2018 Guide to Voting
For GUILFORD COUNTY

✅ Who are these people on your ballot?

✅ Where & when can you vote?

✅ What’s up with the Constitutional Amendments on the ballot? (see page 31)

Vote Early: Oct. 17 - Nov. 3 or Election Day: Nov. 6
About This Guide

This Guide features candidates for federal, state and local elections in Guilford County. It is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad, Democracy North Carolina, and the Greensboro News & Record. The Guide provides vital information about the rules for voting and answers to questions sent to candidates.

For questions about this Guide, call 919-286-6000. A PDF copy is at NCVoter.org. Learn more about the candidates at the League’s website vote411.org or the News & Record’s site greensboro.com/elections.

Have Your Say

The ballot box is the one place where we are all equal, regardless of race, income or geography: one person, one vote. People acting together have changed government policies to improve their lives and stop threats to their community. Use your power!

The candidates who win will make crucial decisions affecting every aspect of your life – but YOU help decide who wins! Proposed Amendments to the NC Constitution will also impact your future (see p. 31).

Review Your Ballot

You can go online to see your ballot before you vote; go to demnc.co/distr or vote411.org and follow the instructions. You can also see your Election Day polling place at these links. And you can see if you are registered at your current address. If not, use “same-day registration” during Early Voting to update or register anew. See the box on page 6.

Do I Need an ID to Vote?

Because of a court ruling, you do not need to show an ID to vote except in 2 situations:

(1) If you use Same-Day Registration, you’ll need to show a document listed in the box on page 6.

(2) If there was a problem with verifying the information on your registration form, you’ll need to show either a document listed in the box on page 6 or any current photo ID.

What’s Inside

Supreme Court, Court of Appeals ........ pages 3-6
Local Courts and Sheriff ......................... pps 7-11
U.S. House of Representatives .............. pps 12-14
North Carolina General Assembly ......... pps 15-24
Candidates in Local Elections ............... pps 25-30
How to Vote by Mail ......................... page 4
Early Voting Locations & Hours .......... page 11
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ......... page 31
NC SUPREME COURT - Vote for 1 of 3 Candidates

Judges are powerful! They decide everything from the cost of electricity, to your right to vote, to who gets the death penalty.

The judicial elections are near the end of your ballot, but they appear first in this Guide to emphasize their importance. Because a primary was not held for judicial elections, candidates of the same party may face each other.

One of the 7 seats on the State’s top court is up for election in 2018.

BARBARA JACKSON

Party: Republican

Occupation: Associate Justice, Supreme Court of North Carolina

Experience: Justice, NC Supreme Court; Judge, NC Court of Appeals; General Counsel, NC Labor Department; Associate, Private Practice; Assoc. General Counsel, Governor’s Advocacy Council (GACP); Associate General Counsel, Governor Jim Martin; Research Assistant, Justice Burley Mitchell

Legal background: I have spent my entire 28-year legal career focusing on North Carolina law. In addition to authoring hundreds of appellate opinions covering such diverse topics as criminal law, administrative law, land use law, and business law, I have been actively involved in the Bar seeking to improve our court system for citizens, lawyers, judges and court personnel through the improved use of technology.

More info: Anglin4Justice.com

CHRISTOPHER (CHRIS) ANGLIN

Occupation: Attorney

Party: Republican

Experience: Graduate of Wake Forest University and Elon University Law School. A small business owner in solo practice at all levels of civil, criminal and family trial courts in both state and federal courts for 7 years.

Legal background: I have experience in many practice areas including court appointed criminal defense, real estate, wills and estates, civil litigation in both state and federal court, small claims court, business and employment amongst many others. This has provided me practical knowledge of how the law impacts North Carolinians of all backgrounds and the challenges they face. These experiences will help guide me on the court.

More info: Earls4Justice.com

ANITA EARLS

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Attorney


Legal background: For over 30 years, I have been a nationally recognized civil rights attorney, seeking equal justice for those whose voices otherwise would not be heard. I have represented individuals, families and communities across the state. From that experience I know how important it is to have fair courts where the rules are the same for everyone, no matter their race, political views, or wealth.

