

House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future Public Comments Report - LINC

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
02/28/2022 06:10 PM	Kristopher Nordstrom	518 Elm Street, Raleigh, NC 27604	Wake	KRISTOPHER.NORDSTROM@GMAIL.COM	I am requesting that the House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future prioritize the constitutional rights of North Carolina's children. As you know, the decades-long Leandro court case has established that the North Carolina Constitution guarantees every student the right of access to a sound basic education. Unfortunately, millions of students have been denied this right under both Democratic and Republican leadership. The Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan (Leandro Plan) provides a detailed roadmap of necessary funding and policy recommendations to remedy this historic and bipartisan policy failure. Implementation will finally provide students access to the types of schools they are owed under our constitution. Meeting students' basic constitutional rights should be the first step in reimagining North Carolina's schools. I encourage the Committee to study the Leandro Plan and advocate for its implementation. Thanks.
03/01/2022 10:24 PM	Michael Nutt	504 Barksdale Dr., Raleigh, NC 27604	Wake	michaelnutt@gmail.com	I am a parent of two children who will be attending North Carolina public schools for the next 14 years. Politicians must stop putting private profit over education and reinvigorate our flailing public education sector. Profit motives do not belong in education and private charter schools that are not accountable to taxpayers must stop receiving money from my taxes. Stop your relentless drive to make teaching an unskilled profession and drive away teachers from our state. Make being a teacher the best job in the state, not the worst. Give our increasingly anxious and depressed children the mental and emotional support they need by immediately providing recurring funding (from our enormous surplus) for enough nurses, counselors, social workers, and psychologists to bring levels up to those recommended by the NC Child Fatality Task Force. Return control of the curriculum to teachers and take it out of the hands of professional bigots who want to prevent our children from knowing that queer and brown people exist. Education was what brought North Carolina up from being just another backwards southern state. That is what we will regress to if we do not stop making public education the target of unfettered profiteering and intellectual dishonesty.
03/02/2022 02:28 PM	Mrs. Jenny Jackson	3362 Streamside Dr, Davidson, NC 28036	Cabarrus	jenniferb.jackson@cms.k12.nc.us	Currently, teachers with 14 to 24 years of experience earn the same annual salary in North Carolina. In the United States, average inflation is 1.5% to 3% annually (statista.com-except for this year). Please understand this truth: veteran teachers are making less each year and know they are not valued by their state leaders. When teachers hired before 2005 started their careers, the state pay scale granted small "step" increases every few years. Please consider re-instating this former model of compensation to help

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					<p>educators have less financial stress. To be competitive with new teacher starting salaries across the country, a majority of raises and incentives the last few years have been only awarded to educators with 0-5 years of experience (who deserve pay raises, but it is disrespectful to give to "new" without also valuing veterans). As a result of low teacher salaries, the already small number of male teachers has continued to decline in our profession. Also, one-income families cannot survive on just a teaching salary. If an educator in our state seeks employment in any direction, they will be paid more (nces.ed.gov). Personally, my family has felt the continued financial stress of the decision to not pass budgets before the start of the school year and/or attach proposals for salary increases to other policy areas (healthcare, etc.) knowing the chance of it passing through the legislature is highly unlikely. Note, these tactics are done regardless of the current political majority. Both my husband and I are products of and employed by NC Public Schools. At close to 50 years of age, we both continue to work part-time all year round to make our bills monthly and not live on credit. Please consider increasing annual salaries to show respect to the few in our profession that has managed to continue teaching, as the list of job responsibilities has continued to grow substantially over the years. Though I have focused on one of many issues plaguing our state education system, if you desire to see students flourish and experienced teachers remain in our state: give step and cost of living raising, provide "more hands-on deck" (more: EC teachers with smaller caseloads, mental health providers, teacher aides, resource officers) and encourage teachers to consider topics/text/teaching styles with the learners they serve at the forefront (after a pandemic reading about genocide, war and oppression constantly are not helping the over wellness of our youth at this time). When you reflect on your childhood learning, do you remember it as engaging and fun? Or test-centered and only college-bound driven? Thank you for your service and consideration in these matters, Mrs. J. Jackson</p>
03/02/2022 02:55 PM	Ms. Kim Fitzgibbon	3013 B Forest Park Dr, Randleman, NC 27317	Randolph	designbysollere@aol.com	<p>1. Teachers should be compensated for working 60 hours a week - most of them do work on the weekends and after school to keep up with their classrooms. Pay should be much higher for teachers who attain additional degrees.</p> <p>2. Teachers should not have to use their own money to buy supplies for their students and should not have to buy food for students either.</p> <p>3. Older school buildings should be brought up to current code; that is, old glass windows should be replaced, ventilation systems should be updated to COVID standards, and bathroom facilities</p>

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					<p>should be expanded to accommodate handicapped or disabled individuals.</p> <p>4. Sports teams should be funded by the school system, not through booster club proceeds. Coaches should have experience in the sport they are coaching and be monitored by the administration for abusive behavior towards students.</p> <p>5. Foreign language instruction should not be offered in high school, but when children are most able to learn a new language, which is during elementary school. The passing grade for two years of instruction will be carried over for graduation credit.</p> <p>6. Students will be able to add courses to their schedule through the online state school system from grades 6 through 12 if classes they are interested in are not available in their district, and will receive the same credit towards course requirements by grade.</p> <p>7. All libraries will be stocked with a wide variety of challenging, stimulating and interesting subjects with a focus on offering children of all ages the best available literature in the world. Award-winning books, magazines and videos will be stocked in all libraries for children to borrow and expand their knowledge through a love of reading. No book will be off limits because an adult thinks it is 'dangerous, scary, or anti-American' - and no books will be removed from the library because the reading material is offensive to someone because of their political beliefs.</p> <p>8. All students should be given detailed instruction from grade 3 - 12 in world history, geography, social studies, economics, American civics, and a variety of fine arts. By 'adequate instruction', that means that the teachers will have a bachelors degree or higher in said subject, and will teach to national standards in order to graduate young adults who have a well-rounded education beyond math, science, reading and writing - yes, handwriting should still be offered and taught. The kind of education children need for the future is a combination of the kind of education that America had during the 1960's during the space race that stressed the sciences and mathematics, and a 21st century curriculum that exposes children to cutting edge ideas, teaches them to think for themselves, and encourages them to learn in a more hands-on manner to involve their minds and curiosity.</p> <p>9. To provide students with this kind of education, teaching materials will be up-to-date, totally non-partisan and follow national standards. Students will not have to make their own</p>

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03/04/2022 01:44 AM	Dr. Talula Cartwright	513 W KIVETT ST, ASHEBORO, NC 27203-6226		talulacartwright@gmail.com	<p>I am in favor of an increase in support staff to aid in instruction. Teachers are asked to do more than they ever have been before. They need more support. I am not in favor of reducing the arts or physical education. It is not effective to limit children's education to just "reading, writing and arithmetic." Their eyes and ears need to be opened to the rest of the wonders of life so they can make better choices. I am in favor of better food choices in the cafeterias. Children need more nutritious food and education about food. I know very well that schools can't do everything that parents should be doing, but they need to be doing all they can. Children are in desperate need of a better education. The rest of the world is leaving us behind. We need to catch up.</p>
03/04/2022 10:27 AM	Jennifer Cornwell	116 BRODY LN, New Bern, NC 28562	Craven	jcc420@aol.com	<p>I would like to see our State treat all teachers with the dignity and respect they deserve in a profession that profoundly impacts and influences the future of our state, world and country. Teachers are valuable assets to all communities as they are highly educated, highly motivated, problem solving, community building and selfless individuals who deserve the pay that their role plays in our society. They are the backbone of our society in providing public service and expertise unlike any other profession. Veteran teachers are the very people who are the most successful with students because of their experience over time. Why are we discarding them when every other veteran professional is rewarded and highly regarded? Look at salaries. Build back better schools.</p>
03/04/2022 05:55 PM	Linda Steber	PO Box 1318, Davidson , Nc 28036	Mecklenburg	Linda.steber@gmail.com	<p>Schools need to be for All students. Choice only serves a few. Fully fund assistants and social workers. Teachers do not need more requirements. High stakes testing are not helpful and are harmful. Train leaders better. Good leaders lead to good schools and healthy environments. Trust teachers. Provide parent education. Students were harmed from being home in bad situations during COVID. Teachers were still working hard but the home was not supportive. Respect and pay teachers well. Give them time to plan and eat. Drop testing. Reinstate masters pay and teaching fellows. Stop giving public funds to non public schools. Cap the charters</p>

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					<p>which have led to resegregation. Public schools are for the community. Segregated housing has led to segregated schools. Fund counselors and social workers. Students reflect our societal ills of anger and lack of respect for authority and thinking. Stop banning thinking and books. Give districts more leeway as charters are given. Trust the research. Quit buying every new platform or program. Let teachers teach. Don't blame them for poverty created from other factors. Partner with Community colleges to teach parents and early college programs. Every legislator should be a substitute teacher.</p>
03/04/2022 06:17 PM	Ms. Angie Nash	5241 Farlow St, Archdale, NC 27263	Randolph	angie.nash@gmail.com	<p>I would like the education system to be designed around the latest data on how children learn, especially in regards to teaching math and reading. Children must be prepared for the world they live in and need an education that provides accurate information about history and science.</p>
03/05/2022 07:52 AM	Dr. Denita Dowell	212 Dogwood Forest Loop, Harmony, NC 28634	Iredell	denitadowell@yahoo.com	<p>I would like to see the focus be placed back on building public schools rather than taking money away from them. People can send their children to private school if they choose, but it should not be on the public dollar. There are few checks and balances on the voucher system allowing fraud (Fayetteville case) and money to schools that teach religion (Greensboro). I believe the lifting of the charter school cap and the expansion of vouchers are convenient ways to resegregate our schools and pads the pockets of charter or private board members.</p>
03/05/2022 12:49 PM	Mrs. Crystal Blum	5604 Millrace Trl, Raleigh, NC 27606	Wake	spuners@att.net	<p>As adults, we can analyze data and discuss test scores, core competencies, curriculum, college-ready this and workforce-ready that, etc. all day, every day, with mixed but probably never satisfactory results. We know what we want and need from students. The real question is, "What do students need from us?" We can coax most kids into doing whatever we ask of them until about 4th grade. At that point, the game changes. I was an elementary school teacher for 24 years, and 3 years ago I moved to middle school. Observing these middle schoolers, I am convinced that we do have to change the structure of education. Many students do not see the purpose of sitting in a math class every day or reading good literature. It is my experience that they will behave better for a teacher with whom they have a good relationship, but they won't necessarily learn more or work harder. The kids who work hard and actually learn are the ones who understand why they need to learn the content being taught. Many times, our college-bound kids learn because they know they need to make good grades in order to get into college. But all kids aren't interested in that path, so what reason do they have to be engaged in learning? I believe that we need to restructure secondary schools completely, in order to get student buy-in. I have a lot of ideas about this, but in a nutshell, I'm saying that we need hands-</p>

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03/05/2022 01:25 PM	Mrs Nancy Kondracki	5211 Flintrock Ct, Greensboro, NC 27455	Guilford	nancykondracki13@gmail.com	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a testing system that actually informs teaching and doesn't increase anxiety in our youth the way our current standardized testing system does. 2. Assure that HS courses that are coded as including labs actually do include students performing those labs in person and not simply observing the teacher or watching a video. 3. Improve the quality of long term substitute teachers such as those that cover for maternity leave so that students can continue to be taught and not have useless study periods for months at a time.
03/05/2022 03:16 PM	Dr. Jonathan Burris	4362 Black Mountain Rd., Asheboro, NC 27205	Randolph	pastor@newcenterchurch.org	<p>As a father of two children currently in public school and as a pastor of many more, my parishioners and I wish to inquire what the plan is to provide a political neutral learning environment free from indoctrination and propaganda by rogue teachers who force compliance to their own ideologies through coercion in their position of authority and teach controversial issues that, although not approved by county or state, or forced upon the fragile minds of our children.</p>
03/05/2022 05:41 PM	Mr James Munn	44 Melissa Drive, Black mountain, NC	Buncombe	Jamesdotmunn@gmail.com	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Year round school- have school in session for 9 weeks, then have a 2-3 week break. We no longer need the agriculturally based calendar.

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		28711			<p>2. Smaller class sizes (15-20)</p> <p>3. Stop spending public money for private schools.</p> <p>4. Teacher pay that reflects how important this job is to our economy and public good. The current salary schedule is grossly inadequate for the work and service that is done for our society.</p> <p>5. Let the teaching professions decide the curriculum that is taught to meet national standards.</p> <p>6. More funding for arts education k-12. Students need creative outlets- that include drama & dance, in addition to art, music, and pe</p> <p>7. More time outdoors, and outdoor classrooms</p> <p>8. More hands-on, vocational learning</p> <p>9. Classrooms with non-traditional seating, flexible seating; like wobble stools, partner tables, and also standing height tables)</p> <p>10. Time and emphasis on social-emotional learning and building community.</p>
03/05/2022 06:09 PM	Mr James Munn	44 Melissa Drive, Black Mountain, NC 28711	Buncombe	jamesdotmunn@gmail.com	<p>Things to NOT do....</p> <p>1. Stop testing kids so much. Doing both NC check-ins repeatedly and a summative EOG in multiple subjects is way too much.</p> <p>2. Stop using public money for private school. There is little to no accountability and many private schools promote discrimination and values contrary to the public good.</p> <p>3. Stop having so many charter schools. Many charter schools don't have school buses and/or don't have free lunch available on campus. This leaves regular public schools with a higher percentage of needy students and also fewer families that would be normally engaged in their community school.</p> <p>4. Stop underfunding public education. Please... read and follow the advice of the Leandro recommendations.</p> <p>5. Stop the wage-theft from teachers. Teachers are not paid enough (especially veteran teachers) AND there is a budget surplus! Also, a 30-year teacher made more in 2008 than a 30-year</p>

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03/06/2022 12:38 PM	Mr John Bestor	15625 Carrington Ridge Drive, Huntersville, NC 28078-1215	Mecklenburg	mmjjbb@earthlink.net	<p>teacher today!</p> <p>Such a broad question, but I believe a good place to begin would be: DISCONTINUE THE INCESSANT TEST PROTOCOLS that our students are required to take. I am a retired School Psychologist who fully understands the interference that continuous mandated testing does to the quality of classroom instruction, the demoralization of the teaching profession, and the social-emotional well-being of this generation of students. Ever since the NCLB federal mandate for annual assessments, schools have been pressured to raise test scores in order to prove their worth and satisfy a political agenda; as such, schools have had to tailor their instructional programming and curriculum to demonstrate success on these tests. And, the test themselves have been inadequately developed, are often seen as statistically invalid and unreliable, are neither useful to those teaching our students or to parents trying to understand their children's progress. The controversies that have surrounded the NCLB tests and those that have come thereafter have not gone away over the past ten years and can be readily found in any Google search. Beyond the disservice these tests do to our students, they have impacted school curriculum as school administrators and teachers are pressured to "teach to the test" - contrary to everything sensible we know about effective learning and good teaching.</p> <p>Thank you for asking for our input.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>John R. Bestor Huntersville, N.C.</p>
03/06/2022 01:34 PM	Mrs Julie McNeill	3481 US HWY 220 ALT N, SEAGROVE, NC 27341	Montgomery	jawmcneill@gmail.com	<p>Education should encompass a mix of in person and on-line learning. Education needs to go back to basics such as multiplication facts, spelling and vocabulary tests, many educators have lost sight of the value of these in education. Middle school as a whole needs a shift in learning. At the middle school age children are facing so much with hormones, home life, and so much more but education doesn't adjust to accept or meet the child where they are. Often times there is a group of children that missed important skills in elementary school and have just been pushed through the system without gaining these skills and in middle school there should be a way to pick these up without shaming the student. We need to bring in ways to educate parents and provide resources and access to the school for assistance with helping or working with their child. We still have many without access to internet, or maybe their parents had difficulty in school or just aren't sure where to help them. These</p>

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					<p>resources need to be available after hours and weekends as parents work.</p> <p>Teacher team building in schools need to happen. Teachers can share the love of their school or assist with building the whole child and community without learning and knowing each other. Teachers should have a platform in which they can learn from one another. Provide 5 minute walk throughs of each others classrooms frequently and provide feedback to one another. If we can't learn and share our knowledge with one another how does one grow.</p> <p>The education system was designed to make one learn to stay busy and able to work in an eight hour day on production. We are not doing that anymore in life. We now have many that have options are working from home, able to do a 4 day work week so why are not incorporating more of that in education. The majority of learning takes place in the span of 2 hours each day and then the day is filled with electives. We should provide more choice of students. Many students aren't going to college and that is ok we should be encouraging them to do trades or design what fits for them.</p>
03/07/2022 12:58 PM	Mrs Mary Underwood	1539 Leslie Street, Asheboro, NC 27205	Randolph	underwoodmary2@gmail.com	Is it true that our North Carolina State Superintendent of Public Education, Catherine Truitt, is passing policies in our schools that allows students to put their preferred names rather than their legal names on official school records? Is it also true that now teachers and staff are forbidden to see the biological sex of the students unless they get special permission from school officials? If so, these type of policies are nothing but WOKE AGENDA and have NO PLACE in our schools! If such policies are allowed to exist, then ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS should be EMPTIED of students in favor of PRIVATE and RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS!
03/07/2022 02:01 PM	Miss Heather Newell	703 Dogwood Dr, Gastonia, NC 28054-4504	Gaston	heath_new@yahoo.com	Fund our schools. Education is too important. Kids need classrooms to learn to work together and to share ideas.
03/07/2022 02:04 PM	Mr. C. Warren Pope	12 Mountain Site Ln Ext, Asheville, NC 28803	Buncombe	cwpope@charter.net	We desperately need more funding for our schools and pay raises for everyone, especially our teachers. If you don't you will not be able to fill positions or hire teachers, and those that are there will be demoralized and school performance will continue to suffer. We need full, constitutional funding. You are ruining the school system currently.
03/07/2022 02:06 PM	Ms. Helen Livingston	311 Montrose Lane, Laurinburg, NC 28352	Scotland	livingston.helen@gmail.com	<p>It is imperative that for the future of our state, the legislature implement the Leandro plan. It is way overdue.</p> <p>With appreciation for your serious consideration.</p>

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03/07/2022 02:08 PM	Mr Michael1 Eisenberg	1015 Athena Dr, Durham , NC 27703		mikeeeisen@zoho.com	<p>Teachers are highly educated yet make for less than people with similar education credentials.</p> <p>Theg are the most important worker of all left with the challenge of building the future of our country.</p> <p>It's way past time to pay them what they're due.</p> <p>We should take pride in paying our teachers and strive to be the highest rank instead of settling for middle tiers or worse bottom third.</p>
03/07/2022 02:11 PM	Mrs Eileen McMillan	2112 Fernwood Drive , Shelby , NC 28152	Cleveland		<p>We need to increase funding for public education from elementary to college. Restore funding to allow for higher teacher pay, higher school staff pay and restore state grants for higher education. Taxes on corporations and higher income NC citizens need to be established to pay for fair and equitable access to education for all NC children. NC GOP politicians have cut funding for education so much we are in violation of the the state constitution for providing education for all children. Enough is enough!</p>
03/07/2022 02:12 PM	Ms Janet Palmer	5326 Silabert Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28205	Mecklenburg	jnt_palmer@yahoo.com	<p>We need to fund our schools to help students learn. Teachers need to be monetarily rewarded for advanced degrees and we need teachers, not the legislature, designing curriculum and determining class size.</p>
03/07/2022 02:14 PM	Ms. Gayle Anderson	2008 Faculty Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27106	Forsyth	gayle5088@gmail.com	<p>Implement the Leandro plan to achieve your stated goals of improving our K-12 educational system. It is factually based and merely requires you to find it.</p>
03/07/2022 02:18 PM	Jill Caugherty	12732 Amoretto Way, Raleigh, NC 27613-6235	Wake	jillhc@nc.rr.com	<p>As the parent of an eighth-grade student in Wake County, I am concerned that recently proposed legislation could destroy the quality of our good schools by: 1) attempting to reduce funds that are earmarked for the schools; 2) refusing to pay our teachers competitive wages, and 3) promoting political agendas into the classroom.</p> <p>All North Carolina students deserve the right to a solid, well-rounded, *free* K-12 education, which is the cornerstone of our American democracy. We should retain and attract good teachers by increasing their salaries, funding up-to-date technology and educational resources for teachers to use in the classroom; and expanding children's minds with a broad curriculum of math, science, English, and social studies/history that does not exclude unpleasant historical facts but rather encourages critical thinking. In turn, this well-balanced education will adequately prepare our children for college and successful careers.</p> <p>North Carolina has established itself as an up and coming state</p>

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					<p>for tech and pharma companies. It also attracts students from around the world to its esteemed universities, including Duke, UNC Chapel Hill, and NC State. We owe it to the children of this state to uphold North Carolina's excellent reputation by pursuing the same excellence in our schools. The State Legislature can accomplish this by implementing the recommendations from the Leandro Plan.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sincerely, Jill Caugherty</p>
03/07/2022 02:20 PM	Ms. Henrietta Jenrette	12117 Old Creedmoor Rd, Raleigh, NC 27613	Wake	rjstarbuck@aol.com	We must invest in our people to keep up with new advances. A sound education is mandatory to produce workers and citizens for the 21st Century economy. Our laws demand equal quality educations for all of our students. Lawmakers must see to it that this level of education is supported by sufficient money.
03/07/2022 02:38 PM	Ms. Melissa Griffin	7001 Orchard Knoll Dr, Apex, NC 27539	Wake	theschool@mindspring.com	<p>As a taxpayer, I would like to see public schools that comply with the Leandro plan so we can ensure our schools get the resources they need, our educators are well-supported, and our students have the freedom to learn, grow and thrive. Each student should have access to a quality education that includes wellness activities, music and art and other enrichment activities, foreign languages, as well as a quality core education.</p> <p>I encourage you to implement the recommendations from the Leandro plan and provide all students with access to the "sound basic" schools that they deserve.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration in this matter.</p>
03/07/2022 02:46 PM	Edward Eisenberg	60 North Market Street #413, Asheville, NC 28801	Buncombe	woodyeisenberg@gmail.com	We have a detailed roadmap for how to improve education for all of our students. The Leandro plan addresses the critical needs of the North Carolina public school system and should be implemented.
03/07/2022 02:51 PM	Ms. Catherine Marie	3612 Morningside Dr., Raleigh, NC 27607	Wake	c.marie8@yahoo.com	Public education needs to be adequately funded. Please greatly increase the funding for public education and make sure that the requirements for the Leandro plan are met. We need to ensure that our schools get the resources they need, our educators are well-supported, and our students have the freedom to learn.
03/07/2022 02:56 PM	Nicholas Grimes	Charlotte, NC 28262	Mecklenburg	nicholasmgrimes@gmail.com	<p>- I'd like to see an education system that is more student-focused and not test-focused. I don't think that standardized tests are helpful to students or an accurate measure of student success.</p> <p>- I'd like schools to be funded fairly and equitably, rather than depend on local income tax. As it currently stands those students in poorer neighborhoods also receive a lower standard of</p>

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					<p>education. As someone who lived in a middle class neighborhood and attended magnet schools in urban areas in middle and high school, I witnessed this first-hand. Our school couldn't afford to expand or remodel, so some of our classes were held inside of trailers set up next to the running track. My French books looked to be a decade old and we were listening to tapes on cassette. Meanwhile, my brother who went to a local school near our home was given an iPad to use for class. This is unacceptable and only serves to reinforce inequality and the income gap by keeping poor people poor.</p> <p>- I'd like to see schools properly funded. They should look and feel as if we actually care about our children and their future. They should be a place where children want to go because they feel like they are valued and important. They should feel like what they are doing there matters. Schools do not need to be grand, or state of the art. But they need to be properly maintained, so that it looks like we care about our children. Another part of this is proper wages for teachers. North Carolina ranked 40/50 (bottom 20%) when it came to average teacher salary for 2019-2020, according to business.org.</p> <p>- Our kids should also be eating right. The trash that is served in our cafeterias is an absolute disgrace. We need to feed our kids like we care about them, that means feeding them a variety (not the same thing over and over) of delicious meals (they look and taste good), that are good for them (made with fresh, preferably local, ingredients... or better yet- ingredients grown in a school garden!). KETCHUP IS NOT A VEGETABLE. Schools are not a place where we want to auction every product and service off to the lowest bidder. We want schools to have HIGH standards, because we want our students to have HIGH academic performance. Otherwise, it's garbage in, garbage out.</p> <p>- As part of student-focused education, school start times need to adapt according to the changing biological needs of the students. As students enter their teen years, their bodies change and their sleep cycles start to creep forward, meaning they get tired later in the night, and have a harder time waking up early. Yet high school start times are some of the earliest! This not only makes it difficult for students to physically get out of bed, it's also dangerous. Students at this age are also learning to drive, they do not need to be driving at times when they are groggy and feel like sleeping! What's more, the time in between when students are let out from school and the time their parents get home from work is a "danger zone"-- a time when they are most likely to get into trouble. By starting school later, you reduce this time, and ensure that kids are safer in and out of school. Lastly, early rise times also contribute to truancy and drop-outs. I work with high school students, and one of them told me she hadn't been to school in a week because</p>

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					<p>it starts at 7:30AM and she can't get up that early. Students are already behind due to covid, we don't need to make it any harder on them to complete their education.</p> <p>- I'd like to see more comprehensive sex education. Abstinence only education does not work and is harmful to our children. It does not keep them from having sex or engaging in sexual activity. It means that they do it anyway, in complete ignorance of the risks, and without knowledge of how to mitigate those risks. Condoms should be easily accessible, and their use should be encouraged. Would you rather your child become a parent in high school or have sex using a condom? Students should also learn about different sexual orientations and gender identities, ideally from the mouths of people with those orientations and identities, so that they can ask questions and don't develop negative preconceptions about them. Teaching students ABOUT LGBTQ+ individuals is not teaching them to be gay. There was no mention of LGBTQ+ in my school curriculum. I was taught to be straight all my life, but I turned out gay. You cannot teach someone to be an orientation. It is just how they are. Knowing that something exists makes it easier to come to terms with if it applies to them, gives them the words to find access to resources and ask for help, and it helps to reduce stigma because it makes it seem normal (which it is, it's just a different trait, like having brown hair, or preferring apples to oranges).</p> <p>- I'd like to see a more balanced view of American history that places more emphasis on lives of black and brown people throughout history. I'm a white man, but some of my best friends growing up were black. It was embarrassing to learn how much of black and brown history was excluded from our textbooks. We spent weeks learning about the holocaust, but not a word do I recollect about the life of slaves, their contributions to this country, or their treatment after the Civil War. I felt like we learned more about Native Americans than we did about black people, despite the fact that black people make up a larger percentage of the population (and a large percentage of kids at my middle and high school). It's important to understand black history, because it allows you to understand and appreciate the struggles that people of different backgrounds face in our modern society. It helps to bridge racial divides.</p> <p>- I don't want to see any public funding going or benefits of any kind provided to private schools. Public schools are under-funded enough. If a private school wants to exist as an alternative it can do so without funding from the state.</p>
03/07/2022 03:03 PM	MS Marla West	81 wild cherry road , Asheville , NC 28804	Buncombe	Marly2054@aol.com	All inclusive history lessons, more science and technology courses, encouragement for girls to go into STEM, art and music too

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03/07/2022 03:13 PM	Teacher k-8 Mary Katherine Underwood	424 Ideal Way, Charlotte, NC 28203	Mecklenburg	maryk.underwood@cms.k12.nc.us	We need new facilities on the west side of town. My school has been around for decades and decades Since the 60's. We deal with constant flooding of sewer water into the classrooms, leaks from rain, some teachers teach there content in rooms that aren't meant for that subject (the art room has no sink or storage for materials.), we don't have a proper gym for our middle school home games. We serve a K-8 population and there not enough room to do it well. 8th graders are in the same halls as 3rd-5th. Third through fifth grade teacher teach in an open classroom environment with shower curtains as the doors. Mean while across town students are served in state of the art facilities,
03/07/2022 03:14 PM	MS Diane Lemieux	159 Wild Cherry Lane, Arapahoe, NC 28510	Pamlico	dhlemieux@gmail.com	<p>My name is Diane Lemieux, and I am a retired teacher and administrator and college professor. I have comments in 3 areas.</p> <p>1. Charter/Private Schools</p> <p>They are more segregated than traditional public schools (TPS). By race and also for religion. Public funds shouldn't be used for religious schools.</p> <p>They use public funds but are not required to tell anyone how they spend it. Their budgets and books are not required to be transparent.</p> <p>They have no required curriculum. This will lead to a generation of students getting whatever skills and information they were taught instead of a generation where students graduated with similar skills. One religious school decided to teach their students that there were no such things as dinosaurs.</p> <p>They have different criteria for meeting the standards than TPS. In traditional schools, 80% of the students must meet the standard. In charter/private schools/vouchers, only 60% of the students must meet the standard. Comparing how many students meet the standard is comparing apples to oranges. They are sold to parents as a choice, when many of them funnel taxpayer money into private pockets, and their bottom line is profit, not students. End the voucher program and cap charter schools.</p> <p>2. FUNDING</p> <p>It is criminal that you and the NCGA have ignored the Leandro recommendations for 20 years. You should be ashamed of yourselves for declaring that some NC students are more deserving than others. I am ashamed of you. You are facing a teacher shortage currently and in the pipeline. Do you see teachers and superintendents fleeing? Your requests and demands of them, especially without adequate pay and benefits, are chasing them out the door. Demands to post a year's worth of curriculum, lesson plans and all materials online, when parents can access that material at school themselves, is outrageous. Adequately and equitably fund teachers, students and schools.</p> <p>3. School boards</p> <p>Your desire to make everything partisan has filtered down to</p>

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					<p>school boards. Try to resist the urge to fire up your base with propaganda such as CRT. K-12 schools simply don't teach it. Stop encouraging and training parents how to disrupt school boards over issues like CRT, book bans and masks and let them do their job just so you can use them to gain votes. Let them follow science to make their decisions. Have you surveyed every parent in the school about masks, books to be banned, and their child's history instruction? Was teaching American history OK before 2018? But now, apparently, it hurts some people's feelings and shouldn't be allowed. (Talk about snowflakes) Should we not teach civics, American history, Nazi Germany, civil rights, the constitution? I want my children to learn about all history, so that we might learn from our mistakes, understand the hate that made some history possible, and to make the world a better place. Schools serve the greater community. Curriculum is designed through a statewide, transparent process. It is designed to create a well-rounded, productive member of society. State standards and curriculum should not be taken over by any small segment of the community or state. If parents want to oversee every curriculum decision and lesson plan, let them start their own school. Allow school boards to do their job in a non-partisan fashion for what is best for ALL kids, not just the ones with the loudest parents.</p>
03/07/2022 03:22 PM	Mr James Perry	207 Heathwick Dr, Knightdale, NC 27545	Wake	jamesperry58@gmail.com	<p>I recommend implementing the Leandro plan to increase budget to help students get a quality education in North Carolina and Wake county.</p> <p>investments in our students education is the best way to improve outcomes for families in North Carolina.</p>
03/07/2022 03:24 PM	Dr. Tracy Feldman	5306 Pelham Rd, Durham, NC 27713	Durham	tracysfeldman@yahoo.com	<p>Please fund our schools--all of them--not based upon past performance but upon actual financial needs. By investing in education, we are investing in our future--in all of us. The inverse is true as well--that by denying money to schools in need, we are dooming our future. Please consider the Leandro plan.</p>
03/07/2022 03:26 PM	Ms Miriam Thompson	500 Umstead Drive D203, Chapel hill , NC 27516	Orange	thompiriam@gmail.com	<p>I have two major concerns: the legislature must honor the Leandro decision and properly fund our public schools; we also must prevent the banning of books that are Nayar young people the knowledge of our history so as the next generation of leaders they can advance a better future for all.</p>
03/07/2022 03:46 PM	Dr. Howard Bakken	101 Stillwater Lnae, Hendersonville, NC 28791	Henderson	hnbakken@morrisbb.net	<p>I would like to see an educational system that is intellectually reputable and accurate, one in which teachers and staff are paid wages commensurate with the cost of living and in line with the rest of the nation, one in which teachers are treated with respect and professionalism, free from micro-management, and one free from the Republican bias now being superimposed on students and teachers at all levels.</p>

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03/07/2022 04:17 PM	Rev. James Dickens	P. O. Box 187 , Caroleen, NC 28019	Rutherford	jagd622@aol.com	We already have a well-thought-out and reasoned approach to guiding NC Education into the future and it's called the Leandro Plan. It deserves your undivided attention and the necessary funding to undergird its implementation.
03/07/2022 04:18 PM	Gillis Education LLC Tiffany Brown		Mecklenburg	tiffany@gilliseducation.org	<p>Overview</p> <p>The NC General Assembly's House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future requested public comments on what should be considered if the state was charged with establishing a "new" education system. Gillis Education supports the Assembly's efforts to reimagine North Carolina's education system and its commitment to involving community members in the process. Our preliminary thoughts on how North Carolina's education system can be improved are outlined below.</p> <p>A full position statement will be sent to the Committee and made available on the "Education Law and Policy" page of our website: www.gilliseducation.org.</p> <p>Increase Local Communities' Roles in Education</p> <p>North Carolina has an immense network of qualified and passionate educators, administrators, and staff at the public and private levels. However, it is critical that schools work intimately with community partners to ensure long-term success for students. This is especially true for historically marginalized communities. The proverbial village that it takes to raise a child should include parents, a child's school, and community leaders. Gillis Education has had a lot of success using this approach. Our tutors and consultants work directly with students, their parents, schools, and other organizations to ensure that the needs of each and every child are being met holistically. We are able to identify and remedy the gaps in reading, writing, and math proficiency that the school system or parents are unable to fill. We wholeheartedly support the creation of funding opportunities to foster and expand these community relationships, as it is necessary to ensure that our students progress, especially as we seek to address learning loss brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Removal of Social Science Theories from Elementary Education</p> <p>When considering whether to remove particular social science theories from elementary education, we must ask what we gain and what we lose by doing so. Age-appropriate exposure to differing perspectives of historical events can contribute to producing a more tolerant, empathetic, and well-rounded society, especially if these perspectives are engrained at a young age. If</p>

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					critical portions of the social science curriculum are removed, we may miss out on opportunities to facilitate progressive, humanistic conversations, and to raise critical thinkers. There is room to uplift the remarkable moments of our founding without disregarding the systemic wrongs that made these moments possible.
					Before removing certain components of the elementary curriculum, a thorough analysis, backed by scholarly evidence, should be conducted to determine the costs and benefits of such a move. A report that summarizes findings from the analysis should be produced to the Committee and public. Gillis Education, and similar organizations, can work alongside the state to assist in the research and analysis needed to make informed decisions around the elementary curriculum.
03/07/2022 04:29 PM	Mrs Amber Parrish	3558 Heath Dairy Rd, Randleman, NC 27317	Randolph	aptrucking1982@gmail.com	My name is Amber Parrish and I am a mother of two. I send my children to school to learn. I simply want them to be taught reading, writing, mathematics, REAL science and FACTUAL history. I do not want them indoctrinated with the lefts ideology. I don't want my children learning about CRT. Everyone should be treated equally and not judged by the color of their skin. I do not want my children being asked what their "pronouns" are! I learned real science when I went to school. There are two genders-xx chromosomes(females) and xy chromosomes(males). You don't get to choose, stop lying to our children! To me all it boils down to is they took God out of school 60 years ago and now they are trying to insert Satan. I am merely asking them at the very least to be neutral and just TEACH my children the basics. Leave the rest up to their parents. Thank you!
03/07/2022 04:30 PM	Dr, Judith Butt	3000 Galloway Ridge j102, Pittsboro, NC 27312	Chatham	judybutt102@gmail.com	Support public education not charter or religious schools. Study the Leandro plan.
03/07/2022 04:32 PM	Mrs Claudia Thuring	15819 Lavenham Rd, Huntersville , NC 28078	Mecklenburg	cthuring@yahoo.com	As a retired educator, I know the importance of giving children an environment conducive to learning basic academic knowledge, learning skills & cultural norms. It is important they learn to distinguish facts from untruths, understand history in order to protect our democracy from authoritarianism, realize that science is always changing & that the future belongs to them. Our public schools allow our children to fulfill their diverse potentials.
03/07/2022 04:35 PM	Ms Tessa Pendley	1309 Spry St, Greensboro, NC 27405	Guilford	tessapendley@gmail.com	FULLY FUND LEANDRO. THIS. IS. NOT. COMPLICATED. FULLY FUND LEANDRO. FULLY FUND LEANDRO.

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					LEANDRO LEANDRO LEANDRO
03/07/2022 04:58 PM	Mrs. Brandy Sullivan	5205 GREYMOSS LN, APEX, NC 27539		brandy_garcia@hotmail.com	Hello, my name is Brandy Sullivan. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that works at WCPS. I live in Apex NC and I'm a mother of three children attending WCPS. I strongly believe our schools need a greater and more equitable funding. I have a child currently receiving services at Holy Springs Elementary School CCK Classroom. His teacher is doing a phenomenal job helping my son learn. His class setting is 12 children, one teacher and two assistants. This wouldn't be possible without proper funding. My son has a disability that requires this type of set up. The Leandro Budget proposal increases the funding for Children with Disabilities. I give to our teachers, PTA & participate in fundraising opportunities regularly. With COVID there are many families that aren't able to do so. We need our schools properly funding asap! Thank you for your time, Brandy Sullivan
03/07/2022 05:44 PM	Mr. Robert Brown	333 Chinaberry Ln, Angier, NC 27501-8470			While educators across the state are working to deliver students an honest education, Republican politicians are using the classroom to push their own agenda by censoring the truth of our history, denying schools adequate funding and erasing people who look like our children out of our history books. We can and should do better.
03/07/2022 06:12 PM	Retired CMS teacher Dan Faris	156 Clubhouse Vista Dr. Apt. #11, Matthews, NC 28105		danffaris@gmail.com	I was a middle school teacher in the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System for my whole career, thirty years. I urge you to support funding for N.C. schools and teachers to at least bring us up to the national average. Without adequate funding, good teachers will continue to leave N.C. to teach where they are better paid and more valued, or leave the teaching profession altogether. Our children and our state deserve better! Thank you for seeking public input on this vital issue!
03/07/2022 06:43 PM	Mr Christopher Berg	6 Rosemary Trail, Flat Rock, NC 28731-9532	Henderson	cshapenote@hotmail.com	I support the revisions called for by the West Ed consultancy report regarding the unresolved deficiencies documented over 28 years in the Leandro case. Not that these plans are perfect, but I believe they are the best available framework for improvement of North Carolina schools via State funding.
03/07/2022 06:53 PM	Mr Dwayne Dvoracek	110 Grayson Dr, Salisbury, NC 28147-8109	Rowan	dmd696@yahoo.com	1) Get RID of ALL State funded Charter Schools...as a senior citizen, I STRONGLY RESENT the fact that my tax dollars go to fund SELECT students & siphoning money from the general populace! Plus the majority of Charter schools do NOT provide better education...they just put tax dollars in private administrator's pocket! 2) Adopt the RSS district (Rowan) model state wide.
03/07/2022 07:01 PM	Dr. Mary Lynn Redmond	23 Millwright Dr, Hilton Head, SC	Guilford	redmond@wfu.edu	I retired four years ago after serving as a professor of education and director of K-12 world language education for almost thirty

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		29926-1256			<p>years. I lived in NC all my life until 2019. Since I began teaching in 1978 in grades K-12, I have observed many "peaks and valleys" in NC's public education system, and the current period seems to be the worst during my career. I have served as president of national and state education organizations and have spent my career working on bipartisan education projects and legislation reform in NC and DC. The disintegration of NC's public education system along with teacher education is shameful. The elimination of master's pay has had a negative impact on teacher recruitment and retention as well as the quality of our teacher workforce. Most of my teacher candidates had to have a master's degree in order to get a job interview in their states. Their salary increased with experience, and these are areas of the US with a very comparable cost of living to NC's. The elimination of the NC Teaching Fellows Program has had a huge negative impact on the quality of education in our schools and should be restored fully and expanded. Many of these Fellows have gone on to serve in district and state level leadership positions and also lead national education projects. We sorely need world languages in K-12 for the many benefits this experience offers all children, and we should focus on recruiting teachers from cultures around the globe, an easy and expeditious way with Teaching Fellows to make our workforce more diverse. Our students deserve to have the opportunity to be truly competent global thinkers and world citizens. About four years ago, 46 public and private universities in NC offered licensure in world languages. We are now down to around only 20, many only able to offer one language now, only two universities offering Latin, and only five offering French. NC is woefully behind with such shortsighted leadership in shaping public education and sustaining some of the finest teacher preparation programs in the US. Of course, there needs to be an intense period of sweeping changes in K-16 in order to restore trust and get everyone excited about a "new" NC, e.g., better work conditions including salary increases, up to date facilities, increasing the level of professionalism and support of teachers and staff in NC's schools, attention to a rigorous academic experience for all children, manageable responsibilities and class sizes, collaboration between K-12 and post-secondary to build the teacher pipeline, etc. Please restore the positive image NC once had as a progressive leader in education.</p>
03/07/2022 07:10 PM	Ms. kathryn liss	15 Bethesda Rd, Asheville, NC 28805	Buncombe	kliss@igc.org	<p>I sincerely hope that you will 1) increase teacher pay to a level that will keep teachers in the system. 2) refrain from trying to tell teachers how and what to teach. The curricula we have in place at this time are completely adequate to inform teachers of what is expected. Curtailing the books they can use does in no way help. Creating laws about what should be taught is not helpful either. Young people need to get an adequate and realistic picture of the</p>

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03/07/2022 07:41 PM	Ms. Sharon Pugh	703 Fleming St NE, Wilson, NC 27893	Wilson	hpughward@aol.com	<p>world and its history.</p> <p>We require that our children are educated in truth, total and absolute truth in history, science, technology and the arts. We require that our children are safe, without bigotry, sexism, racism, violence, intimidation on any level. We require that our children are taught how to be progressively inquisitive, seeking truths, expansiveness in knowledge for the exquisiteness of their evolution and generations to come. We require that our children are taught by truly sophisticated progressive educators. Our or my request and expectation, is quite simple and easily doable, in the here and now.</p>
03/07/2022 07:47 PM	Mr. David Fairall	4828 Selwyn Drive, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27104	Forsyth	dafair@aol.com	<p>Public education is the bedrock of a functional representative democracy. Our own state constitution recognizes the importance of this foundation, requiring the state to provide a free, appropriate education for all children. After years of litigation, negotiation and deliberation, the state invested in a thorough, professional review of our state's efforts in meeting our constitutional mandate. This study lays out a solid plan of action to address current inequities and shortcomings and should be the basis for improvement of public education in NC. Full funding of the Leandro plan will go a long way to improve public ed in NC and ensure an engaged, informed, educated citizenry.</p>
03/07/2022 08:19 PM	dr Kevin Walsh	155 Bishop Lane, Madison, CT 06443	New Hanover	walshkevink@yahoo.com	<p>We need more funding!</p>
03/07/2022 09:33 PM	Mrs. Sara Smith	342 N Overlook Terrace , Hendersonville , NC 28739	Henderson	Saraseta@gmail.com	<p>Hello, my name is Sara Smith. In July I will have two children attending Bruce Drysdale Elementary in Hendersonville, NC. I am a part time associate of a local business, a volunteer for our PTO and I engage in many local groups. My oldest started kindergarten in 2020 and my youngest will begin this year. It has come to my attention this year, as I began to participate in school board meetings and our local SPAC (parent-superintendent meetings) that our teachers capped salary is less than I was paid without a degree working in hospitality at Biltmore Estate before my kids were born. In 2022, we cannot ask any person to guide our future for \$52,000 a year. They don't work 40 hour weeks, they work probably close to 60 hour weeks. They grade papers at home, they spend their own money on supplies, they've put their health at risk these last three years to make sure our future generations can thrive. I love my children's school. I value each and every employee - from the cafeteria, the custodians, the admins and of course the teachers.</p> <p>I can say, not proudly but honestly, that I work better when I am paid what I'm worth for the job I do.</p> <p>This is our future. These people are obviously not greedy, but they</p>

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					<p>deserve a livable wage. Here in Hendersonville a decent 3/2 house is over \$400k at the moment. How can our teachers afford to live here on between \$35k and \$52k a year? Don't we want the best for our state? We need to raise the salary cap by a large sum, personally I'd say at least \$30k a year. Good teachers know their worth and they understand other states like Pennsylvania will pay much more and they will move there. It only leaves us with burnt out teachers or inadequate teachers. It's not healthy for our kids or our state's future to keep such a low salary cap.</p> <p>Please invest in our teachers and reap the rewards sooner than we realize. They guide, help, nurture and love our kids. It's time we showed them we love, respect and value the difficult job they are called to do.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p> <p>In this together, Sara Smith</p>
03/07/2022 09:55 PM	Mrs. Cheryl McGraw	1004 Braxton Ct. , Raleigh, NC 27606, NC 27606	Wake	chrrlgrrl@gmail.com	<p>My name is Cheryl McGraw and I live in South West Raleigh. I am a mother, grandmother and pay taxes in North Carolina. I feel that my tax dollars are best spent on educating the next generation of North Carolinians. I also strongly believe our schools need greater and more equitable funding across the board".</p> <p>The future of North Carolina will depend on educated people to adjust to climate change and increasingly technological employment to ensure the future of the human race on the planet. Please implement the recommendations from Leandro.</p> <p>Thank you for doing this work.</p>
03/07/2022 10:08 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery and Pamela Mastin	417 Hawk Ridge Road, Deep Gap, NC 28618-9337	Watauga	jgmastin@yahoo.com	<p>We are highly frustrated that North Carolina continues to a bottom dweller in regards to per capita expenditures for our school students. Is this some kind of wacky Republican badge of honor to have such a dismal status? It would certainly appear to us to be so. This low per capita funding standing and status is especially hard on many rural counties that do not have the large tax base that many urban intensive counties do that can afford to subsidize their per capita funding to raise it to a much higher and reasonable level. Is this an intentional attempt by Republicans to dumb down rural students and families to keep them in the Republican fold and continually voting against their own self-interests as a result of their ignorance. Again, it would certainly seem so to us. We have a huge surplus of billions of dollars in our so called "rainy day" fund and its far past time to use this money to improve educational funding and opportunities for all North Carolina school students. Just do it and do it now! Thank you!</p>
03/08/2022 06:37 AM	Ms. Rebecca Showalter	921 Walkertown Dr, Raleigh, NC 27614	Surry	jbshow@bellsouth.net	<p>My name is Rebecca Showalter. I have spent the last 17 years shepherding my two kids through NC public schools. While our experiences have overall been good, and both children are now</p>

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					<p>doing well in rigorous 4 year universities, it is increasingly clear that the K-12 schools in NC are not getting the support and funding from the NC legislature that it should. I ask that you immediately fund the Leandro Plan, and return support to teachers instead of vilifying them. We are in the bottom 30% for teacher pay; we are still below pre-recession per student funding. And even with year after year budget surpluses, we have not significantly increased our investment in our schools. I have seen teachers and administrators stretched to brink, and yet still provide quality teaching and support to our kids. They are amazing. It is my opinion that we do not need a "new" education system for NC - we need to fund the one we have. And give it some respect. Fund the Leandro Plan today.</p>
03/08/2022 06:53 AM	Elizabeth Knowlton	925 New Garden Rd Apt 2401 Apt 2401, Greensboro, NC 27410	Guilford	knowltonew@earthlink.net	<p>I think we need a system where approximately the same amount is spent on each student in the public school system. Wealthier districts are always able to add extras with money raised privately. But each NC student deserves the best education the whole state can provide. I quote from a 2019 report:</p> <p>"In 2016-2017, the ten highest-spending counties spent more than four times more per child than the ten lowest-spending counties. Orange County, at the top of the list, spends more than 11 times more per student than Swain County at the bottom. The bottom seven counties combined spend \$396 less than Orange County spends on its own. Fifty-nine of North Carolina's 100 counties spend below the state average of \$1,652 per student in local support. . . .</p> <p>In 2016-2017, the ten poorest counties taxed themselves at nearly double the rate of the ten wealthiest counties — \$0.81 compared to \$0.44, a 37-cent difference. Because of the disparities in real estate wealth, however, the revenue that the poorest counties could generate — even at their higher tax rates — was substantially lower than what the wealthier counties could generate."</p> <p>This situation is duplicated in all states with poor outcomes in education. Although the cost of living is usually cheaper in poor counties, it is harder to attract excellent teachers in an area that does not provide them and their families with the enrichments of wealthy urban areas.</p>
03/08/2022 07:20 AM	Mr Dane Bowen	8740 Blair Rd, Mint Hill, NC 28227	Mecklenburg	dbowen5@carolina.rr.com	<p>Sit down and shut up GOP. Politicians make crappy teachers and doctors. They have no business censoring teachers. Book banning is what the nazi's did.</p>
03/08/2022 07:41 AM	Dr Andrea Biondi	6237 Hilbert Ridge Drive,	Wake	abiondi@email.unc.edu	<p>Schools must be fully funded in NC. Please abide by the Leandro ruling and fully fund schools across NC.</p>

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		Holly Springs, NC 27540			
03/08/2022 07:53 AM	Mr. Keith Johnson	810 Buckner Springs Road, Siler City, NC 27344	Chatham	kmjohnso15@hotmail.com	Use the Leandro plan to improve NC public schools!
03/08/2022 09:02 AM	ms b clendenning	526 summerfield pl, flat rock, nc 28731	Henderson	snibbort@aol.com	<p>Study, consider and then IMPLEMENT the very thorough recommendations of the Leandro Plan. Vibrant PUBLIC education is the cornerstone of our society!</p> <p>Any and all individuals, groups, agencies, organizations receiving even one single penny of public funding for any educational outreach MUST be held equally accountable across the board. Statewide standards and oversight must apply to ALL.</p>
03/08/2022 10:54 AM	Mr S M	4613 Dow court , Fayetteville , Nc 28314	Cumberland	Pnuash8@gmail.com	Fund our schools adequately and pay our teachers fairly
03/08/2022 12:35 PM	Mrs. Lucy Tyndall	144 Elm Street, Spindale, NC 28160	Rutherford	beaverfalls1@yahoo.com	It is so very important that the state of North Carolina adequately fund education. So far, we have failed to do so. An educated work force attracts and creates prosperity. Our position of 36th in per pupil spending among the states is shameful.
03/08/2022 02:12 PM	Dr. Patrick Conway	102 Rhododendron Ct, Chapel Hill, NC 27517	Orange	patrick.joseph.conway@gmail.com	If I could have the perfect K-12 education system for the future, it would begin with the state meeting its commitments under the NC constitution. The Leandro ruling is the best template for going forward. The state legislature should commit to sufficient funding to pay teachers and provide student services such that student learning is not hindered by arbitrary budget cuts.
03/08/2022 04:47 PM	Ms Carolyn Guckert	2815 Mayview Road, Raleigh, NC 27607		cguckert@mindspring.com	As a citizen and as a grandparent of children in public schools, I care deeply about public education. We all know the schools are not adequately funded now for many years. Please provide additional funding across the board, and implement Leandro recommendations now. This travesty has gone on too long. Thank you.
03/08/2022 06:59 PM	Jesse Drury	4838 Muskogee Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212	Mecklenburg	jdlaxer@gmail.com	<p>If I was building ground-up I would outlaw for-profit schools that take public money.</p> <p>I'd also make sure every school was equipped with appropriate amounts of support staff to make sure students are provided for. This can include free food, after-school EC, psychologists, teacher's aids, etc.</p> <p>We should also be providing teachers compensation that puts us into the top 20 in states. As we have no unions, NC teachers are some of the worst provided for in the US. It goes beyond pay</p>

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					<p>(which is well below median/mean). It can include tenure, subsidized continuing education, support staff, medical/dental benefits, retirement plans/pensions, master's pay, and so on.</p> <p>A great resource would be creating a state wide base curriculum that is used AS AN OPTION for teachers. New York does this with EngageNY. This way when new teachers come in, they have a curriculum that they can look at and use at their will, that is researched and aligns with standards. Having to rebuild from the ground up as a new teacher leads to burnouts and quitting.</p> <p>Keep politics out of education. Do not mandate that teachers can and cannot talk about certain religions and historic topics. We should be preaching inclusivity, creative thinking, and free thought. Any restrictions put on teachers that stops them from teaching history is damaging to the students, school, and society.</p>
03/08/2022 08:27 PM	Dr. Emily Burkhead	204 Wyatts Pond Ln, Cary, NC 27513	Wake	egburkhead@gmail.com	<p>I would like to see a fully funded public school system driven by professional educators. I do not want to see political interference in what teachers and school administrators say are best practices in the classroom.</p> <p>We already have a detailed roadmap for how to improve education for all of our students in The Leandro Plan, which addresses the critical needs of the North Carolina public school system. Please implement the items in that plan to ensure our public educators are supported and respected as the professionals they are and our students have the resources they need to learn and thrive.</p>
03/08/2022 11:33 PM	Mrs. Sandy Moyer	2101 Sir Raleigh Ct. , Greenville, NC 27858	Pitt	sandymoyer02@gmail.com	<p>I would like to see the Bible reinstated in the schools. A comprehensive, unbiased teaching of American history that emphasizes a love for country and an understanding that though it is flawed, it has ever been improving. Constitutional and civics courses. Latin classes. French and Spanish required for highschool. Debate classes. A revival of classical literature in our libraries and classrooms. I would not want to see books peddling sexuality, gender fluidity, transgenderism etc. I would also want to keep books pushing CRT out of the classrooms. Incorporate Robotics courses, Economics classes with an emphasis on the study of free markets. entrepreneurship and investing. Empirical Science. Poetry. Ethics and manners courses. Keep Common Core math out and bring in real Math. Sex ed classes should be confined to SRA (Sexual Risk Avoidance) classes. I would love for kids to learn a trade above their academic work.</p> <p>Thank you for making the effort to ask these questions of the general public.</p>
03/09/2022	Ms. Carrie	NC 27610	Wake		<p>I would like to see an education system that serves all students in</p>

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09:22 AM	Blackburn				North Carolina equitably, regardless of their income, race, gender, different learning needs, or zip code. I would like NC's public schools to be fully funded by taxpayers and for teachers to be paid at least as much as police officers. I would like the curriculum to be determined by educators and not legislators.
03/09/2022 10:33 AM	Ms. Amy Talley	2515 Maplewood Ave , Winston Salem , NC 27103	Forsyth	amyanntalley@gmail.com	I am a parent of two public school students and veteran teacher. I strongly believe that schools need more funding. Teachers are doing more than ever, and we desperately need support. We need more support staff in our buildings (assistants, reading specialists, testing coordinators, counselors) and better materials. I spend extra hours each week on top of teaching, planning, and duties to do mandated LETRS training, which seems absolutely illegal to me. How can I be forced to take a training I've already had with no payment for my time? So many teachers are leaving the profession because of the slaps to the face- cuts to masters pay and benefits and raised expectations. It is demoralizing. I stay only because of my students. Please support the Leandro plan and any steps to raise teacher pay and hire more support staff. Teachers need help and support. We are drowning. Thank you, Amy Talley
03/09/2022 12:34 PM	Dr Kolek Mary	54 Milton Ct, Pittsboro, NC 27312		mmkchnc14@gmail.com	Full funding of the Leandro remedial plan over next 8 years is critical for success and well being of our communities and state. Passing on costs to locals only exacerbates inequalities.
03/09/2022 12:40 PM	Tania Jimenez	Asheboro, NC	Randolph	a.latinxs.services@gmail.com	Good evening committee members, my name is Tania Jimenez and I am the Executive Director of Asheboro Latinx Services. I am here today as a member of the Every Child NC coalition representing the Hispanic families we serve in Randolph County. We not only advocate for the Leandro Plan as an investment in our educators and children, but we also condemn leaders who continue to choose tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations over implementing the Leandro Plan and fully funding our public schools. North Carolina continues to systematically violate the constitutional rights of our children by failing to provide a strong basic education for all. School funding in North Carolina is among the lowest in the country. But it is not for lack of resources. The state has billions of dollars in unspent revenue, but there are members in the state legislature who refuse to put our children first! Instead, they try to distract and divide us, stirring up controversy over masks and vaccines, censoring books on history and race, and demonizing LGBTQ students. Too many children across the state lack access to qualified educators, adequate facilities, after-school programs, and professional training. Asheboro, Randolph County and the entire state demand that the Leandro Plan be fully implemented and that our children receive a quality education that imparts honesty about who we are, integrity

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					in how we treat others, and will help create a better future. I am committed to working with the members of the school board to present the Plan Leandro resolution.
03/09/2022 01:11 PM	Nancy Weaver-Hoffman	3524 NC Hwy 88W, Warrensville, NC 28693	Ashe	foxfireholler@gmail.com	We need for all classrooms to be fully funded spaces for a state of the art learning experience. Teachers should not have to spend their own money on class room materials. We need smaller classrooms for more individualized learning. Better teacher pay.
03/09/2022 01:19 PM	Mrs Betsy Webster	14230 nc 801, Mt Ulla, NC 28125-7721	Rowan	betsywebster0@gmail.com	Use Leandro suggestions to fully fund NC schools
03/09/2022 03:50 PM	Ms Gayle Anderson	2008 Faculty Dr, Winston-Salem , NC 27106	Forsyth	Gayle5088@gmail.com	Implement the Leandro plan. Pure and simple. And, of course, provide the funding.
03/09/2022 04:31 PM	Public School Funding Jenn Smith	331 Dry Avenue, Cary, NC 27511		jennsmith2@gmail.com	I am writing this as a native of NC who is currently raising my children in NC. Our public schools have been a blessing to our family however I have watched our state ignore the fiscal responsibility to support our public school students. I have been frustrated to watch the numbers and see staff to student ratios go the wrong way. I have read up on Leandro and am embarrassed that our state continues to ignore what the courts have recognized as significant underfunding our students and ignoring our state's responsibilities to our children. Please move on funding our public schools and look to the Leandro court case for guidance. Thank you for your time, Jenn Smith
03/09/2022 06:21 PM	Ms. Kathryn Austin	3405 Morris Farm Dr, Jamestown, NC 27282	Guilford	kea_421@hotmail.com	I would like to see accurate history taught, science based practices used, lots of play and experiential learning, less to no homework, whole person learning (emphasis on social learning and raising kind and good humans, not just an academic focus), fully funded schools, WELL-paid Teacher's and school workers (double their salaries, at minimum), safe school buildings with working HVAC units and windows that open, no police officers in schools, smaller student teacher ratios, assistants, more counselors and therapy for all, no book banning, more comprehensive sex education, more support for LGBTQIA+ children and teachers, a focus on countering the school to prison pipeline, no vouchers for private education, less charter schools, no more standardized testing, and more outside time for all ages.
03/09/2022 06:40 PM	Gina Barrow	513 Menlo Park Rd, Greensboro, NC 27405	Guilford	Ginapb9802@aol.com	Real life skills. How to balance your financial accounts. Managing money. Time management. Taxes. Saving money. Buying a home and the information you need to know to do so (the good and the bad). How to correctly fill our application. Communication skills;

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					<p>being able to talk to a person and hold a conversation. Networking. More on the “right” college/trade school that are for the individual person. Differences in careers. Salary. More time spent on learning to drive. Things happening in our community and how to help. How to help make a difference; what steps to take to get started.</p> <p>I could go on for days. My kids don't need to know what religion people in Sicily and why they practice it. That is special Ed to someone who wants to learn more about that.</p>
03/09/2022 08:03 PM	Mrs. Lasenia Barnes	121 Marion Road, Lumberton, NC 28358		lbarnes52@nc.rr.com	<p>My name is Lasenia Barnes, and I am a retired School Counselor from Robeson County, Nort Carolina.</p> <p>I continue to be concerned and disturbed by the limited funding North Carolina legislators provide teachers and children in our public schools. All children deserve a quality education where all children learn and educational professionals, teachers, earn a salary comparable to others with the same levels of education, training, and experience. Provide every student the best state of the arts resources available at every grade level without regard to race, sex, or economic status, Implement the recommendations from Leandro. Thank you, Committee.</p>
03/10/2022 07:50 AM					<p>No police (SROs) in schools Increase teacher salaries and benefits Equitable funding so that every single school has up-to-date and safe HVAC, etc. with no structural issues Curriculum based on well-established child development facts, not centered on meeting the needs of the standardized testing industry No homework before 3rd grade LGBTQ students are respected and protected</p>
03/10/2022 08:15 AM	Sarah Thompson	9401 S Mere Ct, Raleigh, NC 27615	Wake	sarahlarue@hotmail.com	<p>Funding education is important. Paying teachers a good salary ensures we get fantastic teachers. We need to increase spending in our public school system. Our teachers deserve to get paid enough to live and support their families without multiple jobs. Anything you do yo restructure our education system should focus on enough funding to make sure all students are getting the same education.</p>
03/10/2022 08:49 AM	Ms. Stef Mendell	3225 Oak Grove Circle, Raleigh, NC 27607	Wake	stefmendell@gmail.com	<p>Public Education is critical to the survival of our country. Please provide more funding to support our public schools. I am adamantly opposed to taxpayer dollars going towards vouchers and private schools. Public Education is the foundation of our democracy.</p>
03/10/2022 10:22 AM	Mrs Laine Anderson	2637 Impulsion Dr., New Hill, NC 27562	Wake	laine@laineanderson.com	<p>Our schools need more funding!</p>

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03/10/2022 10:47 AM	Heather Thompson	2803 Fallin Ct, High Point, North Carolina 27262	Davidson	hthompson51@outlook.com	<p>North Carolina has a robust secondary education system, but our K-12 system is abhorrent. I would like to see us ditch antiquated practices and move toward a more progressive education system that is producing kind humans who can function in an evolving society, not students taught to take standardized tests.</p> <p>An ideal system would encourage a collective environment rather than an individualistic one; include no standardized testing; smaller class sizes; teacher assistants in each classroom; more time outdoors; more play and experiential learning; little to no homework; better pay for teachers and staff – including higher pay for advanced degrees; a focus on SEL rather than just academics; more counselors/social workers in schools; teaching of accurate history rather than revisionist; support and services for ALL students and teachers, regardless of gender, orientation, race, etc.</p> <p>Shorten the straight academic portion of the day and add time at the end of the day for life skill courses – cooking, cleaning, laundry, money management, organization/time management, job searching/writing resumes, phone/letter etiquette – and teacher-led clubs/groups that expand on their academic learnings – robotics, coding, community service, film/photography, gardening, music/drama, etc. Allow students to continue learning, but in a different manner and in a subject of their choice.</p> <p>I would also love to see all neighborhood schools modernized so that they are safe and inviting environments. It's disheartening to see how segregated the public schools are here. I would love to see more of a focus on our neighborhood schools rather than lotteries, charter schools, magnet schools, and vouchers for private schools.</p>
03/10/2022 02:14 PM	Christina Richman	720 Pelzer Drive, Wake Forest, NC 27587	Wake	chrissyrichman@yahoo.com	<p>I would like to see more funding for our public schools. I for one can attest that NC is severely lacking in resources. My child has attended public school in both NJ and MD, both of which have excellent schools with a lot of resources. While my child's school in NC has great teachers, it is lacking in so many areas. I implore the NCGA to invest in our public schools!! We need more teachers, specialists, and resources.</p>
03/10/2022 05:25 PM	Christine Kushner	3220 Birnamwood Road, Raleigh, NC 27607	Wake	christine.kushner@live.com	<p>With all due respect, there is no need for this legislative committee. Years have been spent developing the response to the decades old Leandro decision. Please, for the sake of all children in North Carolina, do your constitutional duty and implement the nonpartisan WestEd Report: Sound Basic Education for All: An Action Plan for North Carolina. https://www.wested.org/wested-news/sound-basic-education-for-all-an-action-plan-for-north-carolina/</p>

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03/10/2022 05:49 PM	Ms Adrienne Lumpkin	4205 City of Oaks Wynd, Raleigh, NC 27612	Wake	adriennelumpkin@gmail.com	We need well funded public schools, teachers who receive professional development and have the materials needed for their classrooms, and DIVERSITY of students, teachers and administrators, not to mention better ratios of school counselors and mental health workers in schools. We need physical buildings that are sound, classrooms that are not crowded.
03/10/2022 08:55 PM	Educate Every Child John Manuel	106 Culcross Ct., Cary, NC 27513	Wake	johncmanuel@me.com	1) Make it a priority to provide equal opportunity for all children, regardless of zip code, gender, race, etc. (2) Strengthen PUBLIC schools. (3) Stop letting charter schools siphon off public money for segregated schools. (4) Fewer standardized tests. (5) More support for teachers, financially and in infrastructure, and empower them in the classroom.
03/10/2022 10:05 PM	Mrs Rebecca Huff	5712 Freuler Dr, Ayden, NC 28513		thasacoolname2@yahoo.com	<p>What would i like to see in a new system.</p> <p>1.) shorter school days, it is 100 percent unnecessary to have such long days for kids in school. They don't have to be in school all day long and learn what they need.</p> <p>2.) RECESS, RECESS, RECESS. I grew up in a system that had a 15 min morning recess, half hour lunch recess outside of the 20 mins for eating, and a 15 min recess in afternoon for elementary school. Middle school had maybe morning recess, i can't recall becuase i only had one year of middle school, as I'd moved. Junior high n high school were the same that way, so i had one hour classes, (well, 50/55 mins), and lunch was a class period long. So 20 mins to eat, and thirty to socialize, hangout outside, etc.</p> <p>3.) Focus on skills actually needed in real life. So, academics in the morning for high school, and job skills in the afternoons, or actual jobs for kids who want to go to work. No algebra 2 for kids who don't want it. It's unnecessary.</p> <p>4.) keep politics OUT OF SCHOOLS. It is great to teach ABOUT civics and our government. Vital, actually. But in an UNBIASED manner. Focus on our constitution and the vitality of it. Teachers should NOT be saying things like, "everyone should get the covid vaccine because it's great and important", or teaching our children ideologies and enforcing them in the class by constant repetition that are different. Discussion yes. I shoudl NOT know where a teacher stands on topics.</p> <p>Keep to a moral code, and keep some things private. I don't want my kids learning about LGBTZXEY etc. it's unnecessary and uncool. Period.</p> <p>DID i mention shorter days????</p>

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					<p>5.) Oh, and STOP TESTING SO DARNED MUCH!!!! Quizzes and tests should NOT be the bulk of the grade. A small percentage. The bulk should be the work they do. Tests are outrageous. Unless they are allowed to correct their answers and explain why the answer was wrong, so that shows learning. Testing is one size fits all and is ridiculous.</p> <p>6.) Hire teachers based on ability to teach and love of the job, NOT based on skin color, religion, politics, etc.</p> <p>7.) pay teachers well and STOP making them have to put in so many hours of doing this n that or the other on TOP of their required time of being in school, which is 8 or so hours already.</p> <p>8.) SMALL CLASS SIZES. As a preschool teacher, i can't give 18 kids all the attention they all need. So we have 2 teachers. Still, you can't give them all , by yourself. Small classes make better learners for most things.</p> <p>9.) teach the value of working together AND being independent. Teach independence skills, self reliance skills, how to stand up for yourself, and how to absolutely question authority.</p> <p>10.) have accountability for all staff and admin. I'm so very sick of the high n mighty attitudes some staff/admins get, and the fact that no matter how much you do they will always look down your nose at you when THEY screw up n don't do anything and there's no consequences to hold them accountable.</p> <p>10.) last but not least, is COMFORT. Those blasted chairs and desks are SO uncomfortable and since we humans have to sit in them for HOURS every day, they should be made to be comfortable n pain free. We weren't created to sit all day, period. So having things that are actually comfortable, would go a LONG long ways to improving school outlook. Guaranteed. Speaking from experience , both my own, and my son's complaints.</p> <p>11.) one more. BOOKS! Stop using computers for learning and bring back old fashioned (but up to date!) text books and good classic reading books.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read this.</p> <p>I have a degree in education but our system is so broken, no way do I want to be a full fledged teacher, even though i dreamed of being one since being a kid. I've raised my own kids, I've been involved in the schools since day one, and I'm a preschool teacher,</p>

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					<p>and have had SO many teacher friends. Definitely a broken system. A system that breeds self entitled kids and kids who don't like to learn because it's so unpleasant. My son HATES school. If i didn't have to work, I'd let him stay home. It's awful. Make school more like college. College is not all day every day, No reason why schools can't be designed the same.</p> <p>I hope you really do listen and take these ideas into account. I'm sure I'm not the only one with these ideas. And if i am , GREAT!!! All the more reason to use them.</p>
03/10/2022 10:21 PM	Mrs Libby Dews	2707 Royal Dr, Winterville, NC 28590	Pitt	libbydew@aol.com	<p>God</p> <p>I want to see God in the schools.</p>
03/11/2022 06:35 AM	Amy Womble	2700 N Mayview Rd, Raleigh, NC 27607	Wake	awomble1@gmail.com	<p>I would like for North Carolina's children to have the public education system they deserve. That includes free preK for all children, small classes with teachers' assistants, arts and music as well as foreign language for all children in all counties. I would like for teacher pay to be above national average. Professional development should be provided at no cost to educators. I would like to see charters used in their original intent- as laboratories of innovation, whose ideas are shared with traditional public schools- not as a separate school system that further divides the haves and have nots in NC. Thank you</p>
03/11/2022 09:40 AM	Phylcia Carr	218 baker dr., washington, North Carolina 27889	Beaufort		<p>I would like to see special needs classrooms the size of regular classes even if there are only 3-5 kids in the class. I would like for special needs kids to be treated like the regular kids in school. I would also like it if the teachers were not calling/texting on a daily basis about your child's behavior when they know his diagnosis. Special needs parents have it hard and the public school system is just letting them fall threw the cracks.</p>
03/11/2022 11:36 AM	Erin de Freitas	620 Mills St, Raleigh , NC 27608	Wake	Erinmariedefreitas@gmail.com	<p>Increase funding. Comply with the Leandro plan in order to provide a basic sound education. I have 4 children in public schools. The schools are understaffed. It's an embarrassment to NC.</p>
03/11/2022 11:54 AM	Matthew Ellinwood	224 S. Dawson Street, Raleigh, NC 27611	Wake		<p>NC Justice Center Statement for House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future</p> <p>The North Carolina Justice Center commends this Committee for considering a new approach to education policymaking. Our schools have allowed too many students to fall short of their full potential. Our state is disproportionately failing to meet the needs of students of color, rural students, children living in poverty, English learners, and students with disabilities. We know that some students enter North Carolina schools face far greater barriers to educational success than others. Our democracy and our economy cannot thrive when large swaths of</p>

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					<p>our community are denied opportunities to succeed. The past decade's commitment to school privatization and limited resources has been insufficient to change this unjust status quo. It is certainly time to consider new approaches.</p> <p>A plan exists laying out how to create schools that meet students' basic constitutional rights to a sound basic education. We know how to create schools that give a student in Gaston County the same opportunities for success as a student in Chapel Hill. The Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan contains the budgetary, programmatic, and policy steps necessary to meet our state's basic responsibilities to students by 2028. The Plan will boost academic success for all students, but particularly for those who have been largely denied opportunities under the status quo. The Plan reflects the latest education research. It was developed by some of the nation's top education experts in partnership with N.C. State and informed by numerous interviews, focus groups, and surveys of North Carolina policymakers, school and district administrators, teachers, parents, business leaders, community members, and students. This level of engagement across the state is difficult to achieve and should not be squandered. The Committee should consider the plan and recommendations developed through this process.</p> <p>Over the past two years, we have engaged community groups, students, and parents, and students who have confirmed that this plan is responsive to the local educational challenges they experience daily. These local experts have convinced us that the Leandro Plan provides the best path forward to provide all children with their constitutionally guaranteed right to receive meaningful educational opportunities.</p> <p>We respectfully urge this Committee to focus on implementing the Leandro Plan. At the very least, the elements of this plan are worthy of consideration by this committee and members should make clear which recommendations they support and which they oppose. We are happy to meet with Committee members to further discuss the importance of fulfilling students' basic constitutional rights as a first step in reimagining an education system for North Carolina's future.</p> <p>Matt Ellinwood Director, Education and Law Project North Carolina Justice Center 919-861-1465; matt@ncjustice.org</p> <p>Kris Nordstrom Senior Policy Analyst North Carolina Justice Center 919-856-3195; kris@ncjustice.org</p>

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03/11/2022 12:25 PM	Mrs Cynthia Ambrogne-O'Toole	3901 River Front Place Unit 203, Wilmington, NC 28412	New Hanover	ambrogneotoole@gmail.com	Our children deserve a high quality education. Fund their futures.
03/11/2022 04:14 PM	Dr. Karey Harwood	1435 Duplin Rd, Raleigh, NC 27607	Wake	kareyharwood@mac.com	This is a strange question. It seems to assume that our current education system in North Carolina is so irretrievably flawed that we need to remake it from scratch. I don't believe we need to radically rebuild our education system. I believe we need to repair and support a system that has been underfunded and undermined at every turn by the state legislature since 2010. Going forward, I would like to see competitive teacher pay that attracts and retains the best teachers. Likewise, I'd like to see competitive pay for principals. I would like every school to have a nurse and/or school psychologist. I would like to see old school buildings renovated with upgraded air filtration systems. I would like to see the construction of more outdoor classroom spaces and eating spaces. I would like to see a greater commitment to high quality, integrated, well staffed public schools across the entire state, rather than a patchwork of have and have not schools. I would like to see fewer charter schools, which drain away resources from the education system and exacerbate trends toward racial segregation. I would like to see the money that is being funneled into our irresponsible private school voucher program redirected to the public school system, specifically to increase teacher pay. I would like to see better funding for arts programs at schools, better maintained athletic facilities, cleaner buildings, better food in school lunches, state of the art educational technology and well stocked school libraries. In sum, I would like to see the state legislature invest in the public education system like they really care about public education and the future of our state and the well-being of our children.
03/11/2022 05:23 PM	Mrs. Lisa Metzger	20392 OLD SANDBAR RD, OAKBORO, NC 28129-8833	Stanly	carolinametzgers@gmail.com	Homeschoolers in NC do not want *any* additional government oversight at all, ever! The successes of North Carolinian home educated graduates speaks of how we need no additional hoops to jump through. Additional hoops will only distract from the focus we should have on educating our children. Homeschoolers are active in politics, and anyone who pushes for or votes for additional oversight will be voted out. Please keep this in mind, if there is ever any discussion of increased "tracking" of North Carolina home educators.
03/11/2022 05:26 PM	Mr. Mark Metzger	20392 Old Sandbar Rd, Oakboro, NC 28129	Stanly	mgmcarolinas@Gmail.com	There is talk of how politicians might be discussing further oversight of homeschoolers in our state. Absolutely not! The results prove we are doing our job as home educators. Keep additional oversight by the government out of our homes. Focus on public education, because that's where the need for improvement lies.

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03/11/2022 08:49 PM	Claire Green	126 Cole Ct , Cary, NC 27511	Wake	clgrn75@gmail.com	I would like to see sufficient and equal spending in a new school system. It is intolerable that a school has significantly more funding and resources than another school that is just 3 miles down the street. I have witnessed this through the magnet system. Our neighborhood school had overcrowded classrooms and not enough literacy teachers. But once we applied to a magnet school then the class size was slashed by 1/3 and they had multiple literacy teachers. Our teachers and support staff also need to be paid their value. Our schools will soon be falling apart due to teachers and support staff not earning a wage equal do their job requirements.
03/11/2022 10:42 PM	Mrs. Sarah Gardner	3702 Middlebury Way , Greensboro, Nc 27410	Guilford	segardner24@gmail.com	I would not like to see government oversight in the education system or homeschool system. When government oversight comes in they will try to choose what we can and can't teach our kids. That is why some people choose to homeschool.
03/11/2022 11:02 PM	Mrs. Amy Manumaleuga	1022A Elm Street, Fayetteville, NC 28303	Cumberland	amanumaleuga@gmail.com	<p>Hi,</p> <p>There is absolutely no need for extra oversight for home education. It is the parents' responsibility to educate their child, NOT the state. Homeschoolers on average do much better than traditional students. Homeschoolers on average also do better emotionally, mentally and spiritually than public students.</p> <p>So I would suggest that you put your focus on improving public education instead. Public education needs major overhaul or to start over from scratch.</p> <p>Public school students are absolutely NOT getting quality education. Instead of quality education, these students are receiving communist and inappropriate sex ed indoctrination which, again, is VERY inappropriate. You should be ashamed of yourself for having this continue to occur in North Carolina public schools and doing this to innocent children. Not only that, often, public school students graduate with subpar reading and math skills compared to homeschooled children that does much better in reading and math.</p> <p>Again, instead of focusing on home education which does much better than public students, you need to focus your attention on public "education."</p> <p>Education NOT indoctrination for public school students is what the education department should be focusing on. Not homeschool families.</p>

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
03/11/2022 11:18 PM					<p>Thank you, Amy</p> <p>NC House Select Committee, If you are considering any more regulations or oversight on NC homeschoolers, I humbly ask you to reconsider. The current system is working just great. Please leave it just as it is with no increased tracking.</p> <p>As a testimony to how well adjusted and successful homeschoolers turn out, and how our children have benefited so greatly from being schooled at home, here is what they are up to currently:</p> <p>My oldest is currently perusing her Masters in Psychology, the middle is gainfully employed at a job she loves, the youngest is a senior who plans to study Cyber Security at a NC University.</p> <p>Increased regulations and tracking just puts additional unnecessary pressure on families that already have so much to do. Parents need the freedom to instruct their children in whatever way they think best without excessive government interference. Thank you for your time, Tammy Clanton</p>
03/12/2022 07:20 AM	Mrs Elizabeth Kendall	37 Sandy Point Ln, Eure, NC 27935	Gates	lizjk11@gmail.com	<p>Leave us parents and kids alone. We do not need to be governed in our own homes, when that's precisely part of the reason we pulled our children from the public school system. We stick within the lawful guidelines, the rest is up to us. Leave things as they are. Parents are not just sitting around all day. You need to stay where you belong, leave us parents to do our job. -homeschooling since 2016.</p>
03/12/2022 03:00 PM	Homeschool Lindsay Nagle	115 Salem Crossing Cir, Kernersville, NC 27284	Forsyth	Linden4him@gmail.com	<p>Please keep the current laws/guidelines for homeschool as they are. It's a system that is working with great success and to the success of North Carolina's youth.</p>
03/12/2022 04:31 PM	Ms. Mary Ellen Kustin	1618 Orleans Ave, Hendersonville, NC 28791	Henderson	maryellenkustin@gmail.com	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>Before imagining starting our public schools from scratch, the members of General Assembly must uphold their oaths of office and meet their constitutional obligation by providing a sound, basic education to every child in NC. The courts have made it clear what that entails: fully funding the Leandro Plan.</p> <p>North Carolina has been court ordered to follow a detailed roadmap -- known as the Leandro Plan -- for ensuring every child has access to a sound basic education by 2028. Unfortunately, the budget our General Assembly passed in fall of 2021 fell woefully</p>

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					<p>short of funding Leandro.</p> <p>Perplexingly, the budget left enough money unspent in state coffers to easily fund Leandro for the next two years.</p> <p>I STRONGLY urge our State Delegates and Senators to do what is right for our children, the future of North Carolina: Fully Fund the Leandro Plan before reassessing our public schools.</p> <p>Sincerely, Mary Ellen Kustin Hendersonville</p>
03/12/2022 05:10 PM	Harold Schmoecker	421 Brevard St, Waxhaw, NC 28173	Union	harold@1h4m.com	<p>Less control by the state and federal government. There are 100,000 home school kids precisely because the state and federal government are too easily influenced by corporate interests. Stay out of local schools and let local counties make local decisions. The recent debacle where states like NC thought children should be used as hostages to sell vaccines for the pharmaceutical industry is a prime perfect example. You will sell out our children in an instant if the money is right. The best thing the state and federal government can do for schools, is stay away.</p>
03/12/2022 09:55 PM	Mrs Victoria Broglin	253 Hall Siding Rd, Ahoskie, NC 2910	Hertford	vbroglin@hertford.k12.nc.us	<p>Schools in Hertford County should have the option to wear or not to wear masks for ALL employees and students.</p>
03/13/2022 09:08 AM	Dr. Laura Bottomley	100 Merlot Ct, Cary, NC 27518	Wake	laura.j.bottomley@gmail.com	<p>I would like to see the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1-close charter schools 2-increase funding to public schools 3-increase teacher salaries 4-adopt new teaching and learning standards, to include NGSS 5-give teachers incentive to get a masters degree 6-allow more flexibility in lesson planning, perhaps by instituting quarterly milestones and Do not control daily activity in the classroom 7-provide teachers more planning time, to include time for vertical and horizontal integrated planning 8-reward innovation in the classroom 9-support teacher education programs in the UNC system
03/13/2022 10:43 AM	susan hughes	4810 tara drive, greensboro, nc 27410	Guilford	socrmom5@gmail.com	<p>Bring back cursive handwriting, Bring back teaching life skills such as cooking and sewing and knowing how to balance your money and knowing how to budget Stop our educators from insisting that college is for everyone - when it isn't. Encourage our boys through hands on learning - they are being left behind and we cannot have a culture of uneducated men TEACH PHONICS and how to properly hold a six sided pencil (we had this in AZ)</p>

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					KEEP WOKENESS OUT OF THE CLASSROOM - it isn't going to make our kids smarter
03/13/2022 10:57 AM	Aleshia Fulton	127 old blossom court, Raeford, NC 28376		aleshiafulton@gmail.com	I would like to see life skills taught in public school such as farming,sewing,building and hubs and programs to integrate homeschool and public schools for social skills!
03/13/2022 11:06 AM	Ms. Elizabeth Mosley	716 Sebrena Place, Charlotte, NC 28211	Mecklenburg	mosley.elizabeth@gmail.com	<p>My name is Elizabeth Mosley. I am a Charlotte native and graduate of the Charlotte Mecklenburg School system. I am a National Board certified teacher of Civics and Economics at Butler High School in Matthew, NC. I have been a North Carolina public teacher for 21 years. I am also the mother of two sons who graduated from the Charlotte Mecklenburg School system and are current students at Appalachian State University. I have experienced every aspect of the public school system-- as a student, as a parent, and as a teacher, so I consider myself something of an expert on public education. I certainly am more of an expert than many of the politicians in Raleigh who seek to make education policy and budget decisions, often without seeking the input of folks on the front line, so I appreciate the opportunity to share my insight.</p> <p>I strongly believe that public schools are the single-most important vehicle for growth and achievement available. During my years as a public school student, CMS was one of the most desegregated school systems in the country. Students from all backgrounds had the opportunity to use their public education as a way to improve their emotional, social, economic and material well-being. While this is still the case for some, it has become a much greater challenge for many. CMS has slid back to being one of the most segregated school systems in the state as a result of the dismantling of Swann vs. CMS. There are significant disparities in the resources available to schools within any given district and from district to district, with systems such as CMS and Wake having access to greater funding than smaller rural systems. This disparity was something the Leandro case remedy has sought to address for over 20 years now. The NCGA has YET to fully fund public education, in spite of direct orders from the state's highest court. Worse, the Republican-controlled General Assembly, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the lieutenant governor seem determined to dismantle the public school system by seeking to divert funds from traditional public schools to charter and private schools. This is problematic on many levels. Private and charter schools aren't required to meet any minimal standards for teacher or school quality. Since many don't offer public transportation, free lunch, or services for students with special needs, they discriminate against students from families</p>

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					<p>with lower incomes or those who need additional support. These schools are permitted to discriminate because of religion, gender, or sexual orientation. For too many, "school choice" has become a thinly veiled vehicle to allow parents (and the lawmakers who agree with them) a way to keep "their kids" away from "those kids," and every dollar allocated to the support of charter and private schools is a dollar taken from traditional public schools, whose mission is to provide a quality education for ALL students.</p> <p>At my school, the lack of adequate funding has a direct impact on students. Following are just a few examples. Students in my school have been without a permanent chemistry teacher for the entire school year, because it's impossible to find teachers willing to work for the paltry amount allocated by the state, in spite of the significant local supplement offered by CMS (something many districts in the state are unable to offer). A student of mine who desperately needs eyeglasses can't get them, because there isn't anyone in my district who can give her an eye exam. Teachers regularly have to cover classes because no substitutes are available. Breakfast and lunch options are limited because we can't hire adequate cafeteria staff. I have windows in my classroom that won't open, posing a safety hazard. These are just a few examples of what happens when schools are not adequately funded, and I consider myself lucky to be teaching in CMS, at a relatively well-off school when compared to others in my district.</p> <p>I urge the state to fully fund the Leandro remedy, and to take the steps necessary to move North Carolina from among the lowest-funded states in the union for per-pupil spending. We must commit to higher teacher pay. We must take immediate steps to increase the teacher pipeline so that we will have highly qualified educators to teach tomorrow's students, and concerted efforts should be made to attract and retain teachers of color.</p> <p>It's inexcusable that in 2022, the quality of your education depends on your address. The families of North Carolina deserve better. Thank you for your work and for your service to our state. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.</p>
03/13/2022 11:57 AM	Mrs Holly Hill	6515 Anniston St, Parkton , NC 28371	Cumberland		I want to have a current say in what my child is learning. I do not mind being required to test. I am better capable of teaching and caring for my child than an institution.
03/13/2022 12:03 PM	Mrs. Becca Portera	5421 Gales St, Hope Mills, NC 28348	Cumberland	porterabecca80@gmail.com	We want a complete overhaul of the school boards and administrations. We pulled our four children from the Cumberland County schools due to the terrible education they were receiving and the horrendous educators. My child was assaulted by a teacher at Ed V. Baldwin Elementary and that man is still teaching.

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03/13/2022 12:07 PM					<p>Your schools have lost all government funding (x4) from us due to being a military family. Until your educators quit pushing their personal beliefs to suit their agendas and teach our children correctly, we will NEVER return and I know many who feel the same way!</p> <p>If you were charged with establishing a North Carolina education system, you could start with actually teaching students. Teach them history, math, grammar, and composition. Stop trying to indoctrinate children with complex ADULT ideas and Liberal “wokeness”. Leave the homeschool families alone. We’re actually doing the school system a favor by utilizing our right to educate our own children, who by the way, tend to have better test scores than those of public school children. I think you’re threatened b that. By educating our children at home, we’re decreasing classroom sizes and the burden on teachers. We’re actually teaching our children, and making sure they understand what they’re learning before moving on. It’s not any of the government’s business what I teach my child. Keep your hands out of my child’s education and out of our homeschool!</p>
03/13/2022 12:34 PM	Jacqueline Powell	8000 Arabia Road, Lumber Bridge, NC 28357	Hoke	powjc08@gmail.com	The absolute freedom to homeschool our children without interference from the government.
03/13/2022 02:11 PM	Better Sex Ed in Schools Ana Aspero	12444 windsor glade dr, matthews, North Carolina 28105	Mecklenburg	6526353436@student.cms.k12.nc.us	<p>If today there was no education system in North Carolina, and we were charged with establishing one, what I would like to see most is better health and sex education. There is a wide gap between what some students get taught in one school versus another. According to the 2014 CDC School Health Profiles, less than half of high schools and only one fifth of middle schools teach all 16 topics recommended by the CDC as essential parts of sex education. in 2011–2013, 43% of adolescent females and 57% of adolescent males did not receive information about birth control before they had sex for the first time. Teaching abstinence, while a good idea, is not as effective as a thorough education on how to be safe if a teenager decides not to practice abstinence. This includes having better resources for LGBTQ youth, who seem to be left out of this topic any time I have learnt sex education in school. Having ex education improved in schools in North Carolina should be a priority, and one that could help prevent teen pregnancies and STDs among high schoolers.</p>
03/13/2022 03:01 PM	Jackie Ledwein	Charlotte , NC 29277	Mecklenburg		<p>Teach them reading, writing, arithmetic, science and real history...even the stuff we don’t like. Teach them logic and critical thinking. Let them express differences with respect for one another and debate without stifling free speech. Let them question things that don’t make sense and talk through them without fear of being silenced or ridiculed and keep political agendas out of the</p>

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03/13/2022 05:16 PM	Megan Henderson	608 Lewis St. , Raeford , NC 28376	Hoke	turkyqueen@gmail.com	<p>classroom!! Let parents teach morality and values and sex education.</p> <p>I think education systems should be driven by the community not the government. Parents should be a vital part of the system not politicians. Schools should be small and community based. Parents should have the right to choose to participate in the school system or educate their children in private or home schools. How children are educated in these different types of school should NEVER be overseen by the federal or state government. It is the responsibility God gave to parents to oversee their children's education. The current recommendation by the legislature to start regulating homeschools is the opposite of what our founding fathers wanted for this country.</p>
03/13/2022 07:41 PM	Ideas for a better school Rithik Ramkumar	2234 savannah hills dr, Matthews, NC 28105	Mecklenburg	rithikramkumar1@gmail.com	<p>In a good education system, I would like to see a good balance between both the representation that students get, as well as the authority of the school officials such as teachers and principals. More specifically, students should get more say in the changes that occur such as new rules in a school. A good example is that a select number of good students should be able to give their opinions on an impending decision. Another aspect of a good school system is that the school should have a good balance between education, and things like sports. For example in my school, when students are placed on the honor roll for doing well in school, all they get is a small soda, while kids that do well in sports are announced on the morning announcements, as it is usually considered as a big deal. Students need more motivation to do well academically in school. If their achievements academically are not recognized, there is a high chance that they will not be motivated to do well in the future. Finally, I believe that a good school system should have frequent "group activities." Examples of this are things like a day where students can come in and play sports in the gym, or a day when students can watch a movie at the school on a weekend. Activities like this can be used to bring students closer to the school, and unite students and teachers alike. This can also be used as a reward for doing well in school. For example, students that get on the honor roll can earn a movie night, ice cream social, etc. However, a good school system should also have their boundaries in place. Teachers should both teach their lessons effectively, while being kind and understanding. Teachers should also give students more room in case they do mess up. There should also be a homework limit if possible, as students find themselves staying up for hours, and not getting enough sleep, or just not finishing the assignments. Sleep is a huge factor in why students struggle in school, as you need a certain amount of sleep to focus in school. If every student, and teacher could get 8-10 hours of sleep each night, test scores and</p>

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					grades would go through the roof. Schools should also have lessons that don't have a possibility of ending after the semester/ quarter, as they force students to finish twice as much work in the same amount of time. In conclusion, a goal of a school should be not only to prepare a student for the future, but also a place where he/she can express their ideas, and skills. Schools need to consider providing a positive learning environment and providing awards for students that push themselves in school not only for sports, but for academics as well. Finally, schools should give students and staff the opportunity for get togethers, as well as frequent breaks and intermissions, as well as enough time for optimal amounts of sleep, to give students staff time to relax, and catch up on their work and overall life as a whole.
03/14/2022 08:33 AM	Megan Johle	120 Wooten Lane, Zebulon, NC 27597	Johnston	thejohles@gmail.com	Children who continue to disrupt class because of behavioral issues and those who need remedial lessons should be given separate classes from those students who do not. Behavioral issues in a class and remedial education in another. The class size should also be significantly smaller than the standard classes. This would allow all children to thrive, getting the help they need.
03/14/2022 08:56 AM	Miss Ashley Hauser	3941 Prides Rd, East Bend, NC 27018	Yadkin	a.hauser2008@gmail.com	I would like to see an inclusive school system that would include base subjects of applied math and sciences. I would like to see more hands on with kids and less sit for long periods. I would like to see less testing. I would like for home economics such as budgeting balancing a banking account sewing and stuff like that to be mandantory for kids because they are not getting it at home. I would like critical race theory to be banned and history taught from a neutral perspective leaving the learner to for their own opinions of history. The kids should also play more of a role in cleaning the school and areas of the school.
03/14/2022 10:08 AM	Carolyn White	300 Tripp Farm Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27516	Orange	chwhitenc@gmail.com	I encourage you to fully fund public education in NC as stipulated in the Leadro case. This is especially important as students state wide struggle to catch up on learning lost during the pandemic. We are also facing a serious teacher shortage. The money invested in the education of our children will benefit our entire state. Please decrease funding for vouchers and instead fully fund public schools.
03/14/2022 10:53 AM	Mr Ariel Haas	100 Ridge St, Black Mountain, NC 28711	Buncombe	arielhaas@yahoo.com	I would love for north Carolina to continue to support the homeschooling families. We work very hard to do right by our children. As a high school teacher myself for 17 years at a top 50 school in the United States, I know what education looks like from all angles. Don't put more restrictions and hoops to jump through on homeschool families. It takes a lot of work as it is without more beaurocracy.
03/14/2022 11:22 AM	Parent Lisa Jillani	4335 Birdie Ct Mint Hill, NC,	Mecklenburg	ljillani@carolina.rr.com	Leave homeschool families alone! NC ranks 33 in quality of education (public schools). Maybe focus on the poor education

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		Charlotte, NC 28227			government schooled kids are getting. My PhD candidate daughter didn't need government interference! I'll stand her CV up to any NC legislator's!!
03/14/2022 12:17 PM	Monica Beech	432 S Main St, Warrenton, NC 27589	Warren	monicakbeech@protonmail.com	As parents, WE are the expert on our children from A to Z. During the pandemic, many parents did not approve of the complete loss of autonomy they endured over their children - getting to choose if or how they would use medical devices, getting to choose if or how they would elect medical treatment, and beyond that, getting to choose what and how certain subjects are taught in school. Most parents in this state take their responsibility as parents very seriously and want to make sure that their kids are being educated rather than indoctrinated with political ideologies. Until the NC education system starts acknowledging the role that they play in our children's lives (and more importantly, the role that they SHOULD NOT play) the trend of parents pulling their kids out of your education system will persist. Our school systems are failing our children, and parents have stepped up to remedy the problem because you haven't.
03/14/2022 12:23 PM	Katherine Williams	2914 20th ST NE, Hickory, NC 28601	Catawba	grimork@tutanota.com	Please stop trying to increase regulations on homeschool in North Carolina. As parents we are the most concerned about our children's education therefore why is it the government's right to be involved? Don't we as parents have a god-given right to educate our children? Please stand opposed to regulation in homeschooling.
03/14/2022 12:33 PM	Ms Laura Holland	8007 Chatsworth Ct, Browns Summit , NC 27214	Guilford	lholland52@rocketmail.com	I would like to see a truly differentiated approach to educating each individual child based upon their unique strengths and needs. For example, I have a child scoring 90 th percentile on MAP reading, math. Same child scores 94th percentile in science. Due to the fact that he isn't scoring above 98tg percentile, there is no special programming to keep him challenged. This should change. Kids should be met where they are educationally instead of being forced to conform to a system that caters to only the extremes.
03/14/2022 05:54 PM	school system future David Frost	133 Everett Ln, Sneads Ferry , North Carolina 28460	Onslow	frostd19@hotmail.com	I feel like we need to move away from Common Core and put a patriotic Education. I think we need to teach our kids to love America. They need to know the truth how America came to be. They need to learn the history behind the constitution how it was developed made America great how our Founded Father's built this country.
03/14/2022 06:11 PM	Dr. Heather Hogan	901 Courtland St, Greensboro , NC 27401	Guilford	heatherhogancnm@gmail.com	If starting from scratch I would make sure that there was adequate funding for teachers to be paid, buildings to be built and maintained and technology to stay up to date. I would remove police officers (SROs) from campuses. Increase nurses and social workers so every school can the number of nurses and social workers needed to match their student body. I would establish universal pre-K so that all students can attend pre-k. Lastly I would

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					completely stop the use of charter schools. All they do is siphon money away from neighborhood schools to mostly private entities. Parents wouldn't be wanting to leave public schools is we have the funding and resources to implement evidence based procedures in all schools for all students.
03/14/2022 11:06 PM	Mrs. Stephanie Schroeder	610 Washington St, Cramerton, NC 28032-1221	Gaston	Stephanieschroeder1982@gmail.com	A new NC education system should not include any infringement upon the rights of parents to educate their children at home according to the curriculum of their choosing.
03/14/2022 11:18 PM	Ms Jin Adams Parker	1924 Old Kanuga Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28739-6765	Henderson	japarker@mail.com	I am grandmother to school children in two counties in North Carolina. I have studied Leandro and believe it to be the only way we can fund proper public education as the state Constitution requires. It is imperative that North Carolina implement the Leandro plan. Why would we not want to be the state with the best public education for our citizens?
03/15/2022 09:16 AM	Homeschool Teacher Aleena Overman	820 Gehring Dr, Kernersville, NC 27284	Forsyth	Aleenalong@gmail.com	My husband and I would like to see kids being taught to think critically and not told how to think socially. We would also like to see dyslexic friendly schools.
03/15/2022 09:41 AM	Mr William Pierce	653 Bayberry Lane, Winterville, NC 28590	Pitt	osito302006@gmail.com	In a new education system, I would love to see veteran teachers be given the respect they deserve for their years of service and experience. I have to maintain two jobs, teaching and being a nurse aide at the hospital, in order to be able to pay bills and daily living which includes the most important part of my life my son. Year after year, I have watched the new teachers get raises that were quite substantial while us veteran teachers received the minimum raise possible. I am not working around 74 hours per week to make ends meet. My last raise averaged out to around 13\$ per month. With all of the things being piled on teachers' "responsibilities", and with the small raises for us teachers with 25+ years in the profession, I feel we are disrespected. I know that as a state we are trying to enhance teaching for the younger beginning teachers, but we are forgetting that they rely on the veteran teachers to show them the way. I love teaching, I love seeing my students on a daily basis. I missed them so much during school closures for covid, however, the thought of leaving the profession all together has been on my mind. I speak 7 languages, finding new employment will not be difficult. I could even go full time at the hospital where I teach. Other than the teacher pay for veteran teachers, I believe that the new education system needs to include world language for all students, not just those going to college. We are a global society where being globally competent in language and culture is a must. Language learning needs to be a core class for all high school students. Studies show that people who speak more than one language are a necessity for business, foreign affairs, politics,

