

For Immediate Release



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

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Greetings:

At the General Assembly
For the Week

Spring is sliding in, and we have lost an hour due to daylight saving time. I have been busy with meeting constituents throughout the district. Interim committee meetings have happened in Raleigh and will continue to meet until we convene in late April.

Joyce Waddell

Principal Pay

A proposal, from the N.C. Principals and Assistant Principals' Association, was presented to an interim Committee on Education Reform in Raleigh on Monday.

Principals are paid based on a scale that recognizes their ability to meet or exceed expected growth in conjunction with their average daily membership (ADM). 75% of principals in North Carolina are in schools with an ADM of less than 700 students.

Their proposed model would include multi-language learners, economically disadvantaged students, exceptional children, academically or intellectually gifted students or homeless status as an additional complexity factor along with ADM.

The Select Committee on Education Reform will hold their final pre-Short Session meeting on March 25 to gather collective input and finalize a committee report.

I am concerned and consistently advocating for increased pay for all educators and administrators. I believe that our educators have so much responsibility and should be fairly compensated. I want our North Carolina educators and administrators to become competitive with other states. To date our state consistently ranks among the lowest in pay.



Charlotte Regional Business Alliance Meeting

The Charlotte Regional Business Alliance met with members of the NC Legislature to discuss legislative issues.

Social Media Addiction

North Carolina Attorney General is encouraging schools to take away smartphones from students during the school day to try to curb social media addiction.

The Attorney General said that he expected to hear that students were in an uproar in the schools that took away their phones. Instead, he said leaders at those schools told him students liked it because they knew no one else was online so they were not missing anything. The schools also reported that students were now paying much more attention to the teacher instead of using their phones to go on social media, he said.

Our children have enough distractions. We must impress upon our parents and guardians that cell phone use during instruction time is not helpful. While I understand the need to communicate with a student by the parent or guardian, we must strongly suggest the usage of cell phones for the purpose of social media is a highly discouraged.



Affordable Housing

Senator Waddell participates at a community meeting to discuss affordable housing.

Vaccines

The weather has changed and lots of activities are being planned in the community. Taking precautions for being in the presence of large crowds is still important.



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