More info: Earls4Justice.com
ANDREW T. HEATH

Party: Republican

Occupation: Superior Court Judge

Experience: Husband, father, and public servant; Superior Court Judge; Served as Chair of the NC Industrial Commission; As State Budget Director, led the Office of State Budget and Management.

Personal statement: I am a fair and impartial judge who respects the Constitution and the law, and who values access to justice and equality under the law. It has been an honor to serve North Carolina as a Superior Court Judge, and I look forward to serving on the Court of Appeals.

More info: HeathForJustice.com

JOHN S. ARROWOOD

Party: Democrat

Occupation: NC Court of Appeals Judge

Experience: NC Court of Appeals, Judge, 2007-08, 2017-present; private practice 1989-2007, 2009-17; NC Court of Appeals, Research Assistant/Staff Attorney, 1983-89

Personal statement: I pledge to administer justice equally and without favoritism to any litigant or to the State. My experience on the Court of Appeals, as a Superior Court Judge together my over 26 years in private practice, and prior work as a research assistant and staff attorney at the Court of Appeals makes me uniquely qualified to remain on the Court.

More info: KeepJudgeArrowood.org

How to Vote by Mail (Absenteem Voting)

Any registered voter may vote by mail; no excuse or special reason is needed. Use the official request form at demnc.co/absform or ncsbe.gov. (Visit demnc.co/mail or call toll-free 866-522-4723 for help.)

The request form must be signed by the voter or the voter’s “near relative” (see definition of near relative on back of form). It must be received (not just sent) at the County Board of Elections by 5 pm on Oct. 30.

A ballot and return envelope will then be mailed to the voter. Follow all the directions carefully, including having two witnesses (or one notary) sign in the appropriate place on the envelope. Include their addresses.

To be counted, the voter (or near relative) must send or deliver the ballot in one of these ways: (1) to the Elections Board’s office by 5 pm, Nov. 6; (2) to an Early Voting location during Early Voting; or (3) by mail so it is postmarked by Nov. 6 and received at the County Board of Elections by Nov. 9. Mailing may take two first-class stamps. Take it inside the post office and request a postmark if it is near the deadline.
JEFFERSON G. GRIFFIN

Party: Republican

Occupation: Wake County District Court Judge & JAG Officer (CPT), North Carolina Army National Guard

Experience: District Court Judge, Wake County; JAG Officer (CPT), NC Army National Guard; Assistant District Attorney, Wake County District Attorney’s Office; Private Practice, Criminal defense and Civil litigation; NC Central University School of Law; UNC

Personal statement: North Carolina deserves a Judge who is dedicated to upholding the Rule of Law and our Constitution. My diverse experiences as a Judge, Soldier, prosecutor, and practicing attorney provide a perspective that will benefit all North Carolina citizens when I am on the Court of Appeals.

More info: JeffersonGriffin.com

SANDRA ALICE RAY

Party: Republican

Occupation: District Court Judge

Experience: I’ve got 27 years legal experience including 14 years judicial experience. I have more judicial experience than every NC Court of Appeals candidate combined. I’m a former Assistant District Attorney and attorney in private practice.

Personal statement: When any Judge talks to you, they should tell you of their love and trust in our United States and North Carolina Constitutions. I believe as our Constitution says, in the Sovereignty of the People – not the politicians and bureaucrats. I want to serve on your Court of Appeals to preserve the self-evident rights our Constitution guarantees.

More info: SandraAliceRay.com

TOBIAS (TOBY) HAMPSON

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Attorney


Personal statement: The Court of Appeals needs a judge with the right experience — an appellate specialist. I have 16 years of experience in our appellate courts, starting as a law clerk at the NC Court of Appeals, and then strengthening my experience by handling hundreds of appeals in private practice. I will bring a strong work ethic, integrity and appellate expertise to the Court.

More Info: TobyHampsonForJudge.com

VOTER ASSISTANCE

- Anyone may receive help to vote from a “family member,” defined as parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, spouse or in-law (parent, sister or brother).

- A voter with a physical or reading disability (including language difficulty) may receive help from anyone except their employer’s or union’s agent.

- A voter who attests that they’d need “physical assistance” to reach the voting room may vote at the polling site in a vehicle (curbside voting).
CHUCK KITCHEN

Party: Republican

Occupation: Private Attorney

Experience: Licensed as attorney in North Carolina for 38 years, including 30 years as a county attorney. I am currently in private practice representing parties in State and Federal trial and appellate courts.

Personal statement: In order to make a good appellate judge, you must have extensive experience both trying cases and handling appeals. I am the only candidate who has both, including successfully defending Sheriff Terry Johnson against the US Department of Justice. I have also filed more than 100 briefs and petitions in the appellate courts.

More info: KitchenForCourtOfAppeals.com

MICHAEL MONACO SR.

Party: Libertarian

Occupation: Attorney

Experience: 2000-15 Monaco & Roberts, PLLC: A general service law practice that handled a wide spectrum of legal issues for clients.

Personal statement: The purpose of the court is to be objective and independent; especially in disputes between the branches of government. These good governance cases can present conflicts to the other candidates who are associated with the dominant parties in North Carolina politics. These dominant parties have engaged in partisanship in recent years and we need to be vigilant to keep judiciary independent.

More info: nc-monaco-2018.com

ALLEGRA KATHERINE COLLINS

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Law Professor and Appellate Attorney

Experience: Campbell Law Professor of Judicial Writing and Appellate Advocacy; Appellate advocate in NC Court of Appeals and Supreme Court; Appellate Reporter at NC Supreme Court; Clerk on the Court of Appeals to Judge Linda Stephens

Personal statement: I have focused my career on appellate law and judicial process in our appellate courts. With my experience, expertise, and dedication to the law, I will be a judge who renders fair and accurate decisions. My experience and expertise mean I will do this job well, my passion for this work means I will continuously strive to do it better.

More info: AllegraCollins.com

Last-Minute Rescue: Same-Day Registration

If you miss the October 12 deadline to register, you may use “same-day registration” during Early Voting at an Early Voting location. See sites/hours in the box on page 11. Ask the election official for a registration form, show an identifying document listed below, and vote—all on the same day.

You cannot use this procedure on Election Day.

The identifying document you show must be one of these with your name and current address:

- a NC driver’s license;
- any other government photo ID;
- student photo ID along with a school document showing the student’s address (e.g., a campus housing list, invoice, or letter);
- a utility bill (cell phone, electric, cable, etc.);
- bank statement; or payroll stub; or
- a document from any government agency (a bill, permit, letter, etc.)
NC SUPERIOR & DISTRICT COURTS

District Courts handle misdemeanors, juvenile and family disputes, and civil litigation involving less than $25,000. The judge decides cases. Superior Courts handle criminal cases and larger civil disputes; juries hear some cases.

Two judges are unopposed; three court seats are contested. District Court judges are elected countywide. Superior Court judges are elected by district; see demnc.co/guildist for your district.

Responses on pages 3-8 are shortened from the judicial candidates’ full answers, which may be found at vote411.org, demnc.co/GNR2018 or NCVoterGuide.org.

Superior Court - District 18A

LORA CHRISTINE CUBBAGE

Party: Democrat

Occupation: District Court judge, Guilford County

Legal experience: I have been practicing law for 12 years as a criminal prosecutor here in Guilford County, civil defense attorney for NC Attorney General’s Office and argued cases before NC Court of Appeals. I have helped victims as well as defendants. I was elected to serve as a District Court judge in November 2016 where I adjudicate cases of both parties.

What unique experiences prepare you for a judgeship?
I have the unique experience of bringing legal and life experience to the bench. I bring competence, compassion, integrity, fairness and firmness to the bench. I fight for justice and equality to all and that a judge needs to bring to the Superior Court bench.

More info: Cubbage4judge.com

MARK T. CUMMINGS

Party: Democrat

No response from candidate

Superior Court - District 18D

GAVIN REARDON

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Attorney

Legal experience: I have both prosecuted crimes and defended criminal clients in hundreds of jury and non-jury trials. I’ve also represented clients in all types of civil cases throughout NC. As one of only three Board Certified

JUSTICE SYSTEM CANDIDATES WHO ARE UNOPPOSED

SUPERIOR COURT - Dist. 18B: JOE CRAIG

DISTRICT COURT - Dist. 18, Seat 1: THOMAS (TOM) JARRELL, JR.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: AVERY MICHELE CRUMP

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT: LISA JOHNSON-TONKINS
Be sure to vote on the Constitutional Amendments at the end of your ballot.
The Sheriff has broad control over practices and policies for enforcing the law in the county, including training deputies, equipment purchases, patrol locations, jail operations, and cooperation with ICE on immigration.

How should the department participate in tackling the growing opioid epidemic? Our sheriff’s office was one of the first in the state to start carrying and administering Narcan which has saved numerous lives. We have also taken a leadership role in providing follow-up and after care for those who are addicted, the STOP program. We have programs in our jail as well as programs for the public and our schools, to educate against opioid abuse.

How should the jails handle transgender individuals considering state and federal laws have not adapted to include their needs? Our primary responsibility as with any inmate is to keep them safe and secure. Each transgender individual will be kept separate to assure their rights or the rights of their fellow inmates are not violated.

How have you identified as training priorities and how do you plan to address them? As a member of the Sheriff’s Training and Standards Commission, I help set the training for sheriff’s officers across the state. We require mandatory training for all officers each year. We choose this training to address the important issues to law enforcement at the time in areas such as racial diversity, law changes and active shooter scenario’s.

How will you recruit and retain enough qualified people to fully staff the department? Recruiting and retaining officers has a direct connection to pay and benefits. We are the state’s third largest agency, but rank No. 11 in pay and benefits. When smaller agencies offer better pay and less responsibility hiring can be difficult. Until we can be more competitive, I will be providing the officers with excellent training, equipment and support; recruiting and hiring the best.

How will you handle changes to the county jails as the state moves the juvenile court age from 16 to 18 in Dec. 2019? We have already begun preparing for the transition, having been involved in the legislation and planning for the implementation with our part-
ners at the state level and impact committees from the beginning. Our advantage of being leaders in the state has given us the advantage of being ahead of the curve. We are fine-tuning policies and will be ready.

More info: keepbjbarnes.com

DANNY ROGERS

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Business owner

Leadership experience:
Owner and operator of 3N1 Professional Contractor Services. Board chair of Carl Chavis Memorial YMCA. Board member of High Point YMCA Association, High Point Arts Council, Community in Schools of High Point, and Furniture Land Rotary of High Point.

What experience qualifies you to serve as sheriff? I successfully completed BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training) in the past and have worked as a sworn and non-sworn law enforcement officer with the Guilford County Sheriff’s Office as a detention officer and a deputy sheriff including special operations. I also worked on patrol at the High Point Police Department. I am a Guilford County resident with a special interest in keeping our community safe.

What is the most pressing issue you would pursue if elected? The Guilford County Sheriff’s Office has not been accredited since 1994. My top priority will be to get the agency accredited to provide transparency, reduce risk and liability exposure, have policy and procedure reviews matching state standards, gain equitable employment practices and oversight to ensure compliance with all state and federal laws to provide a stronger defense and/or prevention of civil lawsuits, etc.

If elected, what would be your car chase policy? All officers will be required by policy to consider, “When does the risk of a chase outweigh the benefit of apprehending someone?” The policies and procedures will make clear that the preservation of life is the primary focus. No vehicle pursuits will be initiated for minor traffic offenses, misdemeanor or non-violent felony charges. Blue lights and sirens must remain activated and communications must be notified.

How should the department participate in tackling the growing opioid epidemic? The opioid epidemic must be addressed in collaboration with community resources that include: trained medical professionals, drug treatment facilities and program services, educational resources, drug trafficking prevention through active patrol and arrest, and returning the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program to the schools to educate parents and youth about the dangers of drug use, gang memberships, and violent behavior.

How should the jails handle transgender individuals considering state and federal laws have not adapted to include their needs? Jails must establish policies and procedures that address the factors affecting transgender individuals who find themselves incarcerated regarding housing locations, transport/escort inside or outside the detention facility, daily observation of officers, maintaining civil right and civil liberties, etc. Departmental policies and procedures must be clear that the agency will comply with all regulations mandated by the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

What have you identified as training priorities and how do you plan to address them? I have identified several areas of training priorities: Community policing, initiating vehicle stops and pursuits, jail safety, and prisoner/arrestee escape prevention, etc. I intend to restore agency accreditation requiring adherence to procedures and guidelines helpful in these areas, incorporate specific mandated training, and display an understanding that answers also come from officers with boots on the ground not just the ones assigned to an office.

How will you recruit and retain enough qualified people to fully staff the department? I will recruit and retain enough qualified people to fully staff the department by returning employment and operational practices in compliance with state and federal laws as spelled out by the EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) and the CALEA (Commission
on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies). I will also consider permanent shifts, adequately address mental health concerns for jail staff, and obtain better safety equipment.

How will you handle changes to the county jails as the state moves the juvenile court age from 16 to 18 in December 2019? I must first congratulate North Carolina for joining every other state in the United States in moving the juvenile court age from 16 to 18. This transition will have more of an impact on juvenile jail facilities. Meanwhile, I will maintain a safe, secure, and educational environment for juveniles independent of the adult population.

More info: electdhrogersforsheriff.com

### ELECTION DAY is Tues., Nov. 6 at 6:30 am - 7:30 pm
Go to your own precinct’s polling place on Election Day. Find your polling place at demnc.co/distr

### EARLY VOTING is Oct. 17 to Nov. 3
Guilford Co. citizens may go to any location below.

(You may register* at an Early Voting site but not on Election Day.

9 SITES HAVE DIFFERENT SCHEDULES.

2 sites open Weekdays (Mon.-Fri.), Oct. 17-Nov. 2, 8am-5pm, and Sat., Nov. 3, 8am-1pm:
- Board of Elections, Old Courthouse, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro
- Washington Terrace Park, 101 Gordon St., High Point

7 sites open Weekdays (Mon.-Fri.), Oct. 17-Nov. 2, 7am-7pm; Sunday, Oct. 28, 12-5pm; and Saturday, Nov. 3, 8am-1pm:
- Brown Recreation Center, 302 E. Vandalia Rd., Greensboro
- Bur-Mil Club, 5834 Bur-Mill Club Rd., Greensboro
- Craft Recreation Center, 3911 Yanceyville St., Greensboro
- Deep River Recreation Center, 1529 Skeet Club Rd., High Point
- Guilford Co. Agricultural Center (Barn), 3309 Burlington Rd., Greensboro
- Jamestown Town Hall, 301 E. Main St., Jamestown
- Leonard Recreation Center, 6324 Ballinger Rd., Greensboro

For questions, call Guilford Co. Board of Elections 336-641-3836

*See box on page 6 for how to register during Early Voting
MARK WALKER

Party: Republican
Occupation: Pastor

Leadership experience: Chairman of the 150-plus member Republican Study Committee in the U.S. House; co-chairman of the Congressional Prayer Caucus; leader in the bipartisan HBCU Congressional Caucus; team director of Global Outreach Missions.

What is your top policy priority if elected? Our office is dedicated to protecting NC families and restoring the American Dream by ensuring that personal initiative and responsibility are encouraged through government policies. The way we promote justice and economic opportunity for all can be shown in our ongoing success in tax reform for working families, our national security, lowering the cost of living, reducing drug and health care costs and improving education.

How will you safeguard earned benefits from Medicare and Social Security? The budget I authored makes Social Security solvent by updating to a more accurate system for calculating cost-of-living adjustments for those most in need. It also saves and improves Medicare by providing more choices, lower costs, and a simpler model.

What about DACA and immigration reform? I co-sponsored the Securing America’s Future Act. It would give peace of mind to DACA recipients, while strengthening our border, defunding dangerous sanctuary cities and preventing family separations under DHS custody.

With the continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? By passing the STOP School Violence Act to train and assist schools in identi-

RYAN WATTS

Party: Democrat
Occupation: Senior consultant, Strategic Change at Deloitte Consulting

Leadership experience: I supervise strategic change teams in over 30 states to evaluate current and future problems for companies of all sizes and retrained thousands of workers. My greatest strength is building strong coalitions and teams that create solutions and help people adapt to change.

What is your top policy priority if elected? Most of our problems are due to gerrymandering. We should pursue fair-districting legislation at the national level, pursuant to Article I, Section IV of the U.S. Constitution. If we have free, fair, and secure elections, we can create democracy that better represents the people and support legislation like fair wages, education, and health care for all.

How will you safeguard earned benefits from Medicare and Social Security? Start by raising the cap on contributions to Social Security above the current line of ~$118,000. We must prevent borrowing from the Social Security trust.
What about DACA and immigration reform? DACA recipients are vital to our economy and should have a path to citizenship. We must continue to be vigilant in our background check of immigrants, but we need to do so with heart.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? Commonsense gun reform: Universal background checks, raising the age of purchase, and banning of military-style weapons, silencers, and bump stocks. Increase access to mental health counselors in schools and enable law enforcement to, at least temporarily, confiscate weapons in crisis situations.

More info: WattsForCongress.com

KATHY MANNING

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Attorney, community leader, and business owner

Leadership experience: Served on numerous civic, business and faith boards; first woman to lead one of the largest charities in the U.S. Led effort to build Greensboro’s performing arts center and created a festival now called “17 Days,” an economic engine to our community.

What is your top policy priority if elected? We need health care that’s more affordable, more accessible and less fragmented. Make prescription drugs more affordable by allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices, examine the role of drug benefit managers, and go after price gougers.

How will you safeguard earned benefits from Medicare and Social Security? Since these programs are mandatory programs, they aren’t even debated each year. I plan to focus my energy on banning wasteful earmarks and getting our fiscal-year spending back under the Budget Control Act numbers set in 2011.

What about DACA and immigration reform? As an immigration attorney, I know how outdated our immigration system is. We need to create a pathway for DACA students and their families, especially those who serve as first responders or in the military. We also need to secure our borders and increase penalties for companies that break the law.

With the continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? I grew up in a house with a gun and support the Second Amendment. We need common sense solutions: improve and expand background checks, do away with bump stocks, close loopholes, and keep guns out of the hands of criminals, domestic abusers, and those who pose a danger to themselves and others.

More info: kathymanning2018.com

Ted Budd

Party: Republican

Occupation: Small business owner

Leadership Experience: Running my own business and growing up in a family-owned business taught me how important a job is. I know families struggling to keep up with the cost of living. I’ve co-sponsored term limits legislation because the people’s House of Representatives should be filled with everyday people, not career politicians.

What is your top policy priority if elected? Fighting the opioid epidemic. If reelected, I would double down on my efforts with legislation that attacks each subset of this crisis: treatment, prevention, going after bad actors & highlighting the larger societal issues at play.

How will you safeguard earned benefits from Medicare and Social Security? Since these programs are mandatory programs, they aren’t even debated each year. I plan to focus my energy on banning wasteful earmarks and getting our fiscal-year spending back under the Budget Control Act numbers set in 2011.

What about DACA and immigration reform? I believe a smart immigration policy doesn’t encourage illegal immigration. A nationwide, mandatory E-Verify system would be an effective interior enforcement policy, and providing additional resources to secure our border is a must, too.

With the continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? I’m a supporter of the
Second Amendment. However, I’ve made school safety a priority, whether it be supporting the STOP School Violence Act or hosting multiple roundtables in my district with sheriffs and educators to ensure our kids always feel safe at school.

More info: tedbudd.com

TOM BAILEY

Party: Libertarian

Occupation: Retired roofing contractor

Leadership Experience: Decorated combat vet US Army; Fellow NC Institute of Political Leadership; Executive comm. of LPNC; Guilford County Board of Adjustments

What is your top policy priority if elected? My first priority would be to end the war and bring the troops home. We’ve been at war for an entire generation with nothing good to show for it. War costs us a half a trillion dollars a year and 20 veterans a day in suicides alone. How much public good could have been done if those soldiers were rebuilding America instead of Iraq?

How will you safeguard earned benefits from Medicare and Social Security? I would like to sell foreign military bases and return taxpayer money (adjusted for inflation). As for Medicare, if your goal is to provide healthcare, build hospitals and hire doctors.

