per year for public school operating costs and bearing the primary burden for an estimated \$8.2 billion in school facility needs; and

WHEREAS, inability to apply for a State sales tax refund is costly for districts that are building or renovating schools; and

WHEREAS, a 2009 report from the General Assembly's Joint Education Oversight Committee found that without authority to apply for a State sales tax refund many school districts are resorting to a burdensome, wasteful, and highly inefficient exercise of transferring title to their buildings to the county



EDENTON-CHOWAN SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Post Office Box 206, Edenton, NC 27932
Telephone: (252) 482-4436 Fax: (252) 482-7309
www.ecps.k12.nc.us

Ricky Browder
Jean Bunch, Vice-Chair
Gil Burroughs

Glorious Elliott
John Guard, Chair

Gene Jordan
Kay Wright

during the construction phase so that the county can apply for the sales tax refund on the school district's behalf; and

WHEREAS, the Committee found that "there are reports of significant costs related to these property transfers, and that the ability to engage in such transfers varies depending on the relationship between the school board and county commissioners;" and

WHEREAS, districts that cannot transfer their capital costs, meanwhile, have delayed necessary renovations longer than they otherwise would because of the added costs; and

WHEREAS, the end result has been a net loss to public schools statewide, with negative repercussions on classroom operations and the delivery of quality educational services across the state.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Edenton- Chowan Schools Board of Education does request that public schools be treated equally as other entities. If North Carolina's tax code is going to continue to allow numerous entities, including other governmental entities, to not pay sales tax, then the Edenton- Chowan Schools Board of Education does request that local boards of education either be granted a sales tax exemption or have their sales tax refund reinstated.

Adopted this 3rd day of November 2015

John E. Guard
Chairman

Rob Jackson, Ed. D.
Secretary

Attachment 5



EDENTON-CHOWAN SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Post Office Box 206, Edenton, NC 27932
Telephone: (252) 482-4436 Fax: (252) 482-7309
<http://ecps.schoolfusion.us/>

John Guard
Chairman

Resolution Regarding the State's Proposal to Assign Letter Grades to Each Public School

Kay Wright
Vice-Chair

WHEREAS, at the direction of the North Carolina General Assembly the State Board of Education intends to issue "School Performance Grades" for each public school in the state beginning early next year; and

Ricky Browder

WHEREAS, both parents and taxpayers in North Carolina have a right to know how well our individual public schools are performing in their duties to educate our children, and

Jean Bunch

WHEREAS, the School Performance Grades for Elementary and Middle Schools will be based primarily on the results of the standardized End-of-Grade (EOG) and End-of-Course (EOC) tests in Mathematics, English Language Arts and 5th and 8th grade Science; and

Gil Burroughs

Glorious Elliott

WHEREAS, the School Performance Grades for High School will also be based primarily on students' performance on standardized tests in English, Mathematics, and Biology, as well as the ACT and the school's graduation rate; and

Gene Jordan

Rob Jackson
Superintendent

WHEREAS, extensive empirical analyses exist demonstrating a preponderance for evidence that strongly correlates economic and demographic conditions of school's neighborhood with student performance on North Carolina's standardized tests, such that schools drawing from wealthier populations of students consistently do better than schools drawing from populations of higher relative poverty; and

WHEREAS, this correlation of performance of socio-economic conditions is reflected in the results of the students who attend Edenton-Chowan Schools, and

WHEREAS, it is clear that students who come from families with more resources are better prepared and equipped to learn, and

WHEREAS, the year-long measure of educational success that a child attains is the best indicator of overall quality of instruction provided to that student, and

WHEREAS, the state's proposed grading system for schools under-emphasizes gains in yearly growth (i.e., what a child learns in a year) by a weight of 20%, while disproportionately emphasizing performance on standardized tests a weight of 80%,

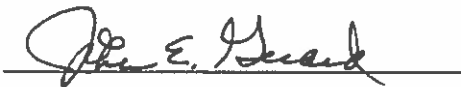
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education finds, for all of the reasons stated above, the North Carolina General Assembly's mandated School Performance Grading system is an ill-conceived, ineffective and potentially damaging approach to addressing otherwise legitimate needs to provide parents and taxpayers an accurate indications of school performance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education believes North Carolina's reputation as a state with a strong education system will be unnecessarily damaged by the assignment of

misleading and counter-productive 'grades' to many of its public schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Edenton-Chowan Schools Board of Education respectfully requests that the Superintendent of Edenton-Chowan Schools work with the Superintendents of other school districts in North Carolina, as well as with the North Carolina Schools Boards Association, to develop an alternative grading system which can be used to give parents and taxpayers a truer vision of the performance of our schools.

Adopted this 3rd day of November 2014

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John E. Henshaw", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rob Jackson", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary