

# School Matters - July 10, 2013

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## New Chair & Vice Chair

### School Matters

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

### [Senate Bill 236 Scheduled For Vote on Thursday- Contacts with Legislators Requested](#)

**Senate Bill 236** was moved to the House Committee on Government Monday night. This is the bill that will

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on Government Monday night. This is the bill that will allow county commissioners to assume responsibility for construction, improvement, ownership, and acquisition of public schools. Davie County is one of only nine counties included in this bill. Senator Andrew Brock added Iredell, Davie, and Rowan counties to this bill, but allowed Iredell to be removed in the Senate committee. Senator Brock refused to remove Davie County from the bill.

The Davie County Board of Education passed a resolution in opposition to this bill. There has also been significant opposition toward this bill from the North Carolina School Boards Association and the North Carolina Association of School Administrators.

I learned yesterday that it is likely that legislators will remove Craven County and Rowan County from the bill this week. If this bill would result in good law, I have to question why are other counties asking to be removed?

Representative Julia Howard is the only legislator who can have Davie County removed from this bill in the House. I made two calls to Representative Howard's office yesterday to get an update on her position with this legislation, now that it has been assigned to a committee and is moving forward. At the time of this morning's edition of **School Matters**, I do not know her position. As your superintendent, I see no scenario where giving county commissioners the authority to take over our schools can be a good thing; now, after the May 2014 bond referendum, or anytime in the future.

The House Committee on Government will discuss SB236 on Thursday morning. Below is the contact information for the members of this committee, as well as Representative Howard. If you would like to share your thoughts, concerns or support on SB236, please call or email these members of the legislature before this meeting on Thursday morning. If this bill passes

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committee it is expected to move quickly to the House floor for a vote.

Representative [Julia Howard](#) (919) 733-5904

### House Committee on Government

Representative	Phone (919)	Position
<a href="#">Mike C. Stone</a>	715-3026	Chairman
<a href="#">Harry Warren</a>	733-5784	Chairman
<a href="#">Alma Adams</a>	733-5902	Vice Chairman
<a href="#">James L. Boles, Jr.</a>	733-5903	Vice Chairman
<a href="#">Rayne Brown</a>	715-0873	Vice Chairman
<a href="#">James H. Langdon, Jr.</a>	733-5849	Vice Chairman
<a href="#">John R. Bell, IV</a>	715-3017	Member
<a href="#">Marcus Brandon</a>	733-5825	Member
<a href="#">Mark Brody</a>	715-3029	Member
<a href="#">Justin P. Burr</a>	733-5908	Member
<a href="#">George C. Cleveland</a>	N/A	Member
<a href="#">Jeff Collins</a>	733-5802	Member
<a href="#">Ted Davis, Jr.</a>	733-5786	Member
<a href="#">Beverly M. Earle</a>	715-2530	Member
<a href="#">Jeffrey Elmore</a>	733-5935	Member
<a href="#">John Faircloth</a>	733-5877	Member
<a href="#">Susan C. Fisher</a>	733-5780	Member
<a href="#">Elmer Floyd</a>	733-5959	Member
<a href="#">Carl Ford</a>	733-5881	Member
<a href="#">Valerie P. Foushee</a>	715-3019	Member
<a href="#">Rosa U. Gill</a>	733-5880	Member
<a href="#">Ken Goodman</a>	733-5823	Member
<a href="#">Duane Hall</a>	733-5755	Member

<a href="#">Yvonne Lewis Holley</a>	733-5758	Member
<a href="#">Bryan R. Holloway</a>	733-5609	Member
<a href="#">Paul Luebke</a>	733-7663	Member
<a href="#">Chuck McGrady</a>	733-5956	Member
<a href="#">Allen McNeil</a>	715-4946	Member
<a href="#">Annie W. Mobley</a>	733-5780	Member
<a href="#">Tim D. Moffitt</a>	715-3012	Member
<a href="#">Rodney W. Moore</a>	733-5606	Member
<a href="#">Larry G. Pittman</a>	715-2009	Member
<a href="#">Michele D. Presnell</a>	733-5732	Member
<a href="#">Nathan Ramsey</a>	733-5746	Member
<a href="#">Stephen M. Ross</a>	733-5820	Member
<a href="#">Mitchell S. Setzer</a>	733-4948	Member
<a href="#">Rena W. Turner</a>	733-5661	Member
<a href="#">W. A. "Winkie" Wilkins</a>	715-0850	Member

## Legislative Update

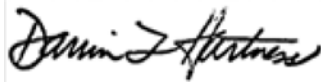
**The North Carolina General Assembly is**

**continuing to debate tax reform**, and until those negotiations are complete, the budget negotiations are on hold. I am concerned with budget proposals that do not adequately fund teachers and teacher assistants. I am hopeful that the House and Senate will concur with the Governor and provide a salary increase for teachers in the final budget. I am equally as concerned with proposals that fund vouchers for private education. These proposals will divert additional funds away from public schools, funds that can be used to support the employment of quality teachers and teacher assistants. Legislators need to hear from public school employees and parents of children in our schools who share concern over the current support

for public education in the state budget. Contact information for all legislators can be found at [www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net).

Our local representatives are:  
Representative [Julia Howard](#) (919) 733-5904  
Senator [Andrew Brock](#) (919) 715-0690

Sincerely,



Darrin L. Hartness, Ed. D.  
Superintendent



### Reorganization of the Board of Education

I want to thank Barbara Owens for her service as Chair of the Board of Education this past year. She has been a pleasure to work with as chair and has served our schools and community well in her role. Barbara's experience as an educator has been, and will continue to be, a real asset to the board and school system.

At their July 9, 2013 meeting, the Board of Education elected Chad Fuller as Chairman and Clint Junker as Vice Chairman. Congratulations to Mr. Fuller and Mr. Junker on their new roles on the Board of Education.



### Summer Activities in Full Swing

Summer is a busy time around Davie County Schools. We have numerous camps in our schools this summer. In between those camps, our maintenance and custodial staff are doing a tremendous job maintaining and cleaning our schools. Our technology team is taking care of network upgrades, implementing a new email system, and managing numerous other major projects. Our transportation department is servicing buses and preparing efficient routes for the new school year. We have teachers and other administrators learning all about new technology systems and instructional resources for the 2013-14 school year. Our staff is working diligently to learn about the new student information management system, PowerSchool, as well as many new digital resources that will be part of a new system called HomeBase. All of these

system called HomeBase. All of these tools will help us to better serve our students and their families. Every department is working hard to prepare to better serve our students and staff.

We are looking forward to another fantastic school year in Davie County and can't wait to see our students on August 6th at the Early College, and August 26th at all of our other schools. Our house is in order and we are just waiting for the legislature to decide on a budget, so we can wrap up personnel decisions for the new school year. I hope each of you are having a safe and restful summer!

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