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					<p>military, etc. The standards for language learning and high school requirements in general need to be updated to meet modern day life. North Carolina could and should be a leader in this country to become first in education. North Carolina should be an educationally competitive state. One that entices teachers to come to the state to share their brilliance with the students. A state that shows students what the world has to offer and what we as teachers and students can offer the world.</p> <p>I will happily sit down with whoever wants to listen and discuss my opinions on a new school community and new education system.</p> <p>William Pierce 252-367-9935</p>
03/15/2022 12:24 PM	Mrs. Katherine Nelson	222 Nunya Business, Charlotte, NC 28227	Mecklenburg	kateelaw@aol.com	<p>We have transitioned to home schooling since covid. There was no way I was going to send my kids to school to be taught to be hypochondriacs, oxygen restricted for 8 hours a day, terrible headaches and other oxygen deprivation symptoms & social distanced from their peers. Now that the covid restrictions are over, I debated sending my youngest back to school, but have decided against it for more than a few reasons.</p> <p>This pandemic has pointed out just how little our government agencies and our public school system actually cares about the health and well being of it's students. I trust my government, health agencies, and public school systems less than ever. On top of that, we have been having great successes in homeschooling, my children do much better with home instruction vs. public education. Our education at home is far superior than any public school education.</p> <p>If the last two years has taught us anything, it is that we want the government to LEAVE US ALONE. I understand maybe some parents are not educating their children, locking them in basements or whatever, but that is the exception and NOT the norm. The rest of us WANT our kids to be successful and moving out of our houses one day, and we DO NOT need to be punished with more government inclusion in our lives because of a few people who don't follow the rules, or because so many people are fed up with the government agencies they are schooling their children themselves. Just because there are more of us, doesn't mean there needs to be more restrictions.</p> <p>If there are more restrictions placed on homeschoolers in this state, we will move and take our tax dollars with us. NC's response to this pandemic the last two years has be abysmal at best, SC has been looking better for the last two years. We want to be left alone. My oldest has since graduated our home school and is now in college and doing well. We don't need you.</p>

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03/15/2022 01:01 PM					<p>LEAVE US ALONE.</p> <p>A new education system should only offer the common core method as an alternative learning method.</p> <p>Testing should be limited to mid and end of term. These should only be administered on computers on a limited basis for elementary and middle school grades.</p> <p>Testing will never take precedence over a student's performance. Therefore the state education system can stop the excessive testing.</p> <p>Teaching for tests and test taking time has removed any time for hands on learning or a teacher's ability to actually answer a student's question. The new education system should have an irreversible time allotted for teachers to look a child in the eye to answer a question, not have kids staring at screens, provide a quiet test taking environment, and have the authority to discipline a disruptive student without getting in trouble for doing their job! I am glad I pulled my children from the system and they are excelling at home. I will continue until the system starts fighting for the students instead of political appeal for federal financial benefit.</p>
03/15/2022 01:23 PM	Beth Harper	Winston Salem, NC	Forsyth		<p>Hello, and thank you for taking public comments. I'm the mother of two children in the Winston Salem Forsyth County School System. My children have been fortunate in their experiences in public school, but I know that many NC children, including many in our school district, have not been as fortunate. The education that students get is not consistent between schools and school districts (or even within schools), and it should be. As a counselor I also have some clients who work in schools and know that many educators work extra jobs to make ends meet financially even though they work very long and intense hours at school each day.</p> <p>If we could create a new education system, I would want to make sure it was fully funded so that every child had his/her needs met. I would make sure that educators looked like the students in their classrooms, recruiting teachers of color and male teachers. I would pay teachers a fair wage so that they didn't have to work multiple jobs and so they had a reason to stay at their job. I would fund support staff so that teachers had the support they need to meet the variety of needs brought by children to schools. I would fund programs to keep kids in school and out of prison. I would fund universal pre-K so that kids don't start out in dramatically different places from the very start.</p> <p>Luckily the Leandro plan lays out what needs to happen in our school system--much of that hard work and planning has been</p>

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					done for us by people who have spent a lot of time and energy on the intricacies of education in our state. We now need the political will and funding to follow through. There's no better investment than our educational system and the kids they serve. They are the future of our state. Let's set ourselves up for success by educating them well. Thank you for your work on this incredibly important topic.
03/15/2022 05:09 PM	Mrs. Natalia McElroy	92 Smoke Rise Hill Dr, Flat Rock, North Carolina 28731	Henderson	nmcelroy@pm.me	It is imperative that our ability to homeschool with minimum governmental regulations be maintained. We the parents are the ones who have the best interest of our children in mind; no one else. We should be supporting parents' choice to homeschool their own children, instead finding ways to make it more complex and unattainable. What I want, is the ability to do by my children what I see fit, and for those who choose to use the public school system, to continue to do so.
03/16/2022 09:16 AM	Jennifer Lu	1663 Padstone, Apex, NC 27502	Wake	email@lufamily.com	Many NC residents have moved to North Carolina in part BECAUSE of the laws that allow parental freedom in homeschooling. It would be a mistake to change these laws and impose further regulations upon homeschooling. Stronger government regulations are unnecessary and unwelcomed.
03/16/2022 11:13 AM	Murphy Patricia	119 Meadow Ridge Dr, Thomasville, NC 27360	Davidson	pattym567@hotmail.com	I would like to see those that are in charge making decisions based on scientific research. Research has shown that children in a typical preschool fare far worse than children in a play based,child led learning environment, preferably outdoors. With the high percentage of children needing special services those services should be the norm,not the exception. Tax payers will pay for new school construction if asked.
03/16/2022 06:32 PM	Ms Wendy DuFour	2021 Red Leaf Ct, Dallas, NC 28034	Gaston	Wendydufour@att.net	Small classrooms, mental health support at all schools, teachers trained better to teach special needs kid. NC has the money. Our children are being short changed.
03/16/2022 08:14 PM	Ms. Sigridur Mitchell	318 Mineral Spring Ln, Fuquay Varina , NC 27526	Harnett	Siggalararam@yahoo.com	I would love to see a robust and well funded public education system. A system that doesn't take public school funds to pay for private schools to flourish above what public schools provide. Focusing on educating all the children of North Carolina with equity in mind. When a public school system is strong, so is the community. Another important factor is the elimination of schools being affected by someone's religious and political agenda. Schools should be able to teach factual information with inclusion and representation for all they serve. Recognizing the humanity in our fellow man should be the goal, not the divisive practice of someone's made up propaganda. An education system should support the child in all possible ways, with reliable transportation,

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					meals, and educational materials. Attendance is so important so having a reliable way to get to the buildings is key to all students' success. Providing access to up-to-date material and works will allow students to understand the world around them in a more meaningful way. Lastly, teachers are the backbone of the system and as such, they should be paid for advancing their level of education, training, and years of service. Teaching is a profession and should be respected as such. Thank you.
03/16/2022 08:15 PM	Elementary Teacher Sherri Fortner	506 Planters Ridge Dr, Pikeville, NC 27863	Wayne	sherri0327@yahoo.com	Reinstate Master's Pay. I obtained my Masters's in Curriculum and Instruction for my higher quality experience in teaching but since it was taken away, I waisted my efforts and now owe hefty loans. Makes no sense !!
03/16/2022 08:24 PM	Leanne Stradling	Dixie trail , Raleigh, Nc 27607	Wake	330stradling@belleouth.net	1) A system that requires 1 day of substitute teaching per year for every legislature and DPI person responsible for providing research and/ or making decisions and laws about education. 2) recognizes small classes sizes for ALL k-5 elementary grades where learning the foundational skills and having ample access to early interventions is so critical. 3) fund schools based on the lower k-5 class sizes rather than forcing upper graders to crowd in 30+ students to make up for small k-3s. 4) ensure each elementary school has a full time intervention teacher for reading and one for math . This goes back to #2 which recognizes the foundational skills and early intervention are critical. 5) require a life skill course for graduation to include creating a budget, renting an sit, buying a car, opening a checking & savings acct, how interest works, changing a tire, pricing out car insurance, filing a basic 1040 tax form, maybe etc.
03/16/2022 08:54 PM	Suprt teachers and learne Derrick James	197 Essex farm rd, Advance, Nc 2700y	Davie	derrickjames@gmail.com	#1 allow local control of calendar and testing. # 2 garentee 1 hour of planing or every hour of instruction. #3 acknowledge that students function best when given a chance for recess or physical activity at least every 2 hours. #4 exten and flex the school day to run from 8 - 5 pm. Teacher workday would be flexed some starting at 8 -12 some starting at 12 -5. This would help with ideal time while parents are at work #5 no homework see number 4 #6 allow no more that 90 standardized test in the 13 years in school. (As supposed to the 185 current) #7 acknowledge teacher experience is valuable adjust compensation to that of similar certification degree and continuing certification. #8 bring back the teaching fellows program. # increase pay for teachers at the lowest performing schools.

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					<p>#agknowledg that poverty has the biggest impact on student achievement.</p> <p>#fund encore, special, non core teachers.</p> <p>#have a plan for student growth that is at least 5 years in projection</p>
03/16/2022 09:15 PM	Mrs Lara Doan	1823 old evergreen dr, Apex, NC 27502	Wake	lara.f.doan@gmail.com	Algebra, geometry, algebra 2, trig, stat instead of math 1-4 Books published by curriculum experts and mathematicians, not workbooks filled with typos and inspired by open source free resources by teachers from Utah.
03/16/2022 10:56 PM	Ms. Sarah Frankland	Cary, NC	Wake	leducate8@gmail.com	<p>Do away with standardized testing. Data can be taken from other assessment methods and observations of students throughout the year, but should only be used to help / place students for differentiated instruction.</p> <p>One-on-one's must be provided for ALL students who can't behave or perform in a general education classroom. This means students who are a danger to others and themselves (who repeatedly destroy rooms, run, or attack other students / teachers). Also students who need constant support to complete all tasks. Currently, it is almost impossible to get these students the one-on-one that is so desperately needed.</p>
03/16/2022 11:23 PM	Lynda Waller	4152 Langden Dr , Winston-Salem , NC 27107	Forsyth	coffeeandaview@gmail.com	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No common core, 2. More education for teachers on LD issues the checklist for ADHD is IDENTICAL to Central Auditory Processing Disorder, no the reason for the behavior. 3. Stop EOG, it sets our kids up to feel like failures. 4. Stop testing with repetitive paragraphs changing one word, this test working memory not understanding of a topic. 5. Many after Covid will have short term memory issues, go back to testing with fill in the blank from word list. 6. Identify by 4th grade dyscalculia, dysgraphia, dyslexia, and working memory issues and support these students to be awesome, not fight them to be like all others. 7. Cut the dang clocks... why are we causing so much stress and depression in our children by making them do everything under a clock, we have 2nd graders vomiting knowing EOGs are coming up. 8. Use IEW for all writing training. Awesome teaching because the push positivity instead of constant failure ranting. 9. PreWork not homework... before a teacher teaches a topic they assign a video to teach the topic with visuals. They get a worksheet with the new vocabulary AND. Definitions on the page, tell them to match the definition, use Google to look up words, no stress. Then when the teacher begins to talk about the topic, the child's brain has a visual and a familiarity of the new vocabulary without stress. Anxiety of not understanding..gone now can

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03/17/2022 09:09 AM	Dr. Regina Smardon	1412 Dexter Ridge Drive, Holly Springs, NC 27540	Wake	resmardon@gmail.com	<p>contribute to the discussion.</p> <p>There are many things I would like to see in the public schools. 1.) An ombudsman position at the state and district level to sort out all the software contracts so that they are not wasting money and forcing teachers to transfer data all day long btwn Canvas, PowerSchool, Google Classroom etc... in addition computer training for teachers should be free and accessible. 2.) I teach Human Diversity and there is a need for diversity training for all principals. Diversity issues are changing constantly and principals should be leading teachers on this issue. This is a budget issue bc Civil Rights law suits will drain the budget. 3.) School nurses and school based health clinics should be expanded and based on public/private partnerships if necessary. Safety in schools starts with health. 4.) The entire SPED system must be fully funded including AIG to avoid expensive law suits that will send the district into debt. 5.) Schools need to stop wasting energy on power bills and use the money saved to advance environmental health in the buildings. 6.) The GA must allow local municipalities to charge private developers fees for building so many houses.</p>
03/17/2022 09:27 AM	Mrs. Rachel Shelton	423 Southlight Dr, Asheville, NC 28803	Buncombe	rachelbshelton@gmail.com	<p>My oldest son just started Kindergarten. I have many hopes and dreams for my children's education in North Carolina. I wish for them to attend a fully-funded, stellar public school system. I wish for them to go to school close to our home. I want them to learn alongside classmates that represent the racial, economic, linguistic, and religious diversity of our community. I want them to be taught by professional, valued educators. I want those teachers to be in education because they are some of the most talented professionals in our state and they are compensated accordingly. I want to trust their expertise. What I want for my own children is what I want for every child in North Carolina. These aren't just hopes and wishes, however. It is what my children and all children in our state deserve and what is promised to them in our state constitution. It is your job to make sure this happens. Please fully fund all of our schools. Please value educators through fair compensation and respect. Make North Carolina a leader in public education once again.</p>
03/17/2022 03:20 PM	Shawn McKee	5705 Winthrop Dr, Raleigh, NC 27612	Wake		<p>Return control of school calendars to school districts because school calendars should be about what is best for schools. If page 30 of the 2017 School Calendar Flexibility Report is correct (https://ncleg.gov/PED/Reports/documents/SchoolCalendar/School_Calendar_Report.pdf), students loose as much as 1 month of instruction during the lengthy, mandated summer break with low income students being most impacted. Not all school children have a choice other than the traditional calendar and they are being set up to loose instructional progress every summer because of the inflexibility of § 115C-84.2. And it is only traditional</p>

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					calendar public schools subject to the inflexible start and end dates. Charter schools, which are also publicly funded, can set their calendars as they choose. It is time that traditional public schools be able to utilize a calendar that maximizes educational progress too. All students in North Carolina deserve the chance to maximize their educational potential.
03/17/2022 06:44 PM	Lalena Haro	1502 Lakeside Dr, Garner, NC 27529		Inharo1@att.net	I would like politicians to stay out of education and leave it to the trained professionals, teachers.
03/17/2022 06:47 PM	Mrs. Jacquelyn Noles	3602 Stonebrook Farms Ct., Greensboro, North Carolina 27406	Guilford	jackienoles@outlook.com	<p>Education should focus on the following core subjects; reading, writing, math, grammar, history, vocabulary, and civics at all levels of education with the goal of making American #1 in the world in education.</p> <p>Elementary school classes should include art, music, and physical education to help development children's interest and appreciation of such. Middle school should have a strong focus on the core subjects with options for studying elective classes and participating in athletics, clubs, committees, etc. Advanced level classes should be available for all students at all levels exhibiting strength in the core subjects.</p> <p>High school should concentrate strongly in the core areas, but offer flexibility of curriculum as it is during these years that many students are beginning to develop interests that may become career choices. Promoting a vision of higher education should be encouraged. Training in trades should be offered where the geographical business mix supports that. Adding an additional year (possibly optional) should be offered that works in concert with local businesses to give students an opportunity to explore various careers or vocations before formally committing to advance academic or vocation schooling.</p> <p>High school should require classes on American history, the legislative process, being a responsible voter (availability of tools to study issues, upcoming legislation, candidate platforms, and how to engage in support of their beliefs and findings) with the goal of developing an appreciation for what America is and stands for, the sacrifices that citizens made and make to promote free expression, religious liberties, etc. The Pledge of Allegiance should be required.</p> <p>Health studies that focus on diet, exercise, nutrition, kinesthetics, finance, healthy habits (no use of illegal drugs, no alcohol, no smoking), communication skills (presenting and receiving ideas and opposing views in a productive, respectful manner), and the importance of character should be required. Subjects on these topics should not replace parents' responsibilities in these areas, but should re-enforce it for households where these topics are valued and fill a void in those households where it is not.</p>

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					<p>An occasional non-partisan, non-controversial guest speaker who has demonstrated positively overcoming obstacles leaving behind de-motivating baggage. The goal would be to inspire hope and dreams amongst the students.</p> <p>School and classroom atmospheres that encourage education and skills training as a progression to offering hope of a productive and satisfying career and life should exist. Too many students currently graduate with limited knowledge, skills, hope, and no dreams. Hope and vision are tantamount to success, and while many, if not most, do not land their dream job or career, having sufficient skills, confidence, and flexibility to adjust in a positive manner is important.</p> <p>The school system should encourage parent participation with school policy, practices, and curriculum. This accomplishes several things. It encourages children to receive an education in concert with parent and local values, while giving parents an opportunity to model community involvement to their children. Parents should be able to select their schools of choice.</p> <p>Teachers should be held to a rigorous set of standards to ensure suitability to teach and consistency with education system goals. Automatic tenure should not exist. Teachers should have to prove their continued worthiness of the position similar to how retention and promotions work in business and the private sector. This would eliminate complacency among teachers regarding classroom goals and educational results.</p> <p>Methods to accommodate various learning styles should be a priority. Real world application of subjects should be a priority, e.g. science, math, etc.</p> <p>Student testing should reflect the child's understanding of the subject matter. Standardized testing has taken on a sense of it being conducted for the sake of testing. Students with limited proficiency are passed despite test results or after superficial remediation efforts. Proficiency should be the basis for advancement.</p> <p>Special needs children should participate in special education programs designed to meet their capabilities and encourage advancement and excellence to the level they are able to achieve. Remote teaching at grades K-12 or 13 should not occur.</p> <p>School safety should be ensured. No student, teacher, faculty, administrator, staff, visitor, etc. should ever fear for their safety while at school or involved with school events. School should be a place where students, faculty, etc. look forward to attending knowing that they will be safe, respected, and encouraged to achieve.</p> <p>Exclusions: Sex and gender should not be discussed in elementary school. Transgender discussions should not be included in school. Divisiveness by race, nationality, religion, etc.</p>

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					should be excluded from school.
03/17/2022 09:28 PM	Teacher Courtney Black	1305 Linden Ridge Dr, Holly Springs , NC 27540	Wake	cablack@wcpss.net	I'm a teacher at Holly Springs High School
03/17/2022 11:35 PM	Glen Neff	125 Wintermist Drive, Cary, NC 27513-4726	Wake	gneff@trioptimum.com	I would like an education system that acknowledged and supported students in the fact that the majority are simply not college bound. . . and that that's okay. It's great even. The world needs the trades. There's also great careers that do not require a college education. We need better industrial education. We need more internship and apprenticeship opportunities for kids as young as 16. We also need to treat teachers with the respect they deserve, starting with pay. The teachers of our children are easily worth \$100k/year.
03/17/2022 11:36 PM	Lynda Strand	NC	Wake	Luna7568@aol.com	I'd want to see a system where teachers are adequately paid from the start (50,000 and incrementally rewarded yearly for experience and longevity). I want a system where all children have access to the magnet school themes we see now (electives, language immersion, stem, etc.) I want to see all schools funded appropriately as the Leandro ruling states they should be.
03/18/2022 03:05 AM	More individualized Christina	Holly Springs, NC 27540	Wake	Christinachapman14@gmail.com	I wish my daughters would have enjoyed attending Holly Springs schools. They were overcrowded, and teachers didn't even know student names. We pay to send our daughters to a private Christian school in Raleigh. It's unfortunate because we love living in Holly Springs.
03/18/2022 08:07 AM	Eudy Rebekah	3017 helen Dr, Mineral springs, NC 28108	Union	bekaheudy@yahoo.com	The reason you have so many homeschooling families is because there's already too much government in the schools teaching topics we don't want our children exposed to. As an American citizen, it's my right to decided how and what I teach my children.
03/18/2022 09:02 AM	Brittany Driggers	391 Summer Wind Way, Aberdeen, Nc 28315	Moore	Blmdriggers@gmail.com	There needs to be more writing taking place in classrooms. There should also not be a test every year in elementary grades. There really not enough time to show growth. Growth can only truly be shown after a couple of years. Otherwise, you have teachers who are just teaching to the test and not the actual standards. By the time a student gets to high school, all they know is how to take a test and they do not know the basics that they will need to continue their education such as writing.
03/18/2022 09:05 AM	Kathleen Neff	125 Wintermist Dr, Cary, NC 27513	Wake	kathleen@trioptimum.com	<p>I believe that parts of the education system as it is set up today definitely need change and a revamp needs to happen soon or highly qualified staff will be gone and it will takes years if not decades to hire enough teachers to fill all the open positions. Students and teachers are really in a crisis now.</p> <p>Top on my list would not only be better pay for teachers and certified staff, but better working conditions as well. It was</p>

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					<p>insulting this year to see the low increases given to teachers. Yes, there were bonuses however taxes take almost half of that money and it does not increase base base and that is ultimately what is needed. Given current inflation, a 10% raise for teachers/certified staff is needed so that they can afford to live in the communities they teach and not have to commute 30-45 minutes due to affordable housing locations. I think a close look at teacher responsibilities during the day is needed as well. Today there are too many responsibilities heaped on staff in schools with very little respect given to them in return. ALL staff should get a student free break during the day to take a breath, regroup and reset for the remainder of the day. No matter what you might hear, this is NOT happening in schools.</p> <p>The second and what I think equally as important change that is needed is bring more industrial arts and training back to the schools. Given our current work needs, there are many students who will not go to college and we are preparing them for nothing beyond high school. We need to have training programs that will give students knowledge about mechanics, aestheticians, welding, plumbing, etc. There are many high paying jobs that need skilled workers and we are not meeting that education need and we absolutely could in our high schools. As an education system, I think we make these students who are not college bound feel like lesser students and that is simply not the case. We need to embrace ALL post-secondary careers available to students and educate them to be successful in that area.</p> <p>In creating an education system for all, I would bring back more special education options for students. In my county we have consistently decreased the options for classrooms for special education students and now the classrooms are filled with such diverse needs that no one is getting the proper education. We need to bring back classrooms where students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities can be educated and not thrown into regular education with minimal support and fingers crossed that they will learn something. Again, these students with proper education could be productive members of society, however, I fear we are not preparing them for that life since they are not leaving school feeling confident in themselves or their skills.</p> <p>IF we could also reduce the testing that students encounter that would also be awesome. It's really just too much and it really tells you little about student skills beyond how well they can take a test. In class work and discussion is much more important in knowing what students are learning. Teacher pay should NEVER be tied to student performance because teachers cannot make students</p>

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					learn or change cognitive functioning (remember those mild to moderate intellectually disabled students in regular education I mentioned earlier) which would allow them to perform at higher levels in their classes.
03/18/2022 01:48 PM	Ms April Wyche	28804	Buncombe	mrsbanks1111@gmail.com	<p>Education should be free, appropriate, and sound according to the NC Constitution. It should also be fully funded and equitable so that everyone can access the best we have to offer. Kids and families, teachers and staff should look forward to and be excited about going to school. They are the centers of our communities and given all the resources they need to be successful and not controlled by a bunch of stingy old white men who only care about protecting their power and not the health, well-being, and empowerment of the citizens they represent (the ones who voted for you and didn't vote for you).</p> <p>I'm curious. Have you read this bit of research? I think you paid for it and should actually use it. https://www.wested.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Sound-Basic-Education-for-All-An-Action-Plan-for-North-Carolina.pdf</p> <p>Sincerely, A highly qualified UNC system trained educator, class of 1991 (BA) and 1999 (MA)</p>
03/18/2022 03:32 PM	Mr. Johnathan Hamiel	883 Washington Street Suite C, Raleigh, NC 27605	Wake	jhamiel@ncmea.net	<p>If North Carolina were to establish a new education system, the North Carolina Music Educators Association firmly believes that music and the arts should be a core component of every child's educational experience. Further, we understand the continued blending of music and technology are critical in supporting every child as they learn in a 21st century world. The interplay of basic and advanced technological skills taught or supported through music nurture creativity, interest, and the engagement for the learners of today and tomorrow.</p> <p>Below is a link to further explain our statement. https://drive.google.com/file/d/12lz1tFi-U5UaA8PEuhMSjc6xT4MHH4jP/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>Thank you, Johnathan M. Hamiel - President of NCMEA</p>
03/19/2022 09:29 AM	Crystal Howard	2813 Oakley Woods Lane, Apex, NC 27539	Wake	Crystal.howard8@gmail.com	A school system where whole person learning is considered. Address social determinants of health and well being to include nutrition, physical/mental health, etc.
03/19/2022 10:12 AM	Marnie Holland	1248 Waynewood	Union	Sibrm@yahoo.com	Schools should follow the recommendations of the CDC and State and local health departments. School boards, local politicians, and

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		drive, Waxhaw, NC 28173			state politicians should not be able to override these recommendations. The safety of students, teachers, staff, and community should be a top priority.
03/19/2022 10:23 AM	Mrs Shawna Ciccone	10933 Persimmon Creek Dr, Mint Hill, NC 28227	Union	montanagirl827@gmail.com	Public schools need to be fully funded and all children in NC deserve access to a quality education not based on their zip code and school district. Teachers need to be supported and paid well for all of their time and schools and classrooms need proper supplies, not funded by teachers paychecks, but through fully funded school budgets. This must be done to address the teacher shortage due to teachers leaving for better paying jobs. Students who are struggling or who have IEPs need to have available to them school staff and tools to have these needs met. To accomplish this, schools and teachers need more support staff like teaching assistants, smaller class sizes, school counselors, etc. to help them. Politics and political views need to be removed from school boards and decisions for curriculum in schools. Students deserve factual education in all subjects based on quality learning tools and books not driven by partisan political decisions. Educators should be trusted to make decisions on curriculum taught in schools without worry of retaliation from administrators and parents. Stop the move to charters schools in the state which are not required to have the same accountability and standards of public schools. These charters have shown their educational outcomes consistently do meet those of public schools. Many charters have failed and are a drain on school funding. This need to stop and the funding returned to public schools. Return NC to a state known for its quality public education.
03/19/2022 02:06 PM	Marnir Holland	1248 Waynewood Dr, Waxhae, NC 38173	Union	Sibrm@yahoo.com	Studies show that under-qualified teachers are tied to poor outcomes for students. Yet, teachers with experience and masters are not valued in our schools. Teachers are leaving the profession because they are burned out by the pandemic, overworked because of staff shortages, and fed up with low pay and a lack of respect. We also have to stop these witch hunts for these manufactured issues that are not happening in our schools like CRT and pornographic books in our school libraries. We should not micromanage our teachers. It is not a pleasant environment to work in. Teachers are trained professionals and we should treat them with respect. We need to also ensure that we are using licensed teachers. Teachers should be rewarded for their experience, higher education, and longevity with higher pay.
03/19/2022 05:58 PM	Mrs. Cheryl Fuller	1602 MUSEUM RD, STATESVILLE, NC 28625	Iredell	kc_fuller@msn.com	I would like to see a more specialized approach to education instead of "one size fits all" approach. I was watching the paralympics and the athletes competed in categories based on their level of impairment so that the competitions were fair for the athletes. We need to take that approach with our schools. Some schools have no impairment, others have slight impairment, some

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					<p>have moderate impairment, and some have severe impairment. Of course, I'm talking about poverty rates. We must identify the schools in each of these categories and we must accommodate them accordingly because that's fair. The student to teacher ratio should be different for each category with the severely impaired having the lowest ratio. More aids, nurses, and social workers should be provided depending on the level of poverty. Also ratings systems for schools and teachers should be based on the level of poverty. I have a friend who taught at a wealthy public school for years and she always exceeded growth because she was an amazing teacher. Then she transferred to a school with over 90% poverty rate and not only did she not exceed growth, she didn't even meet growth. Did she suddenly quit being an amazing teacher? No of course not. She got discouraged after a while and transferred to a school with about a 70% poverty rate. She did meet growth but she never exceeded growth again after she left her wealthy school even though she was the exact same amazing teacher that she had always been. Now the state wants to tie salaries to growth. That is just going to discourage teachers from going to high poverty schools where they're needed the most and go to the wealthier schools that are already so advantaged. It takes a lot more than being a great teacher to meet growth at a high poverty school and not acknowledging that is prejudicial to our high poverty schools and the amazing teachers who work there. The accommodations for the paralympians do cost more and the more severe the impairment the more the accommodations cost but it's worth it. Don't our children and their teachers deserve the same?</p>
03/19/2022 07:50 PM	Ms. Lynne Kane	625 Cedar Club Cir, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-7215	Durham	batya.etel@gmail.com	<p>NC is losing teachers because we do not pay teachers as the professionals they are. Money for up-to-date textbooks and electronic learning aids is also important. These improvements must be provided around the state as needed so all public schools can provide a "sound basic education."</p>
03/19/2022 09:43 PM	Marnie Holland	1248 Waynewood Drive, Waxhaw, NC 28173	Union	sibrm@yahoo.com	<p>Charter schools do not get better academic results than public schools and oftentimes perform worse. A recent study reviewed data from over 1,000 students, researchers from the University of Virginia found no evidence suggesting that low-income students and children enrolled in urban schools benefited more from private than from public school education. Charter schools and private schools may appear to do better because they can control the type of students that are admitted into school. They also serve far fewer kids with disabilities and the children they do serve have milder disabilities. It is very important to keep our public schools to ensure that all kids in the community have access to an education. This also ensures that every student in a neighborhood has the same educational opportunities as their neighbors</p>

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					<p>regardless of their current financial situation. A chief reason for public education cited by Thomas Jefferson is to produce citizens who would understand political and social issues, participate in civic life, vote wisely, protect their rights and freedoms, and keep the nation secure from inside and outside threats.</p>
03/20/2022 07:26 AM	Mrs Susan Shure	429 Annaberg Lane, Monroe, NC 28104	Union		<p>We cannot leave out the pieces of history we are too embarrassed to teach. All history is important and there are many things that need to be taught for the sole purpose of history not repeating itself.</p> <p>In addition, books are meant to be read and taught, not banned. Any book selected to be taught in schools has a purpose and was selected for a reason.</p>
03/20/2022 08:52 AM	Tammy Petrosillo	90 Tanager Farms Drive, Youngsville , NC 27596	Franklin	Funkyfishart@yahoo.com	<p>Teachers need to be treated as the professionals they are. Teachers need to be paid as the professionals they are. Teachers need to be paid for their masters degrees. Teachers deserve to have longevity pay reestablished. Incoming teachers deserve to have healthcare benefits in their retirement years. With North Carolina being one of the lowest paid states for teachers and eliminating retirement healthcare benefits will make it very difficult for North Carolina to recruit and retain quality teachers.</p> <p>Teachers need more support in the classrooms. Reestablishing teaching assistants would be a great start. Schools need a social/emotional team made up of a school nurse, school counselor & behavioral specialist. Teachers need to protect and preserve the learning environment; not spend the majority of their time dealing with behavior problems in the classroom. We need a team to come in and Intervine with that student and get that student the help they need and deserve so the teacher can continue teaching. Every school should have one of these teams.</p> <p>NC needs to reestablish the teaching fellows program as it once was. Non-classified staff such as bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodial staff and admin staff deserve to be paid a livable wage.</p> <p>We should not have teachers who do not have textbooks or proper instructional materials. Teachers should not have to write grants just to have basic instructional materials for their classes. It is past time to invest into our future by investing into public schools and the education for all in North Carolina! Fully fond public schools! The future of North Carolina depends on it</p>
03/20/2022 09:20 AM	Stefanie Fisco	5700 Painted Fern Ct., Charlotte, NC 28269	Mecklenburg	stefanie.fisco@gmail.com	<p>As a trained mental health professional and a parent of a child who has needed to use these services, I am deeply concerned with the state of mental health care in the schools. It is irresponsible to disallow outside therapies access to the children while they are at school. Many therapies, such as occupational therapy and music</p>

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					<p>therapy, are extremely important. They need to be able to see and interact with their clients in the moment to provide a safe and secure learning environment.</p> <p>My child is currently testing well above her grade level, so we are having to struggle to get the school to provide any assistance. This will most likely change dramatically in a few years. Like both her parents, she will begin to struggle and become behind before any assistance is provided to her. At that point, she will have lost crucial time to develop healthy coping mechanisms. This is tragic. There is only so much we as her parents and her outside therapists can do without access to the classroom. She, and many other students, need someone in the classroom to help show them how to use the skills they learn in sessions out in the real world.</p> <p>In addition to this, my child is being physically bullied. We have heard from several other families that their children are being physically and mentally bullied. These incidents have been brought to the attention to schools and teachers, but it appears the policy to "fix" this is to separate the children. There have been no structured play sessions, no extra emotional education, etc. All of our children will suffer from this. Focusing on teaching our children to pass tests instead of learning how to interact with each other in a safe way will only create more issues later.</p>
03/20/2022 01:49 PM	Ms. Demarie Anderson	3331 Paddington Ln, Winston Salem, NC 27106	Forsyth	demarie0329@gmail.com	<p>As an educator, I would like to see the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appropriate pay for educators and fully funded schools 2. Much, much less testing. 5th grade elementary students currently take a minimum of 12 standardized tests every year. EOGs do not inform instruction in any way. 3. More mental health professionals in all schools. 4. Lower class sizes in upper elementary. We can not meet individual needs with 30+ students. 5. More support personnel in schools (assistants, etc.) 6. More freedom for teacher to teach curriculum in the order that works for their students, instead of aligning with check-ins. 7. Better facilities
03/20/2022 02:29 PM	Kimberly Mackey	1937 Ashview Dr, Fuquay Varina, NC 27526	Wake	Kmackey1937@gmail.com	<p>What I would most like to see is for policymakers to inflate the tires before reinventing wheels. It would be innovative to restore class size caps for more personalized learning, restore purchasing power of previous pay plans (steps, master's, longevity) to recruit and retain educators, restore TAs to support our youngest learners, foster a narrative that supports teaching as a skilled profession, and wants for all kids what they desire for their own kid. As a parent I'm not interested in seeing my kids' educations treated as Guinea pigs by the NCGA as a distraction from a court ordered plan to support students (Leandro) but lack a political will</p>