What about DACA and immigration reform? An illegal alien should be one who violates the rights of another person. Otherwise they should not be prosecuted. I am in favor of accepting any honest person who wants to come to America. The poem on the Statue of Liberty means something to me.

With the continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? These shootings are not happening in IRS offices or courthouses or other government buildings. We know how to secure buildings. The demopublicans choose not to secure the schools. I endorse the second amendment.

More info: tombaileyushousenc.com

ROBERT CORRIHER

Party: Green

Occupation: Community organizer


What is your top policy priority if elected? Health Care! I will pressure leaders in Raleigh to expand Medicaid and support any legislation that gets big business out of health care. However, we must also simultaneously build a mass movement for affordable housing and education, guaranteed green jobs and student loan forgiveness.

How will you safeguard earned benefits from Medicare and Social Security? Expanding Social Security taxes on high-income earners is the best way to ensure these programs are solvent. Efforts to tax earnings above the cap ($128,000) have received stiff opposition from both major parties and their corporate donors. I support National Improved Medicare for All (HR 676).

What about DACA and immigration reform? Immigration has made this country what it is today, so I support abolishing ICE now, full amnesty for all DACA-qualified residents, and a safe pathway to citizenship for all 11 million undocumented immigrants. We need to stop scapegoating immigrants.

With the continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? The history of American expansionism, slavery, and military spending has created a culture of violence. Let’s start by ending the wars that have drained trillions of dollars and instead put that money into education and creating guaranteed green jobs.

More info: facebook.com/robertcorriher4congress

Some responses are shortened. For the full responses and answers to more questions by the candidates, go to: vote411.org or demnc.co/GNR2018
Guilford County includes all or parts of NC Senate Districts 24, 26, 27, and 28

RICK GUNN

Party: Republican
No response from candidate

J. D. WOOTEN

Party: Democrat
Occupation: Attorney

Leadership experience: I served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force from 2003-2012 and as a reservist from 2012-2015 in various roles, commanding or leading organizations with hundreds of people and with budgets in excess of $20 million per year. Also, I serve on the Executive Board for the Old North State Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

What is your top policy priority if elected? Quality public education is at the core of our society and drives everything else, including civic involvement and economic development. Every child in North Carolina deserves a quality education regardless of neighborhood. I will fight for increased funding for underserved schools and increased teacher pay and benefits.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? We must accept Medicaid expansion funds in North Carolina and close the gap by making meaningful changes to the insurance marketplace in our state. I will work to ensure that all North Carolinians have access to quality health care.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? Independent redistricting is a top priority of my campaign. Everyone deserves an equal voice in their government; no district should be drawn to target or disenfranchise particular voters.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? As a veteran experienced with military-grade weapons, I believe that weapons of war have no place on the streets of North Carolina. I respect the basic constitutional rights of responsible gun owners, but I also support common-sense laws such as strengthening background checks and efforts to ensure that our schools are safe.

More info: jdwooten.com
WILLIAM (BILL) MCCASKILL

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Retired child welfare worker

Leadership experience: Employed with the Randolph County Department of Social Services for 32 years working with child abuse and neglect cases. During the last eight years of employment I supervised a unit of child protective workers. I also chaired the Randolph County Juvenile Justice Counsel.

What is your top policy priority if elected? I feel one of the most pressing issues in this state is our inadequate medical care delivery system, especially in rural areas. Passage of the Affordable Healthcare Act’s extended Medicaid program would assist hundreds of thousands of people afford basic health care and infuse needed funds into our health care system.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? As I mentioned, extended Medicaid is much needed. Several Republican-controlled states have already passed extended Medicaid for their citizens. I would support work requirements to qualify since mostly the working poor would be eligible.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? Recognizing both major political parties are offenders, finding a fair nonpartisan method of redistricting is one of the most important political issues of our time. I don’t have the answer, but would support comprehensive hearings with respected political scientist and consulting with states that have successfully dealt with this problem.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights vs. control? I support reasonable regulations on firearms. In the 2008 landmark case *D.C. v Heller*, Justice Antonin Scalia writing for the majority gave individual citizens the constitutional right to possess firearms, but also the opinion allowed for the regulation of firearms for various safety reasons. I will work with all sides to develop fair gun possession regulations.

