

For Immediate Release



From Sen. Joyce Waddell <joyce.waddell@ncleg.gov>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Reply-To <joyce.waddell@ncleg.gov>
Date 2023-12-18 09:41



From the Office of Sen. Joyce Waddell, NC Senate
Mecklenburg County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18, 2023
Chapter V
Volume 51

CONTACT: Sen. Joyce Waddell
(919) 733-5650
Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.gov
<https://joycewaddell4nc.com/>



Greetings:

At the General Assembly
For the Week

The week was filled with holiday get togethers, programs honoring employees who performed at exceptional levels and gratitude for all employees who helped perform the goals and missions of companies and organizations.

This is the season of giving and making sure our friends and neighbors are doing ok. Please take a moment out of your busy schedules to check on those around you. Make sure they have food and other things if you can. Tis the season!

Joyce Waddell



NCNW

Senator Waddell participates at a National Council of Negro Women's holiday activity. The council discussed the voter registration process during their holiday event.

College Credit

High school students can earn college credit by taking AP classes if they receive a qualifying score on a standardized exam for the course that's administered by the nonprofit organization The College Board. As a result of this rule, more North Carolina high school students are taking an advanced placement class for college credit this school year than any year before. At the same time, a greater share of students of color are also participating in and succeeding in these classes.

The State Board of Education heard an annual report on AP classes at their regular board meeting last week.

Black and Latino students in North Carolina are taking and passing a greater number of AP exams. Last year, the rate of students taking the exams grew by nearly 15% for Black students and nearly 21% for Latino students.

State education officials credited the state's progress in part to a 2014 state law that sought to promote access to the courses. The law led the State Board of Education to partner with The College Board to provide professional development for teachers leading AP courses. The General Assembly has also provided recurring annual funding to cover all students' final exam fees. About \$14 million in state funds last year paid the fees for students' final exams to receive credit for AP classes and other advanced courses.

African American Caucus

*Senator Waddell participates
at an African American
Caucus holiday event.*



Graduation Rate

High schools are bracing for a big drop in the graduation rate next year because of so many students repeating their freshmen year during the pandemic.

One in six high school freshmen across North Carolina were not promoted to the 10th grade after the end of the 2020-21 school year. Many of the major county school administrators warned this month that the consequences will be felt next spring in the graduation rate for the Class of 2024.

The difficulty of transitioning to high school means the ninth grade historically accounts for the majority of students who are not promoted at the end of the school year. But the 2020-21 school year was even more challenging for high school freshmen who took most or all of their classes online because of COVID-19 pandemic health concerns.

Attendance rates and grades plummeted after schools switched to online classes when in-person classes were suspended statewide in March 2020.



Democratic Women

Senator Waddell participates at a Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County event. Many of the Mecklenburg Delegation were in attendance.

Senator Waddell is working tirelessly for Senate District 40, but she cannot do this alone. Her precincts have changed because of redistricting. Can she count on your help to continue working for the district?

CLICK HERE TO

**DONATE \$25; \$50; \$100; \$250
OTHER AMOUNT \$ _____**

Elections are important to communities, if you know someone who is not registered to vote, please encourage them to do so. It is also important to get our registered voters out to the polls. Please do not forget ID is now required to vote.

Vaccines

According to the NC Department of Health and Human Services, respiratory issues and viruses are rising. Please be careful when moving about the community.

Vaccines are a necessity for good health. Getting vaccinated is vital for keeping North Carolinians healthy. Get vaccinated as soon as possible.



Sen. Joyce Waddell, District 40 | 1106 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601

[Unsubscribe sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org](mailto:sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by joyce.waddell@ncleg.gov powered by

