

For Immediate Release



From Sen. Joyce Waddell <joyce.waddell@ncleg.gov>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Reply-To <joyce.waddell@ncleg.gov>
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From the Office of Sen. Joyce Waddell, NC Senate
Mecklenburg County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Senator Joyce Waddell
(919) 733-5650
Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.gov



Greetings:

At the General Assembly
For the Week

We have about two weeks before the Short Session. As we begin the Short Session, just know I will provide the district legislative information from the Legislature.

Joyce Waddell

Reading Instruction

North Carolina's education leaders are actively working towards enhancing reading instruction for children with dyslexia, aiming to identify and support their needs more effectively. New reading curricula and methodologies are being introduced to identify reading disabilities at an early stage and provide tailored instruction to assist these students. While initial training is currently concentrated on younger students, plans are underway to extend it to higher grade levels in the future.

Teachers are undergoing enhanced training to better identify reading deficits among students. Instead of relying solely on short tests, educators are now encouraged to assess each skill individually to gain a comprehensive understanding of students' reading abilities. The state has begun to witness improvements in early literacy test scores, alongside the expansion of intensive tutoring programs. However, parents of children with reading disabilities stress the need for additional training and resources to detect and support students with dyslexia. They lament that for older students, these changes come too late to make a significant impact.

Despite being enrolled in special education, many students with learning disabilities remain undiagnosed or lack access to necessary services, reflecting systemic challenges in the education system.

North Carolina's shift towards the "Science of Reading" approach signifies a departure from traditional methods towards a more structured and phonics-oriented approach, emphasizing fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary development. This evolution reflects a broader national trend towards evidence-based reading instruction.



Planting Time

Senator Waddell helps students with learning how to plant flowers and the importance of gardening.

Voter ID

A new application period began Monday for eligible schools and government agencies to have their photo IDs approved for voting. The state Board of Elections says this is the last opportunity to apply before the November 5th election later this year.

This will be the first general election under the new photo ID requirement. A free photo ID can also be obtained at county boards of elections or from the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles. A current list of acceptable IDs can be found on the state Board of Elections website. The application period runs through June 14.

Vaccines

There are many vaccines available for our communities. With Measles popping back up, we must be careful. Please consider vaccinated yourself and your families.



Sen. Joyce Waddell, District 40 | 1113 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601

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