More info: williamnmccaskill@gmail.com

JERRY W. TILLMAN

Party: Republican

No response from candidate

NC Senate - District 27

MICHAEL GARRETT

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Marketing firm manager

Leadership experience: Managing partner (current), Marketing Associates; board chair (former), UNCG Alumni Board; chair (former), Guilford Gang Commission; member, Aubrey Lee Brooks Foundation Scholarship Committee; former member of United Way Education Impact Council.

What is your top policy priority if elected? This General Assembly has attacked the teaching profession, and our children have suffered the most. If elected, I will work tirelessly to raise teacher pay.
investment in our students, and work to restore North Carolina’s reputation as a place where a child can get a world-class education.

**How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians?** I support accepting new federal dollars for Medicaid expansion; our local tax dollars are now going to Ohio, Florida, and other states that have expanded coverage. We also need to hold insurance companies accountable when they deny the coverage they promised.

**What are your thoughts on the redistricting process?** Unfairly drawn districts hurt Democrats, Republicans, and all residents of our great state. Partisan gerrymandering allows the party in power to shirk accountability at the ballot box and is a threat to our democracy. I strongly favor an independent redistricting commission, so that all voters are ensured equitable representation in their government. We must stop politicians from corrupting this incredibly important process.

**With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control?** Students and teachers must have a network of support and protection. That means hiring counselors, social workers, and school resource officers; not giving teachers guns. I support universal background checks on all gun sales.

More info: GarrettForNC.com

**TRUDY WADE**

Party: Republican

No response from candidate

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**GLADYS ROBINSON**

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Retired CEO of Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency

Leadership experience: CEO of a nonprofit for 35 years; chaired board of Healthserve Medical Center; current chair of Board of Trustees of Bennett College; president of Community Service Guild of Providence.

**What is your top policy priority if elected?** The health of our citizens is a most pressing concern. The state failed to expand Medicaid and the result is multiple deaths and lack of access to health care.

**How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians?** As a member of HHS committees, I see the harm the Republican-led legislature has caused our citizens. We must work with CCNCs, establish more community clinics, and collaborate with university medical centers to provide care to these individuals.

**What are your thoughts on the redistricting process?** The Constitution says that it is the responsibility of the General Assembly to redistrict. However, we must find a more reasonable and fair process. While an independent commission is a start, any plan must come before the General Assembly for tweaking and ensuring that issues such as commonality of neighborhoods are not overlooked.

**With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control?** We must pass laws that enforce extensive background checks, ban of assault weapons, and provide schools with more trained law enforcement personnel and safer facilities. We must change cultures in our state and nation where people think they have the right to eliminate those they dislike.

More info: gladysrobinson.com

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Some responses are shortened. For the full responses and answers to more questions by the candidates, go to: vote411.org or demnc.co/GNR2018
Guilford County includes all of NC House Districts 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62

NC House - District 57

TROY LAWSON

Party: Republican

Occupation: Consultant

Leadership experience: Executive director of a non-profit; chairman of the Guilford County GOP; board member and secretary at Gate City Charter Academy in East Greensboro; volunteer driver for the Meals on Wheels program; and board member of Gate City Charter Academy in East Greensboro.

What is your top policy priority if elected? I don’t believe there is one “pressing” issue. I will champion issues on public education, increasing teacher pay, school safety, the economy, affordable health care access, and solutions to reduce the opioid crisis. Finally, I will work to pass legislation that puts ex-offenders to work and reduce recidivism.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? We need to ensure the Medicaid system is more efficient and available to all who need it. Also, continuing to grow North Carolina’s economy will have a direct impact on our citizens to better afford the costs associated with health care.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? I believe both parties have a hand in making this process difficult and confusing. I support an independent commission to deal with redistricting.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? This issue is very difficult, emotional, and complicated. We must find solutions that will provide for the safety of our children, teachers, and staff without infringing upon our rights as Americans. Therefore, I would support constitutionally sound background checks and make mental health treatment a top priority.

More info: troylawson4nchousedistrict57.com

ASHTON CLEMMONS

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Public school educator and administrator

Leadership experience: Assistant