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					in the NCGA to implement it. Too much time and resources have been wasted avoiding what's been determined students need. If those in power don't want to give students those things, just say so instead of hiding behind a committee designed to "seem" supportive of our students instead of "be" supportive of our students. Esse Quam Videri
03/20/2022 07:59 PM	Dr. Daphne Key	8024 Brandyapple Drive, Raleigh, NC 27615-4906	Wake	djkey1108@gmail.com	I taught for over twenty years in public schools and in higher education. We MUST treat teachers as professionals and pay them accordingly. Our country must have educated children who respect others, who think critically, and who read and write. Our children are worth the investment of paying teachers for the important work which they do. By paying teachers, we will ensure that we have a strong teacher workforce in place to nurture our children and prepare them for the increasingly complex world in which we find ourselves. If we do not treat teachers as professionals and pay them accordingly, we are saying, in effect, that our children are not worth the investment. My granddaughter is worth the investment.
03/20/2022 09:51 PM	Kyle Stittleburg	108 Sunny Chloe Ct, Holly Springs, NC 27540	Wake	kyle.stittleburg@gmail.com	No more funding of private schools with public tax dollars (including charter schools). Provide no/low cost tech/community college state wide, in particular focusing on partnerships with businesses to ensure workforce-ready education/apprenticeship style setups. Consider 4-year community college degree programs to decrease cost of post-secondary education. Provide universal public 4-K. Better funding for teachers, for both base salary and professional development. Keeping class sizes small to ensure more personalized education should be a goal. Keep the large, county-wide school districts, this was an unexpected but welcomed change when we moved to NC -- in our former state with much smaller school districts, people obsessed about buying houses in the "good" districts, here in NC there's not that concern. Standardized testing is fine, it shouldn't be everything, but it can be a gauge to help identify students in need of extra support.
					Finally, it's worth emphasizing, that we all know poverty level is the biggest influencer of school performance/achievement of children. So actions taken by the state to address poverty (ex, expanded healthcare, job training programs, transit funding, food assistance, housing assistance, recidivism reduction programs, etc) that improve children's home lives will indirectly improve the educational outcome of our children, and in turn, our state as a whole.
03/20/2022 10:17 PM	Ms Marnie Holland	1248 Waynewood Dr, Waxhaw, NC 28173	Union	sibrm@yahoo.com	I am a NC taxpayer. My kids and all the kids in NC deserve a sound, basic education. There are schools in our state that do not have the resources to do this. Some of the rural schools, like Halifax County, can only offer PE as a special and the kids do not

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					<p>have art, music, media center, or computer lab. Halifax County schools do not have the money to have science labs so they have to watch other students perform the labs on-line. The students in the Spanish immersion class in elementary school cannot continue the program in middle school or high school because they do not have the funds for staff. This is so heartbreaking. NC spends 11,385 per student ranking NC 37 out of 50 states for student funding. The state representatives say we do not need money to improve the schools. Many of our schools do not have the basics. In 2021, NC public schools overall ranking was 33. In terms of quality NC was ranked 38 and in terms of safety NC was ranked 29. NC needs to do better. You need to fund and improve the quality of the public schools. We are ranked 33 in terms of education!!! You also need to enact the Joint Leandro Action plan. This includes transferring 1.7 billion to fund public schools. This has been going on for 28 years. We have some of the best Universities in our state. Why don't we do more to ensure that we have the best public schools in the country? Are you proud to be ranked 33?</p>
03/21/2022 09:35 AM	Robin Livingston	4213 Willowdale Ct, Apex, NC 27539-8667	Wake	robinlives@hotmail.com	<p>I would like to see all of history taught, not just the pretty parts. I would like to see good books read, not just the ones I agree with. I would like to see more writing, and more math. I'd like to see more arts and electives. I'd like to see Spanish taught as a requirement every year, so kids have the opportunity to be bilingual. Most countries require English, so most kids worldwide can speak at least 2 languages. We should, too. And, comprehensive sex ed should be required by 9th grade. My older kids graduated without learning anything about procreation in school. It's absurd that we don't do this. I got a full sex ed curriculum in the early 80's in a rural school in Colorado. Lastly, fund this stuff. Pay teachers, and stop treating them like the help. Stop screwing around with Leandro and fund our schools.</p>
03/21/2022 09:55 AM	Mrs. Brandy Sullivan	5205 GREYMOSS LN, APEX, NC 27539	Wake	brandy_garcia@hotmail.com	<p>Good afternoon & thank you for taking time to read my comment. I'm a proud parent of three children attending WCPSS. I live in Apex, NC. My youngest attends a CCK Kindergarten classroom at Holly Springs ES. My other two children attend WestlakeES. All of my children are excelling and learning. I'd like to thank the entire staff at WCPSS for all of their dedication and hard work to provide proper education for our community. I'm in favor of fully funding the Leandro Plan. I'm in favor of giving our teachers much needed raises. I'm in favor of fully funding Special Education. I'm in favor of reducing police presence on campus and increasing mental health services.</p> <p>I oppose the privatization of public education. I oppose Charter Schools funded by tax payer money. I strongly oppose vouchers for private schools, that only pulls much needed money that</p>

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					<p>should be going to our Public Schools. Investing in our Public Schools will provide a positive outcome and will ensure a better future for our community. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Brandy Sullivan, Public School Advocate</p>
03/21/2022 09:57 AM	Mrs. Brandy Sullivan	5205 GREYMOSS LN, APEX, NC 27539	Wake	brandy_garcia@hotmail.com	<p>Español: muy buenas tardes y gracias por tomar el tiempo para leer mi comentario. Soy residente de Apex, NC. Soy una madre orgullosa de tres hijos atendiendo las escuelas de WCPSS. Mi hijo el menor atiende la clase de CCK kindergarten en Holly SpringsES. Mis otros dos hijos atienden West LakeES. Mis tres hijos están aprendiendo Y sobresaliendo en su aprendizaje! Me gustaría darle las gracias A todos los que trabajan y se dedican en el sistema de WCPSS! Estoy de acuerdo financiación total del plan de Leandro. Estoy en favor de aumentar los salarios de las maestras. Estoy en favor de aumentar los salarios de la educación especial. Estoy en favor de reducir la presencia policial en las escuelas. Estoy en favor de incrementar la presencia de los consejeros para ayudar los servicios de salud mental de los estudiantes. Estoy opuesta de privacidad la educación pública. Estoy opuesta de las escuelas vuelo chárter. Estoy opuesta de las escuelas privadas que utilizan vales. Éstos sistemas no son efectivos para toda la comunidad y solo buscan quitar el dinero que necesitan nuestras escuelas públicas. Necesitamos invertir en nuestras escuelas públicas y solo así garantizamos que nuestras comunidades estén preparadas para el futuro.</p> <p>Brandy Sullivan, Activista de las Escuelas Publicas</p>
03/21/2022 10:47 AM	Billy Chapman	14308 S Old Statesville Rd, Huntersville, North Carolina 28078	Mecklenburg	bchapman85@gmail.com	<p>I taught special education for 10 years in the neighboring states. Due to some family issues I am not currently teaching but may go back soon. From my experience, schools are too closed off to the general public.</p> <p>Administrators at school and local government levels need to find ways for families to be more involved in their neighborhood schools. Parents should not have the right to demand what their children are taught, but they should know what their children are being taught. Educators should be following state standards that are based on national standards when teaching lessons.</p> <p>I also believe children need an education that encourages cooperation. This could be accomplished by having children work frequently inside and outside the classroom on projects related to material they are learning in the classroom. Groups for these projects should be diverse in gender, race, socioeconomic status and other measures of diversity. Schools are not just pipelines for</p>

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					<p>the work force.</p> <p>Lastly, I believe private, religious “schools” should be ineligible for public funds. If we want better communities in our state, we need our kids to learn to work together despite differences they may have. I don’t believe that private schools are inherently better—it’s the students in them, who typically have better off and more involved parents, that make them appear better. Our public schools would be in better shape if parents felt more welcome at schools.</p>
03/21/2022 12:41 PM	Dominick Petrosillo	90 Tanager Farms Drive, , Youngsville, North Carolina 27596	Franklin	righteoustraveler@yahoo.com	<p>Teachers should be paid and treated like the professionals they are. Restore masters pay, longevity pay and restore retirement health benefits for new hires. Stop the defunding and dismantling of public education. NO PRIVATE SCHOOL VOUCHERS. Fully fund schools so that ALL teachers have the instructional resources that they need in their classrooms. Schools need a SEL team to address the social/emotional issues that are affecting our students. Each school need nurses, counselor's, behaviors specialists. Something needs to be done to reduce the amount of work that a teacher is required to do with no help and/or support in the classroom. Perhaps reinstate TA's to support teachers. The teacher shortage needs to be addressed. There are more and will continue to be more vacancies than teachers. This needs to be addressed immediately! It is at a crisis point.</p>
03/21/2022 01:46 PM	Heidi Kerns	382 W Main Street, Forest City, NC 28043	Rutherford	hkerns@rcsnc.org	<p>Thank you for the invitation to comment. I served on the statewide committee that proposed a new funding formula (service-based) for EC a few years ago and also the WestEd Leandro committee. Both of these groups were comprised of a good cross section of stakeholders, and the findings provide research that could save considerable time for this process as you move forward. As a Finance Officer of a school district, I would prioritize the following:</p> <p>(1) Full funding of all aspects of public school operations within the scope of state government (that would include retention of position allotments and funding for shortfalls due to salary and fringe benefit increases for federal funds and state formula allotments, particularly those that recognize poverty as a funding consideration).</p> <p>(2) Full funding for EC services - although reconsideration of the cap and recent increases are appreciated, many districts serve many more students than are currently fully funded. The federal requirements and at least one state statute require that these students must be served regardless of the funding available, and the current enforcement of the cap means students are funded at higher or lower rates depending on where they live which certainly isn't equitable to them. In order for schools to fully fund these</p>

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					<p>requirements, they must often pull funding away from other programs and students.</p> <p>(3) If charters or other private school funding is going to continue, then it should be based on a formula "from the top" and not be commingled with the finances of school districts. This is a better and more transparent funding model for all entities, on many levels.</p> <p>(4) Increase the availability of capital funding by returning programs that were previously funded through the general fund budget, to the general fund budget, and restore the integrity of lottery funds as a supplemental funding source.</p> <p>(5) Utilize transparent and equitable funding formulas that stabilize education budgets and allow for the ability to make long range plans once again in order to be the very best possible stewards of taxpayer dollars.</p> <p>(6) Enable all schools to provide free breakfast and lunch to all school aged children in the community, year round.</p> <p>Thanks again for the opportunity to participate in this critical initiative.</p>
03/21/2022 02:16 PM	Mrs. Stacy Staggs	11416 Abernathy Rd, Charlotte, NC 28216	Mecklenburg	stastaggs@gmail.com	<p>Public education is a basic human right in this country. Rather than bleeding the system dry from death by a thousand cuts, fully fund Leandro. Public education should be, first and foremost, inclusive, equitable, safe and cherished.</p> <p>Ongoing attempts by the NC GOP to dismantle public education by chronic underfunding, threats to educators, protecting white supremacy and failure to address equity issues are shameful, transparent and anti-American.</p>
03/21/2022 03:34 PM	Mrs Jacqueline Hawkins	40 Water Oak Court, Browns Summit, NC 27214	Guilford	hawkinsj68@gmail.com	<p>How about we fix what was broken when the GOP took over the legislature in NC - The public system needs to be kept intact with the monies that are currently flowing to charter schools and private schools via vouchers, needs to flow back into the public system so that districts can create some of the things parents want and children need. Each district should be allowed the flexibility with the accountability (very little) that charter schools and private schools are given. Teachers need to be valued. School buildings need to be clean and newer - showing the children of NC that their education is important and that they are valued enough to put at a level higher than politics. THEY should come first. When we put children first, we value the people tasked with graduating them as successful human beings. Investing in the future of NC's economy. Dismantling education as we know it is NOT what the families of NC need, we need staff, we need textbooks (electronic), we need 21st century education.</p>
03/21/2022	Heather	7221	Union	Hloldland@gmail.com	<p>This select house committee can address many of the issues that</p>

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04:46 PM	Oldland	Yellowhorn Trl, Waxhaw, NC 28173			our public schools are facing right now by complying with the Leandro court order. North Carolina ranks nearly at the bottom of all states for funding public education. Adequately funding our schools should be one of the most important issues addressed if we are "reimagining" a new education system in NC. The bare minimum is not cutting it and hasn't been for a long while. Our public schools need more funding and resources to be able to educate all NC students. That includes students who are economically disadvantaged, have learning disabilities, live in rural areas that don't have equal access like those that live in more urban/wealthier areas, etc. We need to support our teachers, staff and students now and not wait another two years for this committee to decide when the decision is already there.
03/21/2022 05:29 PM	Mrs. Mili Washington	2021 Hollyhedge Ln, Indian Trail, NC 28079	Union	iiirdm@hotmail.com	<p>My husband and I have been tax paying, law abiding residents of Union County for over a decade now. We love working and living here, and our kids attend a Charter school right here in Union County. They love their school.</p> <p>Now, we are finding out that High School programs in Union County (e.g., schools like Central Academy of Technology and Arts) have changed their policy to give priority to students enrolled in UCPS schools, with charter, private, and homeschool kids being treated as second class students, and getting any leftover seats, if and when they are available. Union County is home to our children, and I believe they should be given equal opportunities for an adequate or specialized education in all Union County High School programs. Denying them this right is unfair and biased, and robs them of future opportunities for educational and professional excellence.</p> <p>My middle schooler is a future Engineer who is always building and tinkering in his spare time. His dream is to join the CATA Engineering Academy program, and go on to become an engineer. When he heard about this policy change his spirit was crushed knowing that his chances of following his dream were now that much further and almost out of reach.</p> <p>On behalf of Union County Charter, Home School, and Private School children, their parents and teachers, I implore, urge, and request that this recent change to policy be re-considered. All we are asking is to allow our kids the same opportunities that all UCPS students receive. We are not asking for any special treatment or consideration - just the same right to choice in education as is provided to all UCPS enrolled students.</p>
03/21/2022 07:53 PM	Mrs Emmy Boyette	1716 McLaurin Ln, Fuquay	Wake	emileaboyette@gmail.com	The cornerstone of a successful education system is high-quality teachers. We will never recruit and retain the best and brightest at

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		Varina, NC 27526			current wage levels. Well compensated educators who are trusted to use their training to individualize instruction for their unique classes of students will galvanize success on all metrics. Please allow trained educators to implement their talents—we should not hamstring our teachers, and hence our students, by asserting too much control. Also, please maximize the amount of classroom time educators can spend on authentic learning experiences. Teaching to a standardized test (too frequently) subverts the overall goal of preparing students for real-world careers. In almost all cases of society, we trust the “experts” in their respective fields. We should do the same with educators.
03/21/2022 08:43 PM	A sound basic education Kim Brugh	457 heritage village ln , Apex, Nc 27502	Wake	Kimbrugh@gmail.com	Every child deserves a sound basic education. Fund Leandro Now.
03/22/2022 05:53 AM	Mr. Mechell Jacob	3613 Essex Pointe Dr, Monroe, NC 28110	Union	mechelljacob@gmail.com	<p>My comments are based in part on the discussion the legislative committee engaged with Union County on March 21. The main issue is education is local to the exclusion of more broader based opportunities for students.</p> <p>I did not hear a statement about the purpose of establishing a new educational system. My suggested purpose: To meet high academic standards, to provide diverse and broad social skills that are both focused on an interconnected world. This applies to public, magnet, charter schools.</p> <p>At the curriculum level, three languages are mandatory: English, Mandarin, Japanese. Students must take English and either Mandarin or Japanese. History, Social Studies, and the Arts must emphasize diverse world cultures. The International Baccalaureate Program should be offered.</p> <p>There should be at least an International Day , if not an International Week.</p> <p>There should be student exchange programs, teacher exchange programs, administrator exchange programs.</p> <p>There should be a college representation day to include not just local colleges, but an effort should be made to include the best US colleges and universities.</p> <p>The measures of success should include most importantly what and how many institutions of higher learning HS graduates attend, teacher evaluations to include parents and administrators as evaluators, and SAT, GED scores. (All measured against a base line).</p>
03/22/2022 08:24 PM	Angela Longano	261 Deerfield St SE, Lenoir, NC 28645	Caldwell	alongano731@gmail.com	We need a full time assistant in every k-3 classroom. We need to give educators at least one day a month to plan or have a mental health day along with students. Leandro needs to be fully funded and we need to stop giving public money to private/charter schools. Education is investing in the future and our state is doing a poor job of investing in the future of NC.

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03/22/2022 10:16 PM	Education Changes Brennan Fortes	1617 ivy bluff way, Matthews , North Carolina 28105	Mecklenburg	fortesbren@gmail.com	<p>What I would love to see in a new education system is more education on things you would use in your future. So nothing like math 3 or math 4 maybe like statistics and something you could prepare for in the future. Also not having required classes mainly having things that you want to grow up to be or something you would like to get into college. I say this because if you are doing all these other classes that you will not use the information for then you are really just wasting years of education you could get for doing something you will actually use. Also like tests in school they say you need to work by yourself and there is only one right answer, in the real world there is a ton of answers to a real life problem and you need to learn how to solve them. So in conclusion I feel tests, and education should be based on your status and what you want to do when your older and your goals in life</p>
03/23/2022 09:57 AM	Ms. Jana Dux	357 FIRE OPAL LN, HOLLY SPRINGS, NC 27540	Wake	janadux.mda@gmail.com	<p>The purpose of public education is to prepare students to be involved citizens in their communities, state, country, and world. Public education is an investment in the good of the whole. Therefore, any kind of healthy educational system should make it obvious that the citizens of the state and the health of democracy in a state are highly valued. Students across the state should, then, have access to a sound and basic education, which would signal that a state values its future citizens, and therefore values democracy. The best way to do this is to have public schools, fully funded, with more than adequate monetary resources as well as qualified teachers, support staff, administrators, and supplies.</p> <p>I would envision fewer charter schools, unless they were better regulated and the public school system had more oversight. If and when all of a state's funding is focused on making the *public schools* the absolute priority and the very best they could be, we all win.</p> <p>The builders of this "new system" should include all of the qualified classroom teachers and assistants, specialty educators and support staff: because no one knows or understands education better than those who are working and serving students in an actual classroom. I would hope that no education-system-rethink would even be considered without having 99% educators on board to oversee how this would work. The goal should be for ALL of our North Carolina students to be included and served--no matter what race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, ability/disability, or whatever difference--all students deserve a fully-funded public education that serves their needs and challenges them to grow, providing them with a well-rounded education for whatever future lies ahead. I would not want copy/paste or exclusive curriculum, rather, I would want a curriculum</p>

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					<p>that encouraged critical thinking, one that addressed the whole student, ensuring there be more than enough support staff, such as counselors and school psychologists, allowing that North Carolina students are not only top-notch in academics, but also in relating to themselves and to others. I would also hope for a strong support and funding of all arts programs, in all schools, no matter the size. Music, art, language, design, theater and other forms of the arts motivate and help inspire students to keep learning, so an educational system that state-wide, supports and offers opportunities within the arts for all students, would be beneficial.</p> <p>I think the most important pieces would be this: fully fund ALL public schools, putting forth time, talent, energy, resources, efforts and experience, ensuring a sound, basic education to ALL students of North Carolina, as is their constitutional right, and one there should be no argument about.</p>
03/24/2022 11:06 AM	Heather Soter	4326 A. Belcher st, Farmville , Nc 27828	Pitt	Heatherso.hs@gmail.com	More charter schools/ more choice my tax dollars my choice. I might be able to send my kid to a Christian school where standards are still high. She might actually get to graduate reading on level. I have nothing good to say about pitt county schools no standards no discipline underpaid staff understaffed crumbling infrastructure in some areas.
03/26/2022 10:32 AM	Mrs Darlene Hamrick	113 River Chase Drive, Shelby, NC 28152	Cleveland	dhamrick@clevelandcountyschools.org	Let retirees double dip instead of going to other states or charter schools with their vast experience and knowledge.
03/26/2022 10:37 AM	Mrs Darlene Hamrick	113 River Chase Drive, Shelby, NC 28152	Cleveland	dhamrick@clevelandcountyschools.org	Let teacher retirees double dip in NC public schools for Five years at least instead of going to charter or other states with their vast experience and knowledge.
03/26/2022 11:31 AM	Mrs. Cherisse Jackson	PO Box 596 , Sanford, NC 27331	Lee	ccj2@icloud.com	<p>Representative Torbett and Committee Members, Thank you for serving on one of the most critical committees of our state government. Our economic well-being is based upon the well-being of our public education system. Our state entrusts our legislators with our public education system in order to ensure the prosperous future of our children and grandchildren.</p> <p>As a child I attended both public and private Christian schools (K-College), and as a teacher, I have taught at both public and private Christian schools. My two sons attended public schools, including university and community college. On that experiential basis and my past 38 years of studying longitudinal research of educational and economic outcomes, I'm convinced that state and local governments in North Carolina must prioritize public education, preschool -- college/community college. It is the best means of assuring accountability to tax payers and attracting economic investment.</p>

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					<p>The private Christian schools where I attended and taught were in other states, and my parents and I ensured before participation that the schools were academically accredited by reputable organizations. My parents would not have sent me to schools, nor would I have taught at them, that limited students' future prospects because of unaccredited course work. Those private Christian schools not only taught the state curriculum but exceeded it while also adding religious instruction. Our legislators harm our students' futures when they approve Opportunity Scholarships to unaccredited, unaccountable schools. As an 8th grade teacher, I often welcome students from non-accredited private schools, and the students' math and reading skills are at primary school levels. In all cases it is due to their curriculum, teacher training, and lack of accountability, rather than the students' special needs or traumatic backgrounds. As a tax payer I'm outraged that my tax dollars support untrue, inaccurate, harmful perceptions of the world without transparency and accountability. It's heart breaking to welcome students into my classes who must make up years of skill development and general knowledge. before high school due to unaccountable private or homeschool education. Anyone anywhere in our state knows that access to precious tax payer money demands transparency and accountability. The one growing exception is public investment through opportunity scholarships to unaccountable private education. There is a growing cry for "public funds to follow the student wherever they attend school," but public funds must be accountable to the tax payer. We cannot allow anyone to waste or misuse our hard-earned tax dollars.</p> <p>Accountibility issues run rampant with our growing homeschool sector. I teach students whose homeschool was no school. They are years behind their peers in basic math, science, reading, history, and writing skills.</p> <p>Many tax payer accountability issues plague our growing public charter schools. In the county where I teach, Moore County Schools, students who attend charter schools take the state's financial allotment to their charter schools, whether they've attended a public school or not, and if they return to the public schools -- which many do -- they do not bring that allotment back with them. Our public school students receive less funding than our charter school students. The charter schools in my district advertise their low student to teacher ratio when that is not an option for our public schools, especially with class sizes of 30 to 40 students in grades 4th -- 12th. If a charter schools' deregulation improves the outcomes for their students, why don't other public</p>

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					<p>schools have the same options to deregulate? Charter schools in my area do not "compete on level playing field." At my public school I welcome any and all students. The local charter schools expel, limit, and underserve students while taking away irreplaceable funding my students need.</p> <p>I'm proud to serve in our North Carolina public schools. I'm 59 years old and continue to thrive in my community-supported public middle school. I've earned a masters degree as a reading specialist at a North Carolina public university, and I've achieved National Board certification. With schoolwide support and focus, my 8th grade English Language Arts students achieve and exceed expected growth on their End of Grade tests. My masters degree and NBCT certification clearly impacted the improved effect on my students' learning outcomes, and I would not have been able to pursue those enhancements without the master's pay increase and the NBCT certification increase. Please restore the salary increase for masters pay. There is a marked lack of ongoing educational expertise in younger teachers who cannot afford the expense of a masters program without the salary incentive to pay for it. We also lose teachers from other states who expect pay increases for their educational degrees.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and attention. Public education of our precious young people is a bipartisan, nonpartisan, all-partisan responsibility.</p> <p>Best regards,</p> <p>Cherisse Jackson</p>
03/26/2022 01:14 PM	Susan Joyce	2202 Lilyford Ln, Apex, NC 27502		susanjjoyce@yahoo.com	<p>The education system in this state must undergo a major overhaul, beginning with allocation of funds for teacher pay and instructional resources. Teachers are severely underpaid, and in the metro areas of the state, the salary isn't adequate enough to pay basic bills and housing costs. The new "teacher pay scale" does not help AT ALL. Just please pay us what we are worth so our families don't have to sacrifice. You continue to advocate to bring business revenue here, yet you continue to underfund the basic sound public educational system. Businesses will pass up moving here if their workers can't get a quality education for their children in public schools, not charter or private schools. The voucher system is absolutely ridiculous as well- that money could be used by school systems. Get rid of it.</p>
03/26/2022 01:25 PM	Mr. C. Warren Pope	12 Mountain Site Ln Exd, Asheville, NC	Buncombe	cwpope@charter.net	<p>What about Leandro and the standards therein? I see the same old Republican BS approach in your committee. What about funding above 50% of hte national average including teacher pay?</p>

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		28803			<p>You are losing the battle to recruit enough and competent teachers. How about funding in the classrooms so teachers do not have to use their meager pay to buy supplies? An no outlawing of books. That is just assinine. What about teaching all of history instead of cutting out hte parts htat make white America uncomfortable?</p> <p>DO you jobs and stop playing politics and being niggardly with the funding and salaries. You wonder why you cannot hire personnel? Look at salaries.</p>
03/28/2022 09:04 AM	Summer Crump	6087 Sugar Loaf Rd, CONNELLY SPRING, NC 28612	Burke	sumsunshine12@gmail.com	<p>We must get back to the basics and allow teachers, being professionals in their discipline, the ability to do their jobs without so much oversight and paperwork. Why do we need professionals if it is going to be mandated what they teach, how they teach, what material they use and so on and so on. We need to back off on testing and paperwork. There is entirely too much burden on the teachers (and students) regarding this which in turn eats up valuable instruction time. Next, they need planning in the elementary schools. I do believe there was a law and one point that stated teachers should get up to 5 hours of planning week. With all of the weekly meetings to review student test scores, discuss progress monitoring, discuss MTSS, meet with instructional coaches to go over lesson plans and new materials, etc., teachers have absolutely no time to truly plan, unless they do it at home.</p> <p>If today there was no education system in North Carolina, and we were charged with establishing one, what would you like to see in a new education system, or not see in a new education system? In summary, we have too many people trying to tell teaching professionals how to do their jobs and just simply not enough teachers.</p> <p>What happened to the bill from many years ago to reduce class sizes?</p> <p>Tax payer dollars should not be going to vouchers/charter schools who do not have the same oversight and requirements of public education. If tax dollars go to those entities, they should have to meet every single requirement that public schools are required to meet.</p>
03/28/2022 09:32 AM	Ms. Renee Kerns	109 Saint Annes Road, Nashville, NC 27856	Nash	renee.kerns2@gmail.com	<p>Public Education is failing BECAUSE many politicians want it to fail. Class sizes are too large. There are not enough staff in schools to meet the many needs of all students. Teachers are being treated horribly, not to mention paid horribly. It is time to use our tax dollars to support public education. Opportunity scholarships should not come from public tax dollars, taking away from public school students.</p> <p>Every school board member, every Central Office staff, every</p>

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
					<p>politician who thinks schools are not what they want them to be need to spend no less than two hours every month inside of a public school. Not the "nice" ones either. Give our children, who don't all have the privilege of networking parents, the services and supports they need. ALL of our children are experiencing mental health and health-related issues that impact their education.</p>
03/28/2022 11:10 AM	EDGAR G CASTRO MARTINEZ	1328 BEACON RIDGE ROAD APT 1302, CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28210	Mecklenburg	e1.castromartinez@cms.k12.nc.us	<p>I think that it would be really important to build an inclusive and cultural approached educational system in which diversity is celebrated. It is necessary to be focus on the emotional well being, which is as important as the academical performance. We should leave behind stereotypes and embrace otherness.</p>
03/29/2022 10:01 AM	Rebecca Pedigo	1115 Faison Avenue, Fayetteville, NC 28304	Cumberland	rebeccapedigo@ccs.k12.nc.us	<p>If today there was no education system in North Carolina, and we were charged with establishing one, I would like to see equity in a new education system. From my time as an EC teacher in a Title One Cumberland County school, I've observed that equity does not always mean fair or equal. Equity means opportunity. The Leandro Plan for example provides opportunity for all students, teachers, administrators, and communities across the state of North Carolina. We have the opportunity to advocate for Master's pay on behalf of the Leandro plan for our teachers to improve our state educational system and we need to do so.</p>
03/29/2022 08:28 PM	Mrs Megan Brevard	3005 Ivy Brook Place , Matthews, NC 28104	Union	megpfink@gmail.com	<p>Dear NCGA,</p> <p>As an educator and mother, I am concerned that our students be able to access a free and equitable educational system regardless of socioeconomic background or race. I believe books and the freedom to read is essential for education. As a librarian and educator, I have taught students about emotions and empathy through books. The ability to listen, evaluate and understand another perspective can occur in a book's pages. I want my child to be able to read about history, learn about the problems and trials in the past so he can create a better understanding of a democratic society in the future. I believe we need the freedom to read and read widely from all kinds of books. These are absolutely essential to educate children and young adults. As an educator for thirteen years, I have seen curriculum change with options. However, books and the ability to ask questions and discuss ideas has always been vital to education. This freedom of thought is a cornerstone of the United States. We should discuss and vote on ideas for our future educational ideas.</p>
03/30/2022 10:04 AM	Ms. Kristen Moyer	304 S Central Ave, Belmont, NC 28012	Gaston	kristenmoyer@hotmail.com	<p>Whatever our color, background, or zip code, we want our children to have a quality education that imparts honesty about who we are, integrity in how we treat others, and will help them create a better future.</p> <p>While educators across the state are working to deliver students</p>

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					<p>an honest education, some politicians are using the classroom to push their own agenda by censoring the truth of our history, denying schools adequate funding and erasing people who look like our children out of our history books.</p> <p>We have a detailed roadmap for how to improve education for all of our students. The Leandro plan addresses the critical needs of the North Carolina public school system. And yet, Republican legislative leaders continue to choose tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations over implementing the Leandro plan and fully funding our public schools.</p> <p>Please, implement the recommendations from Leandro!</p>
03/31/2022 03:59 PM	Mr Greg Sales	4410 mt hope church rd , Salisbury , Nc 28146	Rowan	Gsales@carolina.rd.com	Some sort of a vouchers system. Where the money follows the student. The government schools are a disaster mostly because there is no competition and the teachers unions control everything. Get rid of the DOE and let the parents control the money and maybe we can get a decent education system.
04/02/2022 11:15 AM	Mrs. Evan Ferguson	Buxton, NC 27920	Dare	fergusone771@gmail.com	I am a media coordinator at Cape Hatteras Secondary School in Dare county. I have taught for 11 years, as a CTE teacher for 10 of those. I have my masters and also my national boards. My concern is that the new framework does not seem to include masters and national board work as a way to achieve the highest pay level. Teachers who are pursuing or have already accomplished masters or national board status should not have to complete additional training to receive upper level pay raises. The work, time and cost that goes into national boards and a masters program should show that these teachers are already accomplished or distinguished. My concern is that there is no mention of national boards or masters in this new framework. Why put additional work on teachers who have to renew national boards every five years and who have gone above and beyond on their own to become distinguished in the profession. The upper level tiers should include national boards or masters as an alternative to these additional requirements. Please consult with more classroom teachers and support staff before amending the current pay structure. Teachers shouldn't need to do more work to receive a pay raise. They are currently doing enough.
04/02/2022 06:05 PM	Erin Del Monte	PO Box 358, Frisco, NC 27936-0358	Dare	biologyteacher32@hotmail.com	<p>I am concerned because there is no mention of teachers who already have their masters degree and/or national board certification. How will they be compensated? Having these degrees/certification already shows their commitment to the profession and that they are highly qualified.</p> <p>Also, if a highly qualified teacher moves schools and they become the low man on the totem pole, withy they be penalized for this because they are unable to take on leadership positions within</p>

