



## WHERE WE STAND – PUBLIC EDUCATION UNDER ASSAULT

Public education in America began in 1635, predating our existence as a nation. Today, if you pay taxes in Brunswick County, you support a public school system aspiring to create *“A community of well-educated, employable, and socially responsible citizens.”* Beyond equipping our children with the basics of reading, writing, arithmetic, science, history, and physical education, our schools prepare youngsters for eventual gainful employment and the potential for achieving their own American dream.

Sadly, the gap between aspiration and reality is widening. Our children are being robbed of the quality education they deserve. In the guise of “parental control,” MAGA Republican legislators are imposing their extremist worldview on our kids by implementing book bans, restricting curriculum content, and marginalizing LGBTQ and minority students. The Network for Public Education’s 2022 report on [Public Schooling In America](#) ranked North Carolina a dismal 46<sup>th</sup> in the nation. North Carolina also ranks at or near the bottom in the nation on per pupil spending.



In Brunswick County, pervasive food insecurity means school is a vital source of food for schoolchildren, yet MAGA Republicans seek to eliminate school lunch programs. Hardworking teachers struggle with large classroom sizes and endless political pressure, driving many of them out of the profession. We share Governor Cooper’s alarm that MAGA Republicans plan *“to take tax dollars away from public schools in favor of unaccountable and discriminatory private schools. In effect, we’ll be taking funds out of the hands of kids who need them and subsidizing wealthy families who want to send their children to private schools.”*

We believe that public schools should be fully funded, with teachers paid competitive salaries. We support universal pre-K to prepare every child for success. We trust teachers and school administrators, not politicians, to set educational standards. We support vocational education and workforce development for students. We challenge those who profit from projects in Brunswick County to help shoulder the cost of new and expanded schools to support our rapidly growing population.

***Flip this over to learn how YOU can get involved!***

**Here's what DEMOCRATS are doing to SUPPORT QUALITY PUBLIC EDUCATION for every child:**

- Calling for high-quality, universal pre-K for all three- and four-year-old children in President Biden's [American Families Plan](#).
- Providing billions in funds to colleges and universities through the [Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund](#) (part of Biden's American Rescue Plan). Recipients include community colleges, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs).
- Extending free school lunches over the summer with the Democrat-sponsored [Keep Kids Fed Act](#), despite opposition by 42 U.S. House MAGA Republicans.
- Under Governor Roy Cooper's leadership, pushing for an 18% pay raise for North Carolina public school teachers and principals over the [next two years](#). Cooper also allocated \$3 million in federal funding to [assist aspiring teachers](#).

**Here's what MAGA REPUBLICANS are doing to ASSAULT PUBLIC EDUCATION and limit learning:**

- The North Carolina House recently passed MAGA Republican-led [legislation](#), the 'anti-CRT bill,' which restricts discussions on racism and other diversity-related concepts in schools.
- In March 2023, the North Carolina Supreme Court, now with a MAGA Republican majority, blocked millions of dollars in funding for underfunded public schools – funding, referred to as the [Leandro Plan](#), that was previously ordered by a then Democratic-majority court.
- New state GOP-led [House](#) and [Senate](#) bills significantly expand scholarships/vouchers for private and charter school options – boosting unaccountable non-public schools using public money.
- The MAGA Republican General Assembly supports massive tax breaks for millionaires that will significantly hobble North Carolina's education budget.



---

## TAKE ACTION!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [brunswickdem.org](https://brunswickdem.org)

### CONTACT YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS (North Carolina General Assembly):

- ✓ **Representative Frank Iler** (R) District 17  
Email: [frank.iler@ncleg.gov](mailto:frank.iler@ncleg.gov); Phone: (919) 301-1450
- ✓ **Representative Charles Miller** (R), District 19  
Email: [Charles.Miller@ncleg.gov](mailto:Charles.Miller@ncleg.gov); Phone: (919) 733-5830
- ✓ **Senator Bill Rabon** (R), District 8 (Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover)  
Email: [bill.Rabon@ncleg.gov](mailto:bill.Rabon@ncleg.gov); Phone: (919) 733-5963

### CONTACT YOUR U.S. CONGRESSMAN AND SENATORS

- ✓ **Congressman David Rouzer** (R), District 7  
Email: [rouzerforms.house.gov/contact/](https://rouzerforms.house.gov/contact/); Phone: (910) 253-6111
- ✓ **Senator Thom Tillis** (R)  
Email: [tillis.senate.gov/email-me](https://tillis.senate.gov/email-me); Phone: (202) 224-6342
- ✓ **Senator Ted Budd** (R)  
Email: [www.budd.senate.gov/share-your-opinion/](https://www.budd.senate.gov/share-your-opinion/); Phone: (202) 224-3154