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
					their new school? Finally, how will teachers who aren't teaching in a tested subject area move up and be compensated, such as art, music, PE and EC teachers? These are all valid arguments that the legislature hasn't thought of because they aren't in the classroom every day.
04/02/2022 06:12 PM	Ms. Rita Ray	29 Banning Drive, Whispering Pines, NC 28327	Moore	rita.marie.ray@gmail.com	Fund the Leandro Plan, please! It's long overdue.
04/04/2022 04:03 PM	Public Schools First NC	Raleigh, NC 27610	Wake	publicschoolsfirstnc@gmail.com	<p>Public School First NC envisions a future for NC schools where the following goals have been met by a General Assembly committed to serving all North Carolinians by providing a high-quality education for our children.</p> <p>Fully fund all components of the Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan.</p> <p>Use public tax dollars exclusively for public schooling with consistent accountability and policies. No public tax monies for private schools.</p> <p>Increase teacher salaries to at least the national average and restore Masters pay.</p> <p>Pay all school personnel a livable wage.</p> <p>Strengthen and diversify North Carolina's teacher pipeline: better salaries & benefits, better working conditions, and better retirement plan.</p> <p>Increase the number of helping professionals in schools and adopt universal trauma-informed curricula/programs that focus on social and emotional learning.</p> <p>Hire more school social workers (pay them on the Master's Pay Schedule like other specialized support staff).</p> <p>Hire more school counselors, school psychologists, and school nurses.</p> <p>Provide universal access to high-quality Pre-K.</p> <p>Increase funding for special education students.</p> <p>Improve integration and the equitable distribution of all school resources.</p> <p>?Create safe and supportive learning environments for all students and teachers.</p> <p>Eliminate the digital divide.</p> <p>Decrease class size in grades 4-5 by putting the cap back on the number of students allowed in each 4th and 5th grade class.</p> <p>Provide a teacher assistant (instructional assistant) in every K-3 classroom.</p> <p>Provide universal meals (free breakfast and lunch) at all schools for any student who needs them.</p>
04/07/2022 08:25 AM	School Social Worker	501 Turnpike Road,	Scotland	charrington@scotland.k12.nc.us	Dear member of the House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future,

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
	Chiquita Harrington	Laurinburg, NC 28352			<p>Thank you for taking the time to incorporate a thoughtful redesign of our education system in North Carolina.</p> <p>As a school social worker, I see the importance of student support services every day. The state should provide more direct mental wellness support services and activities in schools as a whole population approach and not just for identified students. To do this, we must support and sustain school social workers across the state.</p> <p>Social workers have long been an essential workforce in North Carolina's preK-12 schools, providing a broad range of services aimed at helping students succeed in school and life. We help students, families and educators address their social, emotional, and practical needs- something that is needed now and will continue to be needed in the future.</p> <p>The nationally recommended ratio is one school social worker per 250 students (1:250). Currently, North Carolina's ratio is closer to one school social worker per 1,1025 students. We must provide for more school social workers in the design plan of our future education system.</p> <p>Additionally, school social workers need more support. Currently, we are paid on the teachers pay scale. Despite many counties asking for a master's degree when hired, school social workers are not paid equitably for our advanced degrees. We must restore master's pay for school social workers. Doing so will help recruit and retain the workforce.</p> <p>Thank you again for your support of North Carolina's schools and the school social work profession.</p>
04/11/2022 11:10 AM	Ms. LaTonya Raynor	202 Waverly Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27530	Wayne	latonyaraynor@wcps.org	<p>If today there was no education system in North Carolina, and we were charged with establishing one, I would like to see more focus on social, emotional learning to help with focusing on the whole child. There are so many behaviors coming from our students that link back to home - the school overlooks this a lot I feel and passes judgement on families without getting to the crux of the issue or understanding parents and their families. I would not like to see big focus on testing like the EOG - it seems that this testing has not helped or it does not determine if a child is necessarily ready for the next grade. There are so many factors into why the student may perform poorly, and the teacher is focused on this and losing sight of the student as a human, a person. If the environment in the classroom is not fitting, then that child will not learn and another barrier to performance is lost. In addition to this point, a lot of students are still being passed on regardless of their academic progress during the year, or lack thereof in some circumstances. As a school social worker, attendance plays a big part as well, and what I am noticing is there needs to be more focus on this because that is what a lot of times prevents students from growing academically. Parents are not seeming to take</p>

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04/18/2022 03:07 AM	Mrs. Tricia Graham	1609 Allegheny Way Apt, suite, floor, etc., Waxhaw, NC 28173	Union	kydegan@gmail.com	<p>attendance in school serious, while the school is focused more on outcomes for testing the entire school year.</p> <p>If a new PUBLIC education system were being established I would like to see equal access for ALL students. Since tax dollars are being used I feel the public would want transparency in budget-making decisions.</p> <p>Curriculum is being thrust to the forefront so the public should be made aware that educators follow state curriculum and not their own, since there is a lot of misinformation about teachers printing their own materials and teaching it in the classroom because there are no textbooks (figures who are not educators and are running for BOE are making these statements). As far as curriculum, we should also consider getting back to the basics of reading, writing, math, science, social studies. In high school, life skills need to be a priority: filling out documents, budgeting, paying bills, applying for jobs and interviewing, etc.</p> <p>There should be no opportunity for public funds to be used elsewhere. Diversity should play a role in establishing districts because there is much to be learned when sharing ideas among a diverse group and not just being exposed to like minded people. Teachers should be held in high regard as educated individuals who are skilled and trained, rather than as babysitters who happen to teach.</p> <p>Discipline should be a top priority with parents being held accountable. This, combined with 2 counselors, at least, per school to address all of the social issues our youth are currently facing.</p> <p>I have so much more to say, but I feel these are core values we can all get behind to have a successful, inclusive system of education.</p>
04/23/2022 11:55 AM	STREAM program expansion Ken Brandt	100 Hargrave St., Lumberton, NC 28358-	Robeson	kenneth.brandt@robeson.k12.nc.us	Please consider adding funding and opportunities for STREAM programs in low-wealth communities.
04/23/2022 02:52 PM	Mrs. Janet Oehl	103 Pinewood Place , Emerald Isle , NC 28594	Carteret	oehlmj@gmail.com	<p>I would like to see the following changes and emphasis:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State board of education members partisan elections. Not appointed by governor. 2. Essential Standards need to be written by neutral parties - no activists (as was done with the NC Social Studies Standards inclusion of CRT). I am fearful of the results of the Health Education Standards update this summer. 3. A code of ethics for administrators, educators and board members to include:

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					<p>(a.) No activism in schools, just teaching. In older grades, where a variety of view points can be discussed and debated, the teacher must be neutral and support critical thinking, not political views.</p> <p>(b.) No teaching of Critical Race Theory - this is anti-American and anti- Christian.</p> <p>(c.) No teaching of Queer Theory - QT is a critical theory taught in college level Gender Studies courses, and has no place in K-12 classrooms. This means that there will be no teaching of sexual orientation or gender identity (SOGI). Gender theory is not supported by science. It is not helping children with gender dysphoria who need care and treatment and parental involvement. This is being taught in schools and one of the reasons why we are seeing the "transgender tsunami".</p> <p>4. Our education system should have as its goal the OPTIMAL health of our students, including intellectual health, with the long term goal being healthy lifestyle: employment, relationships, marriage and healthy families. The idea of "optimal health" means the educator meets each child where they are and works toward the best possible outcome. To hold children who are at more risk (health, emotionally, psychologically, relational or educational) to lower standards is a form of advantage discrimination.</p> <p>5. With the push for teaching of Critical Race Theory and teaching of SOGI (which is to teach Queer Theory) - in every subject in some schools districts - test scores / academic achievement are decreasing.</p> <p>6. Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) must be eradicated or scaled back due to the pervasive activism (CRT, Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and SOGI) hidden within lessons. Our school district was not aware of a problem until we requested to review the SEL curricula. We found "Second Step" SEL online program from Committee For Children to have CRT elements, so it was pulled from classrooms. We found out that an administrator (our Healthful Living Coordinator) purchased it during the COVID shut down. SEL takes away valuable time from instruction in math, reading, science. This same administrator changed from a well-accepted abstinence-based Sexual Risk Avoidance education program to a "Sexual Risk Reduction" sex ed program (see below). It only takes one activist in the district to cause a problem!</p> <p>7. The NCDPI NC Healthy Schools Office should be eliminated and restructured because there is activism in its materials and programs for puberty education, reproductive health and safety education and social and emotional learning. NC Healthy Schools Office directs all health education in NC. They coordinate with the SEL office at NCDPI. For years they have pushed radical comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) into the districts via the district Healthful Living Coordinators and funding of the NC School Health Training Center at ECU who only promotes CSE. (I have</p>

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
					<p>examples of curricula in NC, if you would like to contact me.) CSE pushes condoms and contraception and sexual "consent" to Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers. How will this help them to establish character, self restraint and healthy monogamous relationships for the future? How does this help their mental and emotional health? How will this help them grow up to be healthy NC citizens? Social science supports delaying sexual activity in school-age children due to the many benefits of physical, psychological, and intellectual health. Sexual Risk Avoidance Education should be the standard.</p> <p>8. Committee in each district to choose library books - involve parents.</p> <p>9. Last, but perhaps most important: upholding parental rights .</p> <p>Thank you for your initiative!</p>
04/25/2022 11:13 AM	Dr Joseph Werrell	120 Pirate Island Dr, Hubert, NC 28539	Onslow	jwerrell1@gmail.com	<p>With the push for teaching of Critical Race Theory and teaching of SOGI - sexual orientation and gender ideology (which is to teach Queer Theory) - in every subject in some schools districts - test scores / academic achievement are decreasing. Our education system should have as its purpose the OPTIMAL health of our students, including intellectual health, with the long term goal being healthy lifestyle: employment, relationships, marriage and healthy families. We need authentic Sexual Risk Avoidance curriculums to be an option in NC schools. Only the bad Sexual Risk Reduction (SRR) is presently being supported by the NCSHTC and DPI</p>
04/25/2022 08:11 PM					allow collective bargaining for state/local/school employees
04/26/2022 11:24 AM	MR. LOUIS JAMES (JIMMY) DARMO	PO BOX 415, SWANSBORO, North Carolina 28584	Onslow	LDARMO@EC.RR.COM	<p>I am a retired public school music teacher who taught in Beaufort and Onslow Counties. I presently sub/volunteer in Carteret and Onslow Counties. With education--test scores-- declining (for whatever reason), I would like to see a return to the "basics" and emphasis placed on reading, writing, math and creativity. Yes, my emphasis in teaching was in the primary schools and LOVED it. I looked at the children through God-given eyes which made me want to do my best to lead them down a path to become the individuals God intended and meant them to be. I looked at creativity as more than the "arts" and would give the older students examples from their academics. It seems to me that education is veering away from the basics and even "history" is being "rewritten" and one's "sex" can be redefined or changed?! I understand that this is being done without the parents consent or knowledge. It would once be a crime to "indoctrinate" or even to introduce such lifestyles to Preschoolers and Kindergarteners! This is being done in many education systems today as books in the public libraries and schools are being found--even in our counties. Therefore, it is my desire to protect these students</p>

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04/27/2022 09:51 AM	Asst. Supt Retired "RJ" Lytle	PO Box 124, Beaufort, NC 28516	Carteret	rjcn1200@yahoo.com	<p>from such indoctrination and return to the basics in education. Thank you for this opportunity to voice an opinion.</p> <p>American Public Education's Future NOW with immediate application.</p> <p>1. Staff/Teacher Accountability: Void of personnel values, teach the state curriculum (update if dated), violations first time reprimand then second incident fire & revoke credential.</p> <p>2. Curriculum: A realistic expression of national traditional values with codified benchmarks, content linked to outcomes with multi source assessments, sexuality issues contained in Health Course elective at MS & HS level no grade school exposure (with public display of curriculum via web sight), parent oversight integral part of school governance, permission slip signed by parents with understanding of Health course content.</p>
04/27/2022 09:52 AM	Mrs. Gwendolyn Russell	907 East D Street, Butner,, North Carolina 27509	Granville	gwendolynrussell73@gmail.com	<p>I live in a low wealth county and I think adequate funding for K-12 education is critical for public schools. If home schooled students are allowed to participate in the extra curricula activities, I think that the schools should receive extra funding to pay for the increased numbers who will participate in these services. I also think K-3 schools need to have assistants restored, as well as STEM education and Spanish classes. Pre-K education should be open to all citizens. A fully funded public schools system will ultimately help North Carolina have a viable educated workforce for the 21st century. Teachers do not need legislators to tell them how to teach and what to teach. Teachers are professionals and should be treated as such. You do not tell your doctor what to do. I think it needs to be a collaborative effort with parents and teachers. Keep politics out of the public schools. be true to your word and use the school lottery money to improve all the schools.</p>
04/28/2022 12:06 PM	Ralph Bumgarner	1009 E. Klutz St., Maiden, NC 28650	Catawba	ralphbumgarner53@gmail.com	<p>1. A curriculum focused on basic skills that develop each student into a competent adult and capable of being productive citizens. The current focus on "how they feel" takes away from current class time that needs to be used more effectively. Students need to learn what it means to fail and learn to develop coping skills to change their approach to meet their objectives.</p> <p>2. Less focus on high stakes testing and assessment. Narrowing the accountability to specific subjects neglects the others. Students need to well rounded in their 4 core subjects, as well as the arts, fitness, and career exploration. We have developed generations of test takers and not people who can think independently. This can be proven by the reliance on the news media to know how to feel about subject matter.</p> <p>3. Improve the focus on extracurricular activities as a means to develop social skills and facilitate relationships between students</p>

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
					<p>and educators. This opportunity allows for a deeper understanding of each person and a bond that can last a lifetime.</p> <p>4. Provide appropriate funding for teacher staffing, teacher pay, facilities, teaching materials, and teacher development that the local education agencies can not manipulate for more support staff, school administrators, or central office personnel. The bureaucracy many systems have developed makes it impossible to truly grow and develop the students. Teachers are the most important pieces of the educational puzzle, yet administrative salaries seem to grow faster than any other funding.</p> <p>5. Restore tenure to classroom teachers so the stress of constantly being under the gun will be alleviated. Teachers now are forced to look over their shoulders and are at the mercy of a school administrator who may simply not like them and risk being dismissed. Teachers are professionals and should be treated this way. If tenure is not allowed for professional educators, why do we allow professors to earn tenure?</p> <p>6. Establish an efficiently and effective system to deal with discipline that holds the student accountable for disrupting the classroom and school environment.</p>
04/29/2022 08:57 AM	Susan Pochapsky	732 Ninth Street Ste 501, Durham, NC 27705	Durham	schapek@yahoo.com	<p>I would like to see a public education system that is State funded (i.e., not dependent on the prosperity, property values, or inclinations of its own locality) to provide liberty and equal opportunity for every child. No locality would be able to spend local money improving or equipping some schools at the expense of others.</p> <p>The system should be enshrined in the State Constitution, so it's not subject to the whims of any particular GA body.</p> <p>Above all, no part of the educational system should ever be privatized, and while private schools would not be outlawed, they should never be publicly funded or advantaged</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.</p>
04/29/2022 09:34 AM	Mr. Jarred Miller	3324 Wicklow Ln, Gastonia, NC 28056	Gaston	jmiller53rd@gmail.com	<p>I would like to see a greater emphasis on identifying misinformation and disinformation. Education on fact-finding. True history that shows our highest of highs, lowest of lows, and everything in between. Future technology education. We must understand the technology of tomorrow if we want to stay relevant and competitive in the world. I'd like to see the advice of the experts and researchers taken into consideration as far as how the school day is structured. Is the model of yesterday still relevant today? Tom Hierck, an education consultant and author, said, "21st-century kids are being taught by 20th-century adults using 19th-century curriculum and techniques on an 18th-century</p>

Date Submitted	Name	Address	County	Email	Comments
05/02/2022 11:45 PM	Mrs Hoi Chan	624 Halcyon Meadow Dr, Cary, NC 27519	Wake	Leohannahchan@yahoo.com	<p>calendar.” It's time for us to catch up!</p> <p>We will like to see accountability the teacher gave to parents. As Parents/taxpayers should pick the best choice for their own children fit their culture, religion, background as parents have the best interest to their children!! We don't need state run education system where failing from ranked 12 to 38 and so many wastages and teachers are more interested in their own interests above our kids. We need the school act as trade school and will get more fund when students perform not to fund the teacher when teachers not perform!! The principal, teachers and social workers focus are to help parents as teamwork instead of blame the parents! We need to hold teachers and schools accountable by evaluating the student proficiency in math and English but not how many protest, sexual orientation change or other not external factors!! We need more parents input and monthly parents/teachers collaborate to build up the next generation of NC!</p>
05/03/2022 08:08 AM	Michele Morrow	423 Oakridge Rd, Cary, NC 27511	Wake	michele4nc@gmail.com	<p>Our public school system is failing due to misplaced priorities, mismanaged funds, and damaging curriculum.</p> <p>Our students are wasting their classroom time discussing feelings, rather than learning to read, write, and do basic math.</p> <p>With the recent statistic posted in the Charlotte Observer that less than 50% of our state's 18-40 year olds are equipped to fill the jobs flooding our state, we must transform our educational system.</p> <p>Upon graduating from high school, every NC citizen should be prepared to enter the workforce and become an autonomous, contributing member of society.</p> <p>They should be mature, critically thinking, financially responsible, hard working, and able to successfully handle crises and conflict. They should be literate, articulate, and skilled in math and science. They should be grateful for the chance to live and work in a free society and they should have respect for the laws and moral foundations that have made our country strong and prosperous.</p> <p>We must return to the fundamentals of education and prepare the next generation of adults to pursue their dreams and become the leaders that our cities, state and country need.</p> <p>NC is a state replete with opportunities. For years we have topped the list for best places to live in the country.</p> <p>Our public educational system should be the best in the country, as well.</p>

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05/04/2022 01:21 AM	John Doe				<p>Comprehensive and inclusive sex education, along side the education of and about queer and BIPOC people are human rights. How dare you complain about the first amendment for freedom of speech while actively censoring education from thousands of students. I cannot tell you how many questions I still cannot answer because of the fact that YOUR legislators failed my generation. How many black and brown students felt isolated and ostracized when they were told slave owners were heroes for signing a piece of paper stating they refused to pay taxes without representation. And yet this same country claims territories where countless civilians don't get a say in congress.</p> <p>Think of how many queer children grow up knowing nothing about their bodies. Think of how easy it is to prey on someone who doesn't even know what healthy relationships are, who gets told their entire life they are sinful and don't deserve healthcare or representation.</p> <p>As I am sure you all know, this is an election year. The trends are not on your side if you continue to suppress the rights of the people and hope to be re-elected. Tread carefully.</p>
05/04/2022 08:14 AM	Mrs. Allison Morgan	5 Maple Leaf Drive, Hendersonville, NC 28739	Henderson	allison.guion@gmail.com	<p>Dear members of the House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future,</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to incorporate a thoughtful redesign of our education system in North Carolina.</p> <p>As a school social worker for public schools in North Carolina, I see the importance of student support services every day. The state should provide more direct mental wellness support services and activities in schools as a whole population approach and not just for identified students. To do this, we must support and sustain school social workers across the state. Social workers have long been an essential workforce in North Carolina's preK-12 schools, providing a broad range of services aimed at helping students succeed in school and life. We help students, families and educators address their social, emotional, and practical needs- something that is needed now and will continue to be needed in the future. The state should join other states in requiring a minimum of master's degree education in its licensure for School Social Workers to ensure that School Social Workers have the high level of education and training needed in order to meet a diverse array of needs.</p> <p>The nationally recommended ratio is one school social worker per 250 students (1:250). Currently, North Carolina's ratio is closer to one school social worker per 1,1025 students. We must provide for</p>

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					<p>more school social workers in the design plan of our future education system.</p> <p>Additionally, school social workers need more support. Currently, we are paid on the teachers pay scale. Despite many counties asking for a master's degree when hired, school social workers are not paid equitably for our advanced degrees. We must restore master's pay for school social workers. Doing so will help recruit and retain the workforce.</p> <p>Futhermore, the state must show its value for education by compensating all school staff accordingly. The overall average teacher salary in North Carolina in 2019-2020 was \$54,150, about \$10,000 less than the national average teacher salary of \$64,133 according to the National Education Association (NEA) - putting NC at 33rd in the nation. The state and nation are experiencing an education staff shortage and this is not surprising to me, when school staff are under unprecedented stress and compensated so poorly relative to most other professional careers. We can follow the lead of states like New Mexico, where teacher base pay salaries were recently increased by an average of 20%. If our state values the education of our children, compensation for educators must be altered to reflect that.</p> <p>Thank you again for your support of North Carolina's schools and the school social work profession.</p>
05/04/2022 11:30 PM	Alison Agnew	227 Walnut Street, Massapequa Park, NY 11762		alison.agnew1@gmail.com	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Alison Agnew. I am a soon to be resident of Cary, North Carolina starting in August 2022. I am writing today as a future citizen of the state who cares about deeply about public education.</p> <p>If I were in charge of creating a new education system, there would be so much I'd like to see. For example, I would love to see adequate funding for schools across the state's districts. I think investing in our youth by proving them access to current learning materials (books, computers, etc..), class supplies, the arts, extracurricular activities (sports, theater, and clubs) is fundamental to the success of students. This funding should not come out of a teacher's salary. Having well funded materials and well compensated educators is the foundation of a successful school. Lastly, I think there should be funding to make schools accessible for all students. For instance, pre-school and after school meal programs for students who only can afford to eat in school. Or, ensuring that disabled students have access to public schools beyond the basics of the ADA. Let's ensure students have</p>

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					<p>interpreters, aides, access to bathrooms, etc... I think supplying passionate educators with the tools they need to accommodate all students in essential.</p> <p>Regarding curriculum, I think many of the core tenets: Math, Science, Social Studies, English are great and should be kept! As well as fairly standard electives like Art, Music, Humanities, and trade courses (Home Ec, Autoshop) are great as well. These courses help students to become well-rounded adults with tools to succeed.</p> <p>However, I think some of the core classes could be improved or expanded to better prepare students for adult life. (These are some classes that I wish I had or wish I had competent learning material for)</p> <p>Mathematics - I certainly wish that there was at least an optional course on personal finance. While many people joke that they don't need to know the quadratic formula, I do think Algebra/Trig/Calc/Stats should stay! I just wish complex topics like taxes, loans, credit, investment. etc... as they relate to mathematics could have been taught to me earlier. If school is to prepare students to go into the working world or to college - this next period for the student will require several significant financial decisions. Students should be equipped with tools to help them.</p> <p>Social Studies - I think social studies classes could be improved by expanding the point of views in the materials used, sharing context, and developing student's understanding of local history (whether good or bad). What I mean here is that I feel that I learned events in history for the sake of an AP exam without much of the human element behind why events took place. For example, I think learning about American history could benefit by adding content for Americans of all backgrounds (ethnicity wise, gender wise, LBGTQ+ or not, political background, etc...). Reading texts or watching material (like Crash Course) from under represented voices in history can be incredibly power to help navigate your understanding of the world. I realized I did not once learn about the native people that my hometown was named after. Only after I was an adult and did my own research could I discuss the subject and the history of a place I loved the majority of my life. I think this is a shame that this concept can apply to so many student across the US. I understand currently there are limitations on time and standards for AP exams. However, I think in an ideal school setting we can teach beyond the tests.</p> <p>Health and Sex + Reproductive Education -</p>

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					<p>I think it is truly important to give students access to medically accurate information about their bodies at several stages of their education. Personally, my most robust health education came too late (12th grade) and was not in-depth enough. Having more robust understanding of your body could have helped my sister understand that she had a tumor on her ovary because extreme uterine pain wasn't normal for her body! Most of my peers couldn't properly label their own anatomy by the time they were 18. In an ideal education system, understanding the health of your body/ organs/nutrition/fitness/sexual safety/etc... is fundamental to setting up students to make informed choices after school. I would also add mental health education to this list! Almost all of my peers in HS were depressed. Several were suicidal. Without access to mental health education and resources (without the fear of being institutionalized), many of my days in High school were spent playing therapist for my friends expressing dark thoughts, managing their emotions and making tough calls to prevent worst case scenarios as a child. This is too much. We should improve it.</p> <p>Gym- The presidential physical fitness test should not be used for grading. Furthermore, effort should be put into making this class less shameful feeling, rather promoting the joy of moving your body and maintaining personal health. Maybe give students options for their physical fitness class - sport, solo work outs, dance, etc...</p> <p>Another section I would like to discuss is giving students more freedom throughout the day or opportunities to grow that Nah not fit the mold. The American education system is incredibly regimented. Timed periods, required classes, lack of ability to define your own time. I think uniformity doesn't help many students. I think adding options for students to customize their learning space, get involved with going ons of the school, and have autonomy to go to the rest room on their own would be great to help build confidence.</p> <p>My final item is Inclusion/Accommodation/Protections for students. I think at the end of the day school is a place where students should feel safe to learn. To do this, schools must be committed to making students of all backgrounds welcome. Schools shouldn't have discriminatory dress codes regarding cultural hair styles or focusing on one gender in particular to apply rules to. Schools should provide safety or LGBTQ+ students who are at risk. One thing my school did well was allow trans and non-binary students to change for gym in the nurses office bathroom. This allowed students afraid of harassment, assault, bullying and experience extreme dysphoria an alternative to make their learning</p>

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					<p>experience equitable. What's most important is that students have opportunity to learn and grow without having to contend with hatred sent their way for existing as they are.</p> <p>Thank you for reading my thoughts! I am incredibly happy to be moving to NC.I hope my kids can learn in a better education system than the one I grew up in. :)</p>
05/06/2022 09:39 AM	Elizabeth Lineberry	1409 Wigmore Court, Raleigh, NC 27615	Wake	lizzy@lineberrymarketing.com	<p>Inclusive education for all disabled students - ratio of 10 typical kids with 5 IEP kids per class.</p> <p>Money for each child can follow the child if the parent chooses a private school, the money allocated to that child can be used for their education at the school of their choice.</p> <p>Itinerant services for elementary, middle and high school. IEP should be able to be implemented at private schools by itinerant service providers.</p>
05/07/2022 12:55 PM	Ms Tricia Bordman	111 Glenmore Rd, Cary, NC 27519	Wake	Tghbordman@gmail.com	<p>Classical education; A Thomas Jefferson Education; rote memorization; I would probably include Latin. Reading classical literature not the NYT best sellers. Read, read, read. Mandatory Geography, I'd go as far as learning to draw the world. Diagraming sentences. Knowing sentence structure. My senior has been through high school in Wake County and can't write an essay.</p> <p>The bar needs to be set higher. Aim for excellence not mediocre.</p> <p>Notgrass History is great. The Well Trained Mind is an excellent resource. The Fallacy Detective should be required reading. Teaching kids how to critically think.</p>
05/07/2022 02:19 PM	Fully funded system Emily Jividen	10804 Wilmore Drive, Raleigh, NC 27614	Wake	emily.jividen@gmail.com	<p>If we had to start the education system from scratch, then I would like to have a public education system where every school had sound facilities. Every teacher would be paid a competitive salary, and every post would be filled by a qualified professional. Every school would have the counselors, nurses, and support staff it needed. Class sizes would be reasonable at all grade levels. Curriculum would be informed by developmental psychology and educator experience instead of political posturing. Standardized testing would be infrequent and low stakes.</p> <p>And anyone who didn't want to opt in to public education would still be welcome to educate their child in private schools or home school as long as it was at the parents own expense.</p>
05/07/2022 02:23 PM	Mrs Brandy Sullivan	5205 Greymoss Ln, Apex, NC 27539		brandy_garcia@hotmail.com	<p>Hello! My name is Brandy Sullivan, I am a resident in Apex North Carolina. I am a proud parent of three children attending two different elementary schools in Waite County. My children are currently learning and excelling with the current Waite County public school system in place. I am strongly opposed to any new opposition or changes proposed to the current system. I support</p>

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					<p>the Leandro plan! And request the Leandro plan be implemented and funded as soon as possible!</p> <p>I am sincerely confused by this proposal and panel currently underway. I find this movement a direct attack against public education. It does not inspire confidence at all! This initiative is wasting taxpayer money, wasting time and creating confusion unnecessarily.</p>
05/07/2022 02:44 PM	Dr. Susan Parker	4100 Tangle Lane, Winston Salem, NC 27106	Forsyth	separker02@gmail.com	<p>One that pays educators a living wage so that most do not need second jobs, including extra pay for masters, longevity pay, insurance while working and in retirement.</p> <p>Stop the ridiculous testing of students, the results of which the current teacher can never benefit from. If we want to test students to see the help they need, do it once at the beginning of the year and then give the details to the educators to use.</p> <p>Stop trying to kill public education by giving more and more resources to charters. These schools can and do limit special needs students, and taxpayer monies should go to being sure any and all students can access free education.</p> <p>In other words, take NC back to when the nation knew it as a good school for education...before the 2010 GOP takeover.</p>
05/07/2022 02:53 PM	Mrs. Lisa Johnson	NC	Wake	lisajohnson1@gmail.com	<p>"If today there was no education system in North Carolina, and we were charged with establishing one, what would you like to see in a new education system, or not see in a new education system?"</p> <p>1. My first suggestion would be for the money to follow each child. This is especially important when schools are unable to meet or even appropriately assess the needs of the child. This is critical.</p> <p>Here are some other thoughts/ recommendations:</p> <p>2. Every child should receive a needs assessment upon school entry. Based on their needs, each child will receive an individualized plan. Parents should be a part of this planning process. Re-evaluation of needs and goals should occur frequently. Perhaps each child should be placed with an educational specialist team based on those needs. Many children will have similar needs, but there will be some children who will be outliers and those needs should be addressed appropriately.</p> <p>3. Extreme outlier students should be considered a special interest case as they will likely have the most atypical educational pathway.</p> <p>4. Raise educational expectations across the board. Get back to classical education that includes lots of reading and writing. Make literature and history as engaging as possible. But most definitely,</p>

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					<p>make sure all students can read, write, and are mathematically literate. Literacy is equity.</p> <p>5. Age and grade level are not an appropriate determination of readiness for a particular subject. They are mostly arbitrary and while many children demonstrate similar readiness levels in similar subjects, it should be recognized that all children learn at different rates, some decode or comprehend topics more rapidly or slowly than same age mates. Children should be grouped by ability as much as possible.</p> <p>6. Hybrid schooling should be allowed in each LEA as determined by the team (including the family) based on the needs of the student.</p> <p>7. Students' needs should be supported during school hours, they should not have to seek enrichment because of the failure of the school to meet their needs appropriately. Students should not have to complete double work due to having to complete inappropriate level school work and appropriate level enrichment work. Schools should be willing to pay for and swap out more challenging, rigorous, or compacted curriculum, such as Art of Problem Solving (AoPS), IMACS, or JHU-CTY courses. There should be subject matter experts available from elementary school to support these kids.</p> <p>8. Put kids together in classes based on ability. Grouping by ability is helpful developmentally and socially.</p> <p>9. Get rid of policies that are prohibitive to acceleration or deceleration. Asynchronous learning and development is a real need. Allow students to accelerate easily. If school has generally been approximately 13 years, then allow families to have the ability to keep their child in the school system up to 13 years by meeting their needs even with much dual enrollment and/ or vocational training until the team (including parents) feels it is appropriate to graduate to either a residential college program or job apprenticeship program.</p> <p>10. Make teachers subject matter experts as part of certification..</p> <p>11. Require all teachers to receive Orton-Gillingham training as part of certification in NC.</p> <p>12. All gifted education specialists must have training in highly gifted and twice-exceptional students as well as the intensities and overexcitabilities of gifted students.</p> <p>13. Talent excavation, identification, and support should be a regular part of assessment and student support. This is for the natural composers/musicians, singers, artists, computer coders, those that can learn foreign languages easily, writers, actors, etc... Talent support and nurturing at school can foster, mentor, inspire, steer children towards potential career interests and vocational training and resources.</p> <p>As students get older, perhaps there could be schools or programs</p>

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					<p>where students' with similar academic, artistic, and/or musical talents can be grouped together if desired.</p> <p>14. Perhaps sports should be a partnership with and a function of the Public recreation departments and facilities. Schools could help with transportation to these facilities. School does, however, need to work on including a physical education or strength training program.</p> <p>15. Students should have financial education as part of their education program.</p> <p>16. Foreign language opportunities including American Sign Language should be an option for students from elementary school. Many countries have multilingual children, America is very weak in this area.</p> <p>17. DPI may need to be greatly reduced or dismantled. Let the money that pays them go back to the LEAs to pay for programs, supplies, and teachers. Each LEA should control their schools locally. Too many people have been working for the state for too long with job security and no accountability to the children. If positions are to remain, the job security should be based on the success of the children. As it stands now, It appears that the state employees and directors at DPI support the districts and the districts support the state and the LEAs, no one currently is accountable to the families. The state and federal government's involvement makes schools and unions very political.</p> <p>18. School choice must be available and again, the money should follow that child. This includes homeschooled children. The ultimate responsibility of education should remain with each family based on their family's philosophy and beliefs. This responsibility should fall on the family to remove politics from the equation as much as possible.</p> <p>19. Look into how Louisiana transformed their school systems after Katrina. Most schools became charter schools and a return of schools to neighborhoods. Parent/ stakeholder involvement is higher especially from volunteer fathers who help model behavior and mentor students as well as temper behavior issues in schools.</p> <p>20. Another option would be the development of co-learning centers for families by non-profit organizations with a mission to serve children. Families could select curriculum and clubs, arts, music, etc could be brought in during and after school.</p> <p>21. Let students dual enroll as soon as they are academically ready and can manage the course work. Educational teams can work with families to facilitate this either in person or online, one class or many, academic or career technical education, etc.</p> <p>22. Every child regardless of their school situation should be guaranteed a seat for SAT, ACT, PSAT, CLT, CLEP, or AP testing if and when they request it. If a student requests to CDM or SSA, they should be allowed to at any point.</p>

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05/07/2022 02:56 PM	Mrs Collins Julie	421 Acorn Falls Ct, Holly Springs, NC 27540	Wake	juliecollins5@yahoo.com	I would like to see a fully funded education system. One that hires enough support staff for children with special needs to be fully and successfully included in regular education classes. One that gives annual pay increases to staff. One that pays a masters degree differential. One that pays longevity bonuses for those that stay. One that supports veteran teachers. One that doesn't freeze our salaries for year after year.
05/07/2022 03:03 PM	Ms. Kathryn Austin	3405 Morris Farm Dr, Jamestown, NC 27282		kea_421@hotmail.com	I would like to see a focus on social learning and mental health as well as academic learning. I want learning to be joyous and exciting, instead of mind-numbing and boring. I want a focus on understanding and applying concepts, not teaching to tests. I want to have more counselors and less police on campus. I would like to see students of all ages move their bodies and go outside more often because it is good for both their physical AND mental well-being. I want to stop pushing kids to learn things before their brains are ready (example: expecting kids to be able to write before they even start Kindergarten). I want to follow the science, and stop loading children with homework and busy work. I want a focus on improvement, not grades. I want accurate and full histories taught, not censored or biased. I want a focus on equity. I want excessive funding, so that schools have more supplies than they know what to do with. I want teachers and staff to be paid like the super important people they are - as if our futures depend on their well-being (because they do). I want less punishment of behavior, and more resources and skills taught for changing problematic behavior. I want healthy food options provided for all. I want all children and teachers, regardless of race, class, gender, or sexual-orientation, to be safe, loved, accepted, and supported. I want private schools and charters to stop sucking funding from public schools. In fact, since this is my dream for NC education, get rid of them, entirely. I want free pre-k for all, and free after-school care for working parents.
05/07/2022 03:58 PM	K Kidd	785 S Sandy Hook Rd, Shawboro, NC 27973	Camden	rkidd62@gmail.com	<p>Needed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grade level standards that are developmentally appropriate 2. Well funded schools that are provided multiple resources (tech, texts, manipulatives, supplies, Nurses, Counselors) 3. Well funded schools that can pay our educational professionals and provide benefits. Pay should be commensurate with educational level achieved and experience. 4. Preschool programs/After school programs funded 5. Free lunches/breakfast for all students 6. Quality phonics program implemented for our beginning readers 7. Quality math program that spirals through grade levels 8. Reduced testing, especially at the elementary level - third grade testing is ridiculous 9. Public relations program to help the public understand the

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05/07/2022 06:26 PM	Joy and equity for educat Megan Candelario	4007 Eight Belles Lane 1a, Greensboro, Nc 27410	Guilford	Thecandelarios@gmail.com	importance of education I would love a school that focused on age appropriate subjects based on scientific evidence. I am disappointed that current education seems based on testing results and a one size good all approach. I think education should be exciting and hands on with more experience and less lecture. Lessen the focus on writing. Teachers should be able to follow their pupils interests. Growth should be shown with dynamic assessment and will not look the same for all students. We should have more support personnel and more psychologists vs police.
05/07/2022 06:43 PM	Ms. Janice Gilreath	1227 Waterstone Park Circle, Hillsborough, NC 27278		jlgilreath716@gmail.com	I would like to see strong vibrant PUBLIC education system where teachers are empowered to do what they do best, educate young people with compassion and care for every student. Where decisions about education are made with authentic input from the professionals who are in the classroom everyday. Where poverty is seen as the obstacle it is to learning and sincere efforts are made by the NCGA and local communities to end it and until it is ended, where schools are fully funded according to the Leandro decision without debate or delay. Where access to affordable healthcare for our children is treated as a right. Where there is a nurse, social worker and psychologist in every school. Where educator pay is commensurate with our education level and experience. Where all professionals involved in the education of our children are treated with the respect they deserve and not denigrated with frivolous accusations of "grooming" and indoctrination. Where teachers and students have access to all the tools they need to function in a technology-laden society. Where every student is cherished and valued, regardless of race, ethnicity or gender identity.
05/07/2022 07:13 PM	Nicole Rowley	8005 Helison Ct, Stokesdale, NC 27357	Guilford	nrowley728@gmail.com	I would like to see a focus on social learning and mental health as well as academic learning. I want learning to be joyous and exciting, instead of mind-numbing and boring. I want a focus on understanding and applying concepts, not teaching to tests. I want to have more counselors and less police on campus. I would like to see students of all ages move their bodies and go outside more often because it is good for both their physical AND mental well-being. I want to stop pushing kids to learn things before their brains are ready (example: expecting kids to be able to write before they even start Kindergarten). I want to follow the science, and stop loading children with homework and busy work. I want a focus on improvement, not grades. I want accurate and full histories taught, not censored or biased. I want a focus on equity. I want excessive funding, so that schools have more supplies than they know what to do with. I want teachers and staff to be paid like the super important people they are - as if our futures depend on their well-being (because they do). I want less punishment of behavior, and more resources and skills taught for changing

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05/07/2022 07:57 PM	Ms Kara L Gensor	1421 E STONEMASON DR, FUQUAY VARINA, NC 27526	Wake	kara.gensor@outlook.com	<p>problematic behavior. I want healthy food options provided for all. I want all children and teachers, regardless of race, class, gender, or sexual-orientation, to be safe, loved, accepted, and supported. I want private schools and charters to stop sucking funding from public schools. In fact, since this is my dream for NC education, get rid of them, entirely. I want free pre-k for all, and free after-school care for working parents.</p> <p>I would like to see a NC school system that was funded equitably by state funds and not district so that children in rural and/or poorer districts would not suffer because their districts had less of a tax base.</p> <p>Schools would be funded properly so that class sizes for all grades were reduced back to what they were before 2013 or smaller; they used to be 26 with an allowance of 3 additional students. There would be enough TAs (or IAs) so that all elementary classes, including specials, had at least one. At the middle school level and high school level, there would be TAs in any non-special education class that had more than 25% of its students with IEPs. Special education classes would have more than 1 TA, depending upon the needs of the students. Students who needed one-on-one services with be able to easily receive them. Textbooks would be purchased for any subject every 7 to 10 years, or as needed. The curriculum at the elementary and middle school level would be more age-appropriate with less emphasis on recalling content and more emphasis on critical thinking skills. For the elementary and middle school levels, daily recess and PE would be mandatory. Health education including: mental health; age-appropriate comprehensive sex education that focused on a myriad of topics, but not limited to, understanding of proper terminology, heterosexual and homosexual activity, sexual assault, STDs, and birth control; personal hygiene, diseases, and nutrition. Throughout their schooling, students would also be taught basic firearm safety and the proper steps for firearm safety, as age appropriate.</p> <p>High school education would allow students to graduate at 16 with a fewer amount of credits if students did not want to attend four year college but wanted to enter a trade or the work force. They could still attend a college after completing two years at a community college. Or they could stay in high school and continue on a college track. High school would offer more skilled trade classes and mandatory life skills classes in things basic finance (mortgages, paying taxes, interest rates,) cooking, housekeeping, car maintenance, and some basic home improvement skills.</p> <p>Teachers would be paid a highly competitive salary, would receive an increase in salary every year, there would be an annual cost of living adjustments, and advanced degrees would be rewarded. Teachers would be evaluated on completing their responsibilities</p>

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					<p>such as grading, lesson planning, communication, attending meetings, and developing relationships with co-workers, students, and parents. Test scores would not be a part of the teacher's evaluation but would serve to provide information about the school, the district, or subgroups.</p> <p>Schools would serve as a community center so that a practicing nurse or nurse practitioner was available for providing medical care to students on site at no cost to parents. (Parents could opt out.) There would also be a doctor, eye doctor, and dentist who could offer care who would be paid through insurance or Medicaid. Schools would offer reduced or free daycare for the children of the staff members and students and then to the public. Students interested in childcare education could work in the daycare. A foodbank and community garden would be at each school. Students (and parents of students) could access the showers and laundry facilities if needed. Schools would be retrofitted to be more energy efficient with energy saving lightbulbs, sinks, and toilets. Solar panels would be installed on each school to provide the schools with electricity and/or feed it back to the grid. Organic waste, such as paper towels and food waste, would be hauled away to a commercial composter or composted on site.</p>
05/07/2022 08:27 PM	Mrs Sarah Preusse	442 Summer Ranch Drive , Fuquay Varina, NC 27526	Wake	dragonlady980@gmail.com	<p>I want to see an education system that promotes a full encompassing of historical events, not white washing of history. I want to see children not subjected to endless amounts of unnecessary and stress-inducing standardized testing/ benchmarks.</p> <p>I want to see an education system that has a zero tolerance policy of bullying in all forms and levels- without school districts having the ability to sweep it under the rug so to speak.</p> <p>I want an education system that is fully funded, and pays its teachers and staff a living wage for their hard work. Build new schools to address the growing population of the state. I'm also recommending researching highly successful schools and learning their methodologies.</p>
05/07/2022 08:49 PM	Mrs Rebecca Lucas	1036 ivy lane, Cary, Nc 27511	Wake	Becca.anne.lucas@gmail.com	Less use of/ reliance on chromebooks/devices and youtube/ videos in elementary school.
05/07/2022 08:55 PM	Rosalyn Marhatta	1810 Glenoaks Dr, Greensboro , NC 27407	Guilford	rmarhatta@yahoo.com	<p>Real history not sanitized history but warts and all. Social Justice and understanding of personal biases and how we can work towards lifting people up. Teach acceptance of all people including gay, trans, people of color. Teach the ugly truth about slavery. Teach women's struggle for their rights and how to stand up for those rights. Teach what fascism looks like. Our democracy is flailing.</p> <p>Do not ban any books. Revere libraries and teachers. Respect our</p>

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05/07/2022 09:11 PM	Mrs. Lynn Georgiady	35 Scuppernong Lane, Lillington, NC 27546		lynngeorgiady@embarqmail.com	educators. They know more than a lot of parents. As a teacher for well over 30 years and still working, I would like to see teachers who are actively working in classrooms, to be included in every state, local, government decisions that have to be made regarding children and teachers and curriculum in education in the state of N.C. Teachers are the experts that have spent time teaching, that have attended and earned Bachelors, Masters, and Doctorate degrees in this profession and who have licenses in various specialties, in many cases, and who have the specialized education to bring to light the important facts and knowledge to the decisions that must be made.
05/07/2022 09:35 PM	Ms Weiss Evangeline	1608 Fox Hollow Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410		evangelineweiss@gmail.com	I would want smaller classroom sizes, better salaries for teachers and a curriculum that is experiential, child focused and emphasizes the arts and sciences. We need teachers to be trained to work with a diverse student body. We need schools that can welcome LGBTQ families and students, that recognize the needs of all students.
05/08/2022 12:41 AM					Leave religion out of schools! Teach sex education! Disallow the banning of books! Teach students life skills they need to know.
05/08/2022 08:22 AM	Beth Anderson	129 Fairway Drive, Black Mountain, NC 28711	Buncombe		A system that is fully funded by our state leaders to accomplish the goals that the professional educators set. Educators should be respected and take the lead.
05/08/2022 08:23 AM	Christie Eakins	5425 Carolyn Drive , Wilmington , NC 28409	New Hanover	eakinsc57@gmail.com	I would like to see a school system where teachers are trained in the science of reading. It would be great if all children were taught to read before 3rd grade. Before they are humiliated by the 3rd grade EOGs. I would like a school system where teachers know what dyslexia is and understand how these children learn. If you are interested in improving the literacy rate in NC and improving the education system as a whole, I would encourage you and the other to learn more about dyslexia. These intelligent children are falling through the cracks. https://improvingliteracy.org/brief/definingdyslexia
05/08/2022 08:41 AM	Danielle Lewis	1024 Woodyhill Ln, Sanford, NC 27330	Lee	danielleklewis75@gmail.com	Students learning the essentials in all curricular fields including REAL and TRUE history of all people- no whitewashing. Students learning in a problem based learning style rather than sitting in desks being delivered pre-packaged rote curriculum. Smaller class sizes, larger numbers of staff to support student learning and SEL needs. Teacher developed curriculum- trust teachers! We are the professionals and we know what our students need to be successful.

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					<p>Pay teachers and all school staff comparable salaries to other professionals with similar degrees. Teacher pay is abysmal in NC!!!</p> <p>Stop robbing public education funds to further privatization.</p> <p>FUND LEANDRO!</p>
05/08/2022 09:01 AM	The Reverend Seminarian Kirsten Beth Starr	2409 Girvan Dr, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526	Wake	lamkirstenbeth@gmail.com	I would like a public school system where qualified librarians curate the library books, where qualified teachers develop the curriculum, where the board of education isn't whom to political fervor, where partisan politics and witch hunts are long distant memories of a broke past. A public school where religion and prayer are rightly kept separate, where experts are listened to and adhered to, and where the teachers are paid mine they professionals that they are.
05/08/2022 09:38 AM	Proper funding matters. Greer Suggs	205 Kendall Dr, Clayton, NC 27520	Johnston	greertimothy@embarqmail.com	I would like a public school system where qualified teachers develop curriculum and instruct students according to our established state standards without the fear of political intruders misleading the public and vilifying us for doing exactly what we are supposed to be doing. I want my children and other NC students to learn real history, not a pretty version of someone's personal views. I want an educational system where the board of education isn't beholden to political fervor, where partisan politics and witch hunts are long distant memories of a broken past. I want a public school where religion and prayer are rightly kept separate, just as our US Constitution requires. An ideal educational system is one where education experts are listened to and adhered to, and where the teachers are paid like they professionals that they are. Finally, I want an education system where public schools are true public schools. Public dollars should support public schools, not a voucher scheme that supports religious instruction (remember-separation of church and state) or for-profit "education" where students learn all-to-late that they have received a partial education from unqualified "teachers."
05/08/2022 01:50 PM	Mrs. Kasie Mahan	4102 Cascade Dr , Greensboro, NC 27410	Guilford	Kasiemahan@gmail.com	Black children performing as well as white children. History taught accurately and not just from a white male point of view. Teachers paid what they are worth (More than they are paid now). A system where our kids are taught equitably and not categorized by standardized tests.
05/08/2022 03:29 PM	Ms Angela Traxler	828 Lake Dr, Kernersville, NC 27284	Forsyth	atrax1977@yahoo.com	Honest history instead of the white washed history that is being encouraged these days. Daily living skills
05/08/2022 05:40 PM	Mrs Amber Wansley	248 Grant Rd , Statesville , NC 28625	Iredell	amberwansley1977@gmail.com	To help education then students need to be tested less and held accountable more. They should have to pass to pass and parents should work together not against the schools to help every child to

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					succeed. Our goal should be for every child to receive the education they deserve with meaningful lessons and not all the testing all the time. No scripted programs. We should trust our teachers and pay them what they are worth. We want to see a change for the positive for our kids.
05/08/2022 06:33 PM	tMs. Linda Welborn	4903 warfield dr, greensboro, NC 27406		kbwelborn2@triad.rr.com	The National Education System has become a powerful political machine and has lost focus on the true purpose which is educating students to their highest academic potential. Giving a child a sound education is their ticket to success. Our Nation has failed our students, only one third of the nation's 8th graders are proficient in math and reading. Enormous amounts of money have been poured into the system and the results are dismal. The more we fail the more we lower expectations to the point now there are those in education ranks promoting doing away with any type of grading system or accountability. Colleges are lowering standards because the k-12 system is delivering fewer and fewer students with a sound academic foundation. Success lies within the student and students will meet the level of expectation behaviorally and academically. Key to success is making them believe in themselves in k-5. Expose them to a multitude of careers and just maybe that young mind will lock into a future goal. Expand on what it will take to make that career goal a reality, good grades, good behavior and years of study. Put those positive influencers in their path to encourage them along the way. Show them how their lives will be enriched. However, be real with them that it takes hard work, perseverance because there will be failures and obstacles they will have to overcome. We need to empower students. If we don't have them on a successful academic trajectory by 5th grade, the challenge has now become a mountain. Now is not the time to throw in other distractors, Critical Race theory is demoralizing to every demographic.
05/08/2022 09:59 PM	Miss Jackie Wheeland	1340 Ephesus Church Rd. 4, Chapel Hill, NC 27517	Orange	gjoir@aim.com	To the Honorable Representative John Torbett, I think the children should have the opportunity to go to a Bible class while at school-if we truly are a free country based on Judeo-Christian values. This would be a way to have a moral guide. I think having volunteers and grandparents in the schools would be helpful. The school day is too long. Other countries have shorter days and better outcomes. If the schools had shorter days-behavior would be more manageable-as the students would not be as tired. It would be nice if moms could afford to be stay-at-home moms and be able to help at the schools. There should be censorship of any material that a student can look at. As a teacher, I do not give out the Scholastic pamphlets anymore, as some of the choices are inappropriate and anything that comes out of my classroom should be assumed that I checked that it was appropriate and some wholesome value. Thank you for asking for our feedback.

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					May God bless you and yours. Peace, Jackie
05/08/2022 11:39 PM	Mrs. Lauren Walker	NC 28043	Rutherford	LWalk33@yahoo.com	I'm not sure at what point our education transitioned from teaching students HOW to think to teaching them WHAT to think, but that would be the first place I would start. We need to encourage our students to ask questions about everything they learn, communicate effectively, and become problem solvers once again. Educators have become so accustomed to preparing students for tests and checking boxes that curiosity has been numbed. Students are constantly behind a screen rather than having real world, memorable interactions. Rather than looking at circuits on a school assigned tablet, let's build one. Let's see what happens if we change this variable or that. Are we preparing our older students for the real world? Finance, budget, how to fill out a lease, balance a bank account, understanding credit? What about trade skills? Old fashioned life skills? On the flip side of the age spectrum, why are our kindergarteners considered remedial if they aren't reading half way through kindergarten when the developmental cognitive age of reading is K-2nd grade? So much can be learned through play in the younger grades, but yet we are choosing worksheets. Bring back the read aloud with student interaction (teacher led questioning...."What do you think will happen next?"). We are failing an entire generation of students that have no idea how to think for themselves because we haven't taught them to ask questions.
05/09/2022 05:09 AM	Mr. Edward Keohohou	602 Fairmont St Apt E, Greensboro, NC 27401	Guilford	edwardkeohohou@gmail.com	Let's what you got to bring to the table. And I'll bring the side dish.
05/09/2022 06:31 AM	Public Education in NC Aubrey DiOrio	111 Arrow Head Way, Cary, NC 27513	Wake	aubreydiorio@gmail.com	To be clear, the first thing the NCGA needs to do is fully fund the system we have in place. It's not broken, it's underfunded. Then we need to fund the Leandro decision as a roadmap to ensure all students across this state are receiving a sound basic public education. Our schools need curriculums that teach critical thinking, supports for our students' SEL, a nurse in every school, a social worker in ever school, more counselors, we need to increase the number of instructional assistants in schools, and pay teachers a competitive living wage. We need to make education a career field our young people want to enter.
05/09/2022 07:00 AM	Mr Greg Lovelace	896 Bostic Sunshine Highway, Bostic, NC 28018	Rutherford	glovelace@swofford.k12.sc.us	<p>To: Representative John Torbett, Chairman</p> <p>From: Greg Lovelace Rutherford County Commissioner</p> <p>I deeply appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts with you. I only wish my schedule allowed for me to do so in person. I want you to have my background first. I started teaching in</p>

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					<p>Rutherford County in 1984 and retired in 2014. Most of my career was spent as a principal in middle and high school. In 2012 I was elected as a Republican County Commissioner and am currently in my third term. Upon retirement, I began serving as principal of a middle school in Spartanburg District 2 and 4 years ago I was blessed to be named the Director of Swofford Career Center. The scope of most of these comments relate to my time at Swofford. As a commissioner I understand the importance of a prepared labor force to attract new industry or to grow existing ones. It is my passionate belief that the South Carolina model for the delivery of Career and Technical Education meets the needs of employers much better than what we currently do in North Carolina. I would like to hit a few highlights of what we do at Swofford, and how we are an integral part of local businesses.</p> <p>We serve students grades 10-12 from 4 high schools across 2 school districts. Students are double blocked so we have them for half of the day. We offer Culinary Arts, Graphic Communications, Digital Photography, Engineering, Cybersecurity, Networking, Multimedia Technology, Cosmetology, CNA, Electricity, Building and Construction, Welding, Protective Services (Fire and Police), Auto Body, Auto Mechanical Technology, Machine Tool, and Horticulture. We are adding Introduction to Teaching next school year.</p> <p>This setup allows the districts to offer expanded services rather than duplication of effort at multiple schools within the district. It also allows a wider range of programs to be offered. A large number of certifications are earned each semester.</p> <p>The secret to the success, however, lies in the relationship with businesses each program has. Each program is required to have an Advisory Group, made up of practicing professionals from the program field. Our advisory groups drive instruction based on the current needs of the businesses. As technology changes in the field, we make the same changes, ensuring qualified workers are coming out of each program. As part of these relationships, we also partner with the South Carolina Department of Commerce regularly.</p> <p>At present, we have over 120 business partnerships. Not a month goes by that either I or my Job Placement Coordinator do not receive a call from a business wanting workers. Just last week, the business that does all clothing for Bass Pro Shops and Cabelas contacted someone at Swofford needing students from Graphics. As part of the program at Swofford, we have a large number of students participate in Co-Op or Work Based Learning. As students become proficient in their chosen program, we place these students in local businesses as paid employees. Rather than coming to Swofford for the afternoon class, they report to their business and work half a day or more. Currently we have 64</p>

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					<p>students participating this semester. More often than not, these students either become full time employees upon graduation or continue to work for these companies remotely while in college. In some cases, the business pays for their college as part of an agreement that the student returns to work for them.</p> <p>We follow up with each student one year after graduation to determine what they are doing. This spring we found that 96% of our students from the class of 2021 are either working in their chosen job field, in college, or in the military. I think these numbers speak for themselves.</p> <p>I would be honored to host a group of representatives this fall to tour our facility and talk with our students and faculty. I have done these with my fellow commissioners and representatives from both the school system and community college.</p> <p>What we are doing here needs to be duplicated in North Carolina. I see tremendous benefits if that happened, especially for Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties. I will be happy to do what is necessary to assist in this dream becoming a reality.</p> <p>Sincerely, Greg Lovelace Rutherford County Commissioner Swofford Career Center Director</p>
05/09/2022 07:05 AM	Ms. Rebecca Showalter	921 Walkertown Dr, Raleigh, NC 27614	Wake	jbshow@bellsouth.net	<p>As a parent, I have spent the last 16 years with children in the public school system. I have seen firsthand the resources dwindle and our dedicated educators work harder and harder with less and less. Our children deserve better; our educators deserve better. I feel strongly that the Leandro Decision needs to be fully funded, and I ask that the legislature do this immediately.</p> <p>Public schools are the greatest equalizer for young people. An education is what feeds the American Dream. I continue to be concerned about the state of North Carolina's public education - one that used to be the pride of the South - not just because of insufficient funding but also because of the added lack of transparency and equity that is being spurred on by rapid charter school growth. Charter schools are starving public schools of funds, they have so little oversight, they don't have the same standards as are required for public schools, and the practical result of charters is that they are resegregating our schools. They need to be limited.</p> <p>So number one - I want to see the school system truly funded so the needs of all students are met. Leandro has said we are not, so why have we not changed that?? Number two - there should be one public school system, Not two - not "separate but equal". Do away with charter schools, or find different funding for them.</p>

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					Thank you for your time.
05/09/2022 08:00 AM	Heather J	Murray St, Greensboro, Nc 27406	Guilford	Hphodjunk@gmail.com	Money. I would like to see money for a new education system. Well paid teachers, updated facilities. That would be really great.
05/09/2022 08:17 AM	Mrs. Francine Polovick	5226 Marina Club Drive, Wilmington, NC 28409	New Hanover	jenel7680@gmail.com	I would like a return to basic skills and patriotic values: reading, writing, arithmetic, NC state history, US history (focus on exceptionalism), and Civics (how government is structured -- study of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence in order to understand the principles & values of our Nation). A de-emphasis on "globalization", by which I mean "world history" being presented as "all countries are basically equal in importance and influence". As for math: I think common core math is a failure. With the teaching of math in the 1940s and 1950s the USA was able to put a man on the moon and explore deep space -- why did we ever change the methodology of teaching math to a method that is unintelligible to the majority of the population? Parents cannot even understand the lessons being presented to their children! I would also advocate to a strictly biology-based sex/health education program -- if a sex education program was really deemed necessary. What I mean by "biology-based" means the teaching of what a man's body is, what a woman's body is, how they complement each other, how reproduction happens, the development of a child in the uterus, the health results of pregnancy on a woman, abortion as a medical procedure, the health repercussions of sexual diseases (gonorrhea, syphilis, etc.).
05/09/2022 10:42 AM	John Posthill	1913 S. NC-119, Mebane, NC 27302	Alamance	posthillfamily@yahoo.com	<p>Dear Rep. Torbett,</p> <p>At this point, the old education system appears close to a "beyond repair" status. You will hear all the reasons why from others, so no need to repeat here. A massively-fixed or new educational system must have these features to be successful:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As much funding done locally as possible. The people who pay for it must be the ones in control. 2. If any funding comes from the federal or state governments, it must come with one, and only one mandate: that any money be used to supplement for education in the basic fields (the three R's are a good start) but all controversial subjects must be eliminated from our schools. These expenditures must be accounted for in detail to these external funding sources and the public so everyone can see what is happening. 3. The state must further criminalize teachers and staff for doing anything else but educate or support the educational mission. If they see a problem or irregularity with a child, their only action is to report it to their boss and that person must refer that issue to the

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					<p>parents and any other appropriate authorities. In no case, are parents not informed, never.</p> <p>4. Any parent who is eligible to enroll a child in a school district, can, at the start of the school year elect to instead receive a monthly payment (money, not a voucher) that totals the actual, fully loaded cost to educate a child. This per child cost will have a simple calculation that looks something like: Total budget of the school district divided by number of children enrolled in the school district. I understand this this may need to be modified somewhat but you get the idea. Parents can then agree to take responsibility for educating their child as they see fit -- the money is issued without further strings or obligations on the parents. The money must be able to follow the child at the discretion of the parents.</p> <p>Without these types of changes, I think you will be wasting your time. Band-aids are not going to work anymore.</p> <p>Best wishes, John Posthill Mebane, NC</p>
05/09/2022 10:49 AM	Chris Roman	504 Silver Fox Circle, Hillsborough, NC 27278	Orange	patromboy26@gmail.com	<p>Our School board and our district administration here in Orange County has gone full bore with their equity Activism. They have gone tone deaf to parents. They move meeting times and change rules of meetings. they limit the time for you to make public and or post public comments. They have used the Sherriff's office to intimidate parents. They have colluded in their votes and enforced unnecessary mandates to our children. They are bullying teachers be compliant with their Equity activism to the point of the schools losing quality teachers. They have spent 1mm+ on Equity with zero benefit to our childrens' education. The grades of our children are going down because of a watered down education if you can call it that. The district is supported by a corrupt DPI that has backed them up on this Equity activism with intrusive surveys and promotion of transgender fluidity. We are held hostage with no recourse and our schools have become Intuitional. we need to level the field by changing how our tax dollars are spent. Instead of funding the districts we should be funding the child. That way they will have no other choice but to listen to parents.</p>
05/09/2022 11:36 AM	Mrs Lynne Taylor	126 W Park Ave, Mooresville, NC 28115	Iredell	mooregrits@gmail.com	<p>Hi, my name is Lynne M Taylor. I live in NC, and have since 1999. Across the nation, I am also known as an education researcher, very vocal in standing against the current 'status quo' system NC has embraced.</p> <p>So, the question about (seeking comments) asked what if we were to 'start over' with education in NC.</p> <p>Based on my extensive research and years of warning NC (and the nation) about the dangers our system is in, here are my expert</p>

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					<p>suggestions.</p> <p>I have several documents I can provide to back up every statement below.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>1) Remove ALL traces of federal funding, especially as handed out via ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), the CARES Act, The American Rescue Plan AND the other funding streams from DC for ALL STEM (STEAM and STREAM) dollars; CTE funds; HHS funds which attach Medicare and Medicaid to education.</p> <p>2) Remove ALL traces of the draconian data tracking, especially the NC Common Follow Up number system. Education is NOT about stalking students' lives from cradle to grave to slot them into jobs. Education is supposed to impart knowledge, not prepare citizens for jobs to fill the NC Chamber of Commerce's agenda that economics is more important than knowledge. These data tracking system violate federal and state laws, as well as violate EVERY Civil Right to privacy we have!</p> <p>3) Stop using schools as hubs for family health care. That's what doctors offices are for. The amount of profit connected to the overreaches into healthcare in the name of 'student success' mean billions for those who can care less about people and care everything for lining their pockets.</p> <p>Our entire nation is convinced (aka manipulated) daily on how schools and all their public/private partnerships (which is not American, but fascist) how 'education' can better address the 'whole child'. The SEL or social and emotional learning is not the school's job! That is woven into the nurturing roles of a child's parents. The present SEL our NC State Leaders support is mind manipulation and is purposefully changing attitudes, values, and beliefs of entire families to fit someone else's agenda for conformity and collectivism.</p> <p>4) To start over in education for NC, you would need to remove Google, Microsoft, Dell, IBM from every aspect of their overreaches into 'education'.</p> <p>What they provide is indoctrination and massive data mining.</p> <p>5) NC also needs to divorce itself from the Common Core Machine (as I call it) efforts to rebrand Common Core (which is very much alive and still found on copyrighted educational resources and curriculum). This means ending cradle to grave partnerships for 'streamlined learning'. This means cutting off entities like the Hunt Institute or Bev Purdue's DigiLearn and countless others. These entities not only helped create our current nightmare in NC, but continue it on. Workforce readiness is NOT academic imparting of knowledge!</p> <p>6) Lastly, we would need to address the 2013 rewriting of the State Statute for home education. I was there in Raleigh, before the General Assembly when i heard WHY the statute was even on the</p>

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					<p>table: to blur the lines between public education and private! NC Representatives, this very blurring of lines separating 'choices' is precisely what Page 17 of the Every Student Succeeds Act did: mandate that ALL education had to be aligned to the same post-secondary readiness standards as laid out in the WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act)! Ladies and gentlemen: that ONE mandate wiped out all educational choices EXCEPT what the federal and State governments lay out (which is the same). Money following the child is NOT American, nor is it educational. It's a business model based of the 'pay as you go' system and is a caste system tool from former failed political regimes! Have we learned nothing in NC, expect how to conform to failed systems and pretend it's all working?</p> <p>To begin again, constitutionally, we need to ditch the 4 Cs Common Core/Career Tech Ed breeds and go BACK to BASICS. Reading (not the failed garbage NC uses now), writing (not as per College/Career Readiness), and arithmetic (certainly not the agenda laced kind used now). I'm a former private educator. I'm am avid researcher who seeks to inform anyone, in NC, or elsewhere that our dependence on an educratic system DOES NOT result in free thinkers, but controlled minions. If you truly want NC's education to be fabulous, these 6 items are simply the beginning steps of the process. I can show you how these steps and others can be put into play so we CAN education conducted in its proper manner, not the quasi-puppet controlled system we have.</p> <p>Thank you. Please feel free to contact me and I will be happy to meet and help inform you with documents and other evidence.</p>
05/09/2022 11:44 AM	Stephanie Lormand	2704 Ramsey Road, Raleigh, 27604		sjlormand@gmail.com	<p>We come from a state with a long history of attempting to side-step fully funded, fully integrated public schools. We want to talk about what public education isn't doing for children without fully funding them.</p> <p>Both my husband and I attended NC Public Schools-- my county had better funding and I received a better quality of education and it still could have been better.</p> <p>They know that the number one way out of poverty is a quality public education. At the root of all of the dogwhistling and false hysteria over reading material, the goal is to maintain an uneducated working class to serve their own financial interests.</p>
05/09/2022 11:47 AM	Renee Sekel	617 Baucom Creek Ct., Cary, NC 27519	Wake	reneeas@hotmail.com	<p>Here's what I would like to see in an education system:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our Constitution requires the State to provide for a uniform system of public schools; the courts have determined that this means the State must provide a sound basic education to every child. So, to start out, I want the state actually to start funding our public schools to a Constitutionally Adequate level; something the

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					<p>Legislature could do today by passing a bill to enact and fund the Comprehensive Leandro Plan.</p> <p>2. Every school in the State should have an adequate number of adults in the building. That means, at an absolute minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A qualified teacher in every classroom; b. A qualified principal and administrative staff in every building; c. teachers with specialized training in art, music, physical education; d. A media center specialist; e. At least one school nurse, social worker, counselor and school psychologist, plus additional of these professionals such that they meet the minimum ratios recommended by the appropriate professional associations. f. Teachers adequate to offer all high schools students the ability to fulfill at least the minimum course of study that they need to be admitted to a UNC System school. <p>3. We had, the last time I checked, nearly \$13 BILLION in unmet school construction needs statewide. I think we can all agree that NC's students deserve safe, well-maintained school buildings and that the State has not been keeping up with the massive need for school construction and maintenance, especially in counties where there simply isn't enough of a tax base to keep up with those needs. We should dedicate as much money as we can to helping our poorer and rural counties build and maintain their school buildings.</p> <p>4. Every student in NC deserves to be welcomed, as they are, into their classrooms. They deserve to see a curriculum that provides comprehensive, accurate information and that reflects the experiences and histories of all of our state's people, not just certain groups. LGBTQIA students deserve to be free from persecution or forced "outing" by school officials.</p> <p>5. Every student deserves the tools necessary to make sure that they can show up to school each day ready to learn. That means they need health care, adequate food, and their classrooms need adequate supplies and teaching materials.</p> <p>6. Our students need well-stocked school and classroom libraries, free of censorship or content-based restrictions. Our media center specialists are professionals who can and should be trusted to curate their library collections, even if each individual book is not to the liking of each individual parent. That is why book bans are inappropriate and should be rebuffed.</p>

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					<p>7. Our students with disabilities must be provided with the resources they need to learn in the least restrictive environment possible. This means lifting the arbitrary cap on funding for students with disabilities.</p> <p>8. And finally, our educators are members of our community and are dedicated professionals. We should treat them as such, providing pay competitive with other professions and providing teachers with the trust and autonomy they deserve.</p> <p>NC is a great place to live, but for too long, the members of this legislature have failed our students. This committee has a chance to make a real, positive difference, but only if it starts taking education seriously.</p>
05/09/2022 11:48 AM	Jennie Hanifan	5361 Castleford Rd, Todd, NC 28684	Watauga	jhanifan12@gmail.com	<p>Let there be zero tolerance for lack of respect for authority (language, dress code, no drugs, no smoking/vaping, no bullying, no cellular devices in school) and others (expulsion, no repeat offenders). No preferential treatment, all are created equal. Allow behavioral and academic results to determine character and success.</p> <p>Emphasize tools for learning: Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. Factual History and Science that is balanced. Classical reading that does not push alternative agendas or political thinking, unless teaching politics or different governing types. Keep sexual ideology out of learning/curriculum, sexual education a minimum, abstinence as birth control, etc. Expression of ones personal sexual choices is not allowed. Teach children logic for making decisions, and keeping emotions "not" the reference point for making them. Teach personal finances, and personal financial responsibility and consequences, teach civics. Allow for trade pathways (farming, mechanic, business, cosmetology, etc.), and apprenticeships. Teach debate as a requirement (to learn to disagree respectfully and be educated on both or all sides). Teach home economics (to learn to care for oneself and others). Put cameras in the classrooms. Parents have accessibility to curriculum. Allow parents to sit in class.</p> <p>These ideas may seem stark and one sided, but children thrive in structure.</p>
05/09/2022 11:49 AM	Ms. Rebecca Bramlett	812 Chalice St, Durham, NC 27705	Durham	rlbrick13r@aol.com	<p>I have only just recently learned of the existence of your committee and the work you are setting out to do. As a parent with a middle schooler in a NC public school, I have personal interest in your work and its outcomes. At this point in your process, I am asking you to conduct your work with the following frameworks in mind:</p> <p>-A fundamental basic education is a guaranteed right of all</p>

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					<p>citizens.</p> <p>-A fundamental basic education serves as a public service to the populace, educating citizens to be well-informed, critical thinkers who can contribute to the workings of society in positive and meaningful ways that may change over the course of their lifetime.</p> <p>-A fundamental basic education (and thus, the system that provides it) is not simply a business or a product that is consumed by parents and students.</p> <p>-Training of specialized skills and workforce preparation are valuable features of a K-12 education system, but they should not be the only features. They should exist alongside fundamentals in education for broad-based knowledge, critical thinking skills that can be applied universally, and preparation for further, higher education enrollment. Some K-12 students will graduate ready to enter a workforce, some will graduate ready to embark upon further, higher education. Our public K-12 education system should be preparing both types of students equally and equitably.</p> <p>-Given the wide range of diversity among North Carolina students in terms of race, socio-economic status, region/environment, and more, there is no one-size-fits-all plan for education that will equally prepare each student for post-graduation success. You must envision a system that provides a variety of pathways for students. To do so, you also must ensure that your committee includes broad representation of our NC population, and that the research you undertake accounts for representation of all NC citizens.</p> <p>-Your work MUST rely on professional experts in the field of Education and Education Policy. Any recommendation(s) or plan(s) that you create should be based on, and grounded in, their proven research and data, not in your personal opinions.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
05/09/2022 12:42 PM	Amber Farrelly	103 Orilla Court, Cary, NC 27513	Wake	afarrelly@nc.rr.com	<p>I think the NC Legislature has the distinct option NOW of providing funding to make the NC Education System what it can be - a beacon of light for public education in our country. As a parent of two children now in high school that have been in the Wake Co public school system from kindergarten, I can tell you there is a LOT right with the system now. But there is a great deal more that needs to be done, and should be enabled by the legislature if funded at the constitutionally adequate levels.</p> <p>First - what is going well:</p> <p>1. The school system staff is phenomenal. The teachers and administrations have worked hard to have a career in teaching that is for the children. They should be paid what they are worth, not a salary that requires them to get a second or third job. And they should be honored and appreciated as shaping our children's lives, not used as pawns in political warfare.</p>

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					<p>2. The meeting of children where they are in their life and customizing education to their needs. Not everyone learns the same way or at the same pace. Staff and administration must have a pathway to shape their lessons and classes so that a basic education can be achieved for all students, and that students have the ability and manner to expand on what interests them.</p> <p>Now, what we need to do to support this:</p> <p>1. Pay NC teachers top rates in the nations so we attract the best and for heaven's sake - bring back support assistants/TAs so that all children are noticed, taught and supported.</p> <p>2. Stop overwhelming teachers with paperwork and legal hoops to meet. Let them TEACH.</p> <p>3. Do not dictate exact lessons - provide a framework and let the teacher decide the best way to teach it. That is what we want them to do - instill a love of exploring and learning in our students. How can we do that when we direct exactly what and how to teach it?</p> <p>4. Fix the aging school infrastructure. We have schools that have no functional air conditioning. Ones that leak when it rains, or water runs in under doors. Roofs that are inadequate. This is unacceptable. How can we ask kids to learn in 104 degree heat because the AC isn't working and won't be fixed for a week? What about the smell of mold that permeates wet carpet when the rain leaks in? These are basic needs - stop building unbelievably fancy new facilities on the outskirts of towns and put money into fixing ones that are established.</p> <p>5. Invest in the arts, music, theater, clubs, etc. Those are what keep kids engaged, especially ones on the fringe of the classroom. Give all students what they love - activity and movement. All colleges know that their alumni that were engaged in sports/organizations/clubs while at school will have a more positive experience and will give more back to their school. We should learn from that.</p> <p>6. Stop attacking our teachers and making them pawns year after year. Just stop. It makes our legislature look like fools and devalues our educators.</p> <p>Thank you, Amber Farrelly</p>
05/09/2022 02:22 PM	Laurie Teper	2833 Percussion Dr, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278	Orange	teper@sbcglobal.net	<p>A new education system is a MUST! Get rid of CRT, Gender Support Policies and keep political ideology out of the education system. Teach the basics of math, (a curriculum that doesn't teach the student to just estimate), reading (using phonics) and not whole language, science, history (as it happened), geography, language arts and technology. If evolution must be taught, so should creation. Evolution is a theory, creation is a belief. Bring</p>

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					<p>God back into the equation. Teach the constitution, pro-America and what it means to have freedom. Teach what it's like to live in a communist country and the difference between socialism and capitalism. Teach respect for authority and stand for the flag. Recite the Pledge of Allegiance each morning. Allow time for prayer. Allow freedom of speech when it comes to the students writing papers and allowing speakers to visit the schools. Explore the market place of ideas. In high school, add the trades, cooking and sewing as extra curricular classes. Competitive sports should be separated as male and female - no transgenders. Give students the opportunity to explore the arts and music. Get rid of "quotas" and hire the most qualified teachers and staff. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comment.</p>
05/09/2022 02:25 PM	Dr. Holly Higgins Wilcher	153 BELDENSHIRE WAY, HOLLY SPRINGS, NC 27540	Wake	hollyhigginswilcher@gmail.com	<p>Dear Public Servants Elected to Uphold the Human Rights of NC Citizens,</p> <p>When we institute policy, practice and law that honors and is in synchrony with the developing biology of a child we see great things happen for children and society. When we institute policy, practice and law that are out of synchrony with a child's developmental needs we see unfortunate developmental outcomes for these precious human beings. I write to respectfully ask that before you consider developing any law, policy or practice related to a child's public education that you test said policy against the litmus "Is this good for children based on what good science and child development theory tells us about child development and what children need to develop and grow well?". Please consider what centuries of research (with scientific integrity) tell us about what children need to develop and have wellbeing. And use this consideration to shape your policy, practice and law.</p> <p>I would like to remind you of crimes against children committed for the last two years in the state of NC. Crimes you allowed to happen. For a good part of the past two years children have been medically experimented on in public education settings through the forced use of emergency use authorization (EUA) medical devices (e.g medical processes/tests and masks). Moreover, this has happened without the full, informed and voluntary consent of their legal guardians. This makes what has been done to them unethical, criminal and illegal. This happened while you stood by and did nothing to protect their rights. Not.One.Thing. You could have protected them with the laws you wrote - GS 90-21.13. You could have ensured their constitutional rights and made their schools a place where parents could at least make decisions and be fully informed about forced medical interventions. Instead, you did nothing while hundreds of thousands of children suffered psychological harm. The price children are paying for the ways</p>

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					<p>adults have treated them the last two years will be paid for the rest of their lives. They pay the price and society will pay the cost. Most saddening to what has happened is the score kept by their little bodies, brains and spirits. It should be inconceivable to you, what has happened while adults stood by and encouraged and applauded these crimes against our children, gaslight their parents and their children and then had the audacity to talk about their mental health needs in the next sentence.</p> <p>For two years you allowed schools to force children into experimental medical interventions for which not one RCT study exists describing the safety, benefit or efficacy or long-term effect of these interventions. I want you to let that sink in for a second. The mirror you look in at the end of the day shows the image of someone who stood by and said and did nothing while schools unethically performed medical experiments on young children. What will you do to ensure that never happens again? You have a chance to right the wrongs and to do the next right thing for children. How will you do that?</p> <p>I write to ask you to consider what you need to do to never let this happen again. Please make laws and policies for children in public schools that never allow crimes against humanity to ever be committed against them in the state of NC. You have a great opportunity to do what is right for humanity in North Carolina. I urge you to consider the wellbeing and development of children at the forefront of every law you create.</p> <p>Thank you for your committment and service to the people and your oath to protect children.</p> <p>With care,</p> <p>Holly</p>
05/09/2022 02:49 PM	Back to the basics Jennifer Wick	66 pleasant ct, TAYLORSVILLE, NC 28681	Alexander	Jennifer.wick30.06@protonmail.com	I would like to see the school system teach our children on basic education. Math, civics, science, english/language arts, history (including the bible), critical thinking and learning FACTS, not peoples opinions, feelings, or social justice. The school system definitely has NO RIGHT teaching our children about sex education, that is the parents responsibility. Theories should not be taught as facts!
05/09/2022 04:02 PM	Mrs Tamika Walker Kelly	3700 Glenwood Ave. Suite 510, Raleigh, NC 27612	Wake	tamika.walkerkelly@ncae.org	<p>To the House Select Committee,</p> <p>As a public school educator and parent to a public school student, I am deeply invested in the success of our NC Public School System. Our State Constitution guarantees a sound, basic education for all children of North Carolina. Once I heard about this committee and its aim to reimagine public education, there</p>

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					<p>are some very important points to share with all the committee members.</p> <p>1. The NC Public School System, from Pre-K to Post Secondary, was once regarded as a national model and a beacon in the South by other states across this nation. Due to regressive policies and legislation, that is no longer the case. Therefore, the legacy and reputation of NC Public Schools need to be restored. We do that by respecting our educators, the over 90, 000 educators who serve in our school buildings across the state. You, as legislators, can do that by listening to educators and actually using their feedback to pass legislation that improves our working conditions to create improved learning conditions for students. You can do that by trusting the professional expertise and skills of our educators who are equipped to design content and instructional decisions so that our students receive the knowledge to be global citizens.</p> <p>2. We can re-imagine our NC Public Schools by fully funding our public schools through enacting the Comprehensive Remedial Plan as directed by the Leandro decision. There are very real disparities across urban and rural school districts, but all students deserve access to the highest quality public education possible. When are schools are underfunded, our students are missing key resources to thrive and succeed. Our public schools have never been fully funded. So when I imagine a fully funded, fully resourced school system, first see joyous students who are succeeding because their whole needs are being met beyond academics. I see safe, healthy, and well-constructed school buildings, a well prepared, highly qualified educator in every classroom, highly qualified and compensated school staff at all levels, school budgets that do not rely on outside grants, and collaborations between community organizations and schools to meet the needs of all students and families regardless of their backgrounds, incomes, or family structures.</p> <p>3. Lastly, it's important to note, that we don't have to imagine any of these changes. We can have them. However, it takes the political will to do the right thing for the almost 1.5 million children in North Carolina. Our students and their families are a critical part of the future of our state. They deserve a Public School system that honors their diversity through curriculum, diverse books, through a diverse education staff, and propels them to pursue their dreams. Our students and educators deserve nothing less.</p>
05/09/2022 04:30 PM	Emily Dockery	155 Cloverhurst Ct, Winston Salem, NC 27103	Forsyth	edockery@me.com	The ideal NC education system would focus on individualized learning with a primary focus on mastery and improvement, not teaching to the test and letter grades. I would love to see more focus on student (and staff) social and emotional well being, both

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					<p>should be provided the resources they need to support their mental health. The ideal system would also focus on equity for all students. This would include providing students with the food, technology, and any other resources they need to be successful. It would also include making sure that the school system is teaching science and history in its entirety instead of editing out the parts that might make some people look bad. I want all children and staff, regardless of race, class, gender, or sexual-orientation, to be safe, love, accepted, and supported. Additionally, religion should NOT be practiced in public schools. It has no place in education. The NC public education system should be a secular institution so that people of all religions (and no religion) feel comfortable and are welcomed there!</p> <p>Students should have a well rounded education that includes: math and reading, but also science, social studies, art, music, PE, and daily time outside for ALL grade levels! The current system puts so much focus on math and reading that the others get relegated to the scraps of time left over in the day (sometimes science or social studies is only covered in blocks of one or the other and for only 15 minutes a day)! This ideal school system would also require less homework! Allow students to have a break from school when they get home, spend time with their family, do after school activities, not be stuck at home doing homework until bedtime! It would also push for students to spend more of their early education focused on play based learning. We are pushing kids too hard in the early grades and they are getting frustrated and further behind instead of creating a love of school and learning! We should also not be so caught up in test results. Every kid learns at a different rate, has different challenges in learning and outside of school, and learns best in different ways! Teachers pay should not be never be dependent so much on student performance, but instead on student growth and mastery. Neither of which can always be assessed by standardized testing. We are creating a generation of students that have been taught how to take test and have been pressured for weeks to do well or their families and teachers will be disappointed in them.</p> <p>Now let's talk about funding! Education should be so well funded that they never have to do fundraisers or donors choose to get supplies for their classrooms. Teachers should be paid as the professionals that they are. We should be providing the funding for education because we are training the future in these classrooms. More money should be spent on having more counselors and nurses in the building and less police. We should be infusing schools with the resources to help change problematic behavior. We should also be providing more resources, staffing, and money to help students with learning difficulties including EC students. It</p>

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					<p>should not be okay for private and charter schools to take funding from public schools without being held to the same requirements and standards. The reason public schools are able to receive public funding is because of those requirements. Private and charter schools perpetrate inequity for low income students. They should not be allowed to continue taking money from public programs! Additionally, an ideal system would have universal pre-K for all and provide free after school care for families that need it.</p> <p>In short, the NC education system not only educates the children in our state to prepare them for the future, it also supports the economy by allowing parents to be a part of the work force. Never has this been more clear than during the pandemic. Additionally, the staffing shortages in education across the state are showing us that we are not making education a priority and that has to change. We have to do better for the children and for the future of North Carolina. Give NC education more money, in every aspect starting today.</p>
05/09/2022 04:43 PM	Mrs. Michele Jordan	6032 Stone Bluff Drive, Clemmons, NC 27012	Forsyth	mwepprecht@yahoo.com	<p>What we need is for our NC Government, specifically the NCGA, to fully fund education as laid out in the Leandro ruling. We need you to fulfill your Constitutional obligation to do so.</p> <p>The funds are there; you are just refusing to use the money for our public schools. And that is morally wrong.</p>
05/09/2022 04:58 PM	Teacher/Parent Rodney Pierce	171 Wood Glen Road, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina 27870	Halifax	Rodneypierce1@gmail.com	We need our legislators to meet their obligation under the state constitution when it comes to providing a "sound, basic education" to our public school students and fully fund the Leandro Plan!
05/09/2022 05:43 PM	Make Education Great Agai Vidya Canales	PO Box 9671, Chapel Hill, NC 27515	Orange		<p>No to: CRT, SEL, intersectionality, DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion), school boards handpicked in, no funds from elections or Washington DC.</p> <p>Yes to: grades, STEAM subjects in all NC schools, STEAM summer camps for all title V schools, bring back school prayers, include the 1719 project if the 1619 project is taught. We want a balanced education. No more of dark money or political agendas from the DC swamp, extreme ideologies and anti parent, anti family, anti male, reverse racism, and LGBTQIA agendas, WEF, etc. especially for children under 9th grade.</p> <p>Re view with a fine tooth comb of said ideologies in school boards, administrations, educators and curriculum.</p> <p>Violations should lead to disboarding, dismissed without pay, fines including, but not limited to state retirement and pension benefits if parents speak up or speak out about said indoctrination.</p>
05/09/2022	Mrs Sandi	2730 Waters	Lee	enchantedpines@charter.net	We have good public school system that would be even better with

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08:15 PM	Shover	Edge Drive, Sanford, NC 27330			less testing and more funding schools to meet the constitutional requirements. Stop ignoring the Leandro ruling.
05/10/2022 07:11 AM	Sharon Withrow	37 Yale St, Asheville, NC 28806		sharon.b.withrow@gmail.com	<p>I am a proud graduate of North Carolina public schools and the mother of two children in North Carolina public schools. When I was growing up, support for strong public schools was a bipartisan value in North Carolina and our public school system was a model for other Southern states. Sadly, this is no longer the case.</p> <p>As a citizen, a taxpayer, and a parent, I want legislators to prioritize thriving public schools in every community--urban and rural, mountains, Piedmont, and coastal plain--over tax cuts. I want proof that our state values all of its children, not just the children of the affluent suburbs. I want to see our public schools fully funded through enacting the Comprehensive Remedial Plan as directed by the Leandro decision.</p>
05/10/2022 07:27 AM	Brittany Wager	35 Jefferson drive, Asheville, Nc 28801	Buncombe	brittanywager@gmail.com	I would like to see magnet options that include at least 1 smaller, alternative educational style at every level through high school. Montessori education is a great option that is evidence based. Some children do not respond well to a traditional classroom setting, and only offering a one size fits all approach is not equitable. Students with learning differences tend to do better in Montessori classrooms and smaller schools, and students with social differences respond well to the Montessori approach as well.
05/10/2022 08:08 AM	Ms Nava Lubelski	43 Highland st, Asheville , NC 28801	Buncombe	Jumbly2000@yahoo.com	I'd like to see a system that trusts children, allows them extensive free play time and independence in their learning choices. All studies show that children learn better with lots of outdoor free time.
05/10/2022 10:38 AM	Angie Cathcart	No, 28806	Buncombe	angie.cathcart@gmail.com	I would like to see a fully funded public school system. Divert future voucher funding. I am opposed to my tax dollars going to fund private schools when our public education system has been woefully neglected for decades. Leandro should be the guide. Charter schools are absolutely hurting our traditional school system, so those need to be capped at current levels. And, fund Pre-K statewide. This would alleviate the economic burden on young families. Also, if a student has qualified for federal free and reduced lunch upon graduation from High School, then their first year of community college should be free if they choose attend the following school year. Please reduce or eliminate high stakes testing. Free up that money to pay teachers for their experience! Pay them for master's degrees! Move to standards based assessment systems and stop trying to implement a merit pay structure. Those are harmful and are a waste of my tax dollars. Pay teachers, hard stop. Just pay them. And don't take money

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					from one pot to increase pay and call it a raise when it simply shifts money around. PAY TEACHERS!
05/10/2022 10:05 PM	Mr Dan James	4400 Greenbrier road , Winston-Salem, NC 27106	Forsyth	dajam24@gmail.com	<p>Let educators build the system and determine the priorities. Legislatures need to listen and support educators. Not make decisions about something they are not skilled and/or experienced in. Respect educators like the true professionals they are and fund schools at a much higher rate than they currently are. When those things are in place you will attract increased numbers of highly skilled and ambitious educators to teach and grow students in the areas that true educators know are vital to the growth of successful citizens into our communities. Pay is not everything, but increased pay to true professionals, that make a difference in lives and every one's future, will created competition for jobs. And that will increase the level of teaching.</p> <p>Do not attempt to reward teachers for test scores. School have not been and are not equal. Funding, parental support, highly qualified teachers, lack of diversity are some of the factors that lead to inequity in schools and rewarding high test scores will only drive e experienced and the most qualified teachers ti scores that are better positioned to produce high test scores. Thus continuing the inequity and academic differences of schools.</p> <p>But I think the focus needs to be on improving and better supporting the current educational system. We are not going to start from scratch. That simply is not possible. And undercutting public education by supporting other types of schools is not helping. It simply takes away from public education and allow less accountability for education as a whole. Support teachers better and they can support themselves to be better educators for our future.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and listening.</p>
05/10/2022 11:18 PM	Vickie Barnes	405 Warren Ave, Cary, NC 27511	Wake	vickiesemail@bellsouth.net	I would like to see a psychologist at every school. A psychiatrist in every county would be great too.
05/11/2022 10:29 AM	Mr William Sorenson	5798 Aldridge Rd, Norwood , NC 28128	Stanly	Williamsorenson195@gmail.com	<p>Shared by a teacher about to leave the profession. How do any of you sleep at night knowing the destruction the GA is doing to our schools.</p> <p>Approximately 16 years ago, I made the decision to attend UNCG to pursue a degree in education. Little did I know the journey that I had begun. 5 years of college and 11 years in the profession, and I am tired, burnt out, and fed up.</p> <p>I'm tired of being a pawn in someone's political gain. Neither party really goes to battle for us and we have no real political power because much like any other group, we can't get on the same page of what we want or need. I'm tired of being told that help is coming but never see it. I'm tired of being told a 2.5% raise every few years</p>

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					<p>is enough and “you don’t work hard enough for a raise”. I’m tired of being looked down or told “I feel for you” when I tell someone I’m an educator.</p> <p>I’m burnt out of putting in hours upon hours for teaching and coaching and feeling like I’m getting no where. I’m burnt out of being told we need to do more with less. I’m burnt out of having no energy for my own family for months of the year.</p> <p>Finally, I’m fed up with a broken system. There are so many issues in our world and teachers do their absolute best to hold that world together for kids of all shapes, sizes, and backgrounds. I’m fed up with having to do more with less. I wanted to educate, coach, and enlighten, not babysit kids who don’t have a care to be in school. I’m fed up with a system that is built for one size fits all and leaving “no child behind” when instead we are all different and by leaving no one behind we bring so many down.</p> <p>I don’t have all the answers, and don’t claim to, but I’m done. This will be last year in education for some time. Maybe the passion will come back, but for now I’m going to be the best father and husband I can possibly be.</p> <p>I can only hope I made a difference in someone’s life. I know my life has been greatly imprinted by teaching. I have experienced the joys of victory, many laughs along the way, and also the absolute pain of losing students along the way.</p> <p>So many more teachers feel the same way I do and are ready to leave, but don’t have the option or are too vested to leave. Pray for our education world and vote to make it better!</p>
05/11/2022 10:22 PM	Mr Elzy Lindsey	226 Flint St, Asheville, NC 28801	Buncombe	mrlindsey2003@yahoo.com	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attract and retain the best teachers in the nation and allow them to join a full-fledged union. Pay them 150% of the national average. 2. Actually teach all kids what they need to know at the level they are on. Stop differentiation of 7 grade levels on one class. 3. Let the teachers decide what to teach and how to teach it. Honor the profession.
05/13/2022 06:31 AM	Changes for education Holly Musgrove	Asheville, NC 28804	Buncombe	hmusgrove36@gmail.com	<p>I would like to see major increases in teacher and assistant salaries. I would like to hire more teachers to decrease the class size. I would like have local schools receive a portion of the funding raised from taxes on tourism to help fund these increases. I would like to see specialized psychoeducational testing available to diagnose dyslexia and other learning differences. I would like specialized tutors and counseling for every child that is struggling . I would like children with dyslexia and other learning differences to have an IEP or 504 plan.</p>

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					<p>I would like recess for all elementary and middle school age children.</p> <p>I would like preschool available to everyone. I would like to have a dedicated teaching assistant for every teacher.</p> <p>I would like after school recreational and educational programs available at every school free of charge for any child on the free lunch program.</p> <p>I would like the school to serve meals that are low in sugar and saturated fat with fresh fruit and vegetables with every meal.</p>
05/13/2022 10:34 AM	Mrs Angela Robinson	134 Terrace Drive, Weaverville, NC 28787	Buncombe	skirtgirl@gmail.com	<p>I would want to see a public education system that is fair, equitable, and accessible to all students regardless of race or income level. I'd like to see teacher paid their worth and offered more support. I'd also like to see more counselors/therapists on campus to deal with the mental health crisis we are seeing with our children in this day and age. More access to resources to support the schools from making sure buildings are safe, to enough money to buy supplies and books so that teachers are having to pay out of their own pockets to supply their classrooms.</p>
05/13/2022 12:35 PM	Ms. Jenni Park	63 Clinton Ave, Asheville, NC 28806	Buncombe	jennimariep@yahoo.com	<p>I am a teacher.</p> <p>1. Higher pay and perks for everyone involved. Teachers have had to vacuum their classrooms countless times because we can't keep custodians in our building. We also don't have enough substitutes. We don't have enough bus drivers. Now, we also do not have enough teachers in my building. It's ridiculous and insane!!! Every school building should have a permanent sub (full time job) because the days where we need no subs almost never happen. And everyone should be paid WELL for these jobs so that we can retain good people, compensate them for an extremely draining job (I'm thinking of teachers/admin), and function as a school. In short, teaching and working for schools is currently not an attractive profession. Wonderful teachers are leaving the profession so they can make more money in a different profession. This is NOT GOOD and I am so angry about it.</p> <p>2. We need MORE PLAY FOR CHILDREN, and not just kindergarten. Kids want to have fun. That's their sole aim in life in elementary school. So we need to incorporate more fun and more movement, and not just dancing in classrooms while looking at people dancing on a screen. They need more recess, more outside time, more time to be creative, more time to play with peers.</p> <p>3. We need alternative settings for traumatized children who can't come in and function like the kids for which our current model of school is designed. Kids in crisis can't get their high needs met in a regular school, and they (rightfully so) require tons of attention from the adults (teachers, counselors, administrators) to make it through the day. These kids need alternative settings where they can get a lot more therapeutic activities and academics when they</p>

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					<p>are ready/able. Public schools are not able to meet these types of needs as we are currently funded. Teachers can feel like they are failing the kids in crisis AND the rest of their students. These students have different needs that require a different setting in order to get to the point of thriving.</p> <p>4. Lose the "grade" system where students are grouped according to age for every subject. This creates groups of kids who already know the material being taught, kids who are ready to learn the material being presented, and kids who never mastered the last unit and who are now being asked to so more sophisticated material that built on the last unit. It must be a really bad feeling for school to be that hard all the time... to feel like you "aren't smart" because you can see that you struggle in comparison with most of the class. I had a student tell me recently "I'm the dumbest kid in my class." I don't believe we are doing enough to keep students from thinking that way. It also must be a great feeling to never have to work hard at school, to just waltz in every day and fly through (btw, eventually this will not be the case, which creates problems for these kids). I prefer a Montessori-type model where students learn what they are READY TO LEARN. Imagine how many fewer discipline problems schools would have if everyone was learning what they were ready for in each subject, and the challenge was appropriate. Plus more recess and play... wow, I bet that would transform schools in a major way. Maybe everyone wouldn't finish high school at the age of 18, but can we make that ok? Some would finish before, some later.</p> <p>5. Bring back vocational education. Why not teach students skills that will get them great work experience in a trade? Why do we treat all students that going to college is the only good option, and that if you don't, you're messing up your life in some way? We should teach students about all the options and let them choose (in high school) what they want. Our society needs people in all types of jobs. But with the constant push towards college, we give students the message that some of those professions are more acceptable than others.</p> <p>6. End grades as we know them. In preschool, my son's teachers simply told me what he was currently able to do, and what he would learn next. This is a more accurate and humane way to explain to parents what their child is doing, whereas letter grades contribute to bad self esteem/competition... in short, they contribute to the negative experiences kids have at school. Give teachers two days to complete report cards like these.</p> <p>7. Hire a behavior specialist in the school who can help with difficult behaviors and let the teachers keep teaching. These specialists can also help teachers grow in their classroom management skills. Yes, the teacher is still expected to build a relationship with all of their students, but I would prefer an</p>

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					<p>emphasis be put on being able to teach uninterrupted rather than interrupting teaching because it is the teacher's responsibility to DO IT ALL, do it well, all the time. The bar is ridiculously high.</p> <p>8. Longer school days and more small group instruction and tutoring for students who are really "behind" (if we must retain the age alike grouping approach). We can't help kids "catch up" by not giving them a whole lot more time and attention.</p> <p>These are a few ideas off the top of my head.</p>
05/16/2022 12:06 AM	Mr Hugh Norris	PO Box 271, Dunn, North Carolina 28334	Cumberland	Hnorrisnc@yahoo.com	<p>In 2007-08 pay step was teachers of 30 years received over 70,000 dollars annually. In 2022 teachers of SpEd receive just over \$52,000. Why? Longevity was swipped away only from faithful educators. The pay freeze during NC Democratic Purdue has yet to meet the needs of the occurring inflation rate. However other state staff members have received substantial raises</p> <p>Career veteran teachers of 30 plus years have received little to no and increase. It is rather unfortunate that an initial teacher will make only \$6,000 less than a teacher of 33 years. Experience is an asset that should be valued. Raise SPED EDUCATORS pay EQUALLY.</p>
05/16/2022 01:04 PM	Administrative Asst. Katherine Davis	100 W Kitty Hawk Rd, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949	Dare	daviska@daretolearn.org	What is being done for the classified employees in the school systems?
05/17/2022 09:24 AM	NC New Education System Joelle Pierce	5813 Lake Villa Drive , Fayetteville , NC 28304	Cumberland	jbpierce12@gmail.com	The United States Constitution need to be brought back to our curriculum in grammar thru high-school. It need to be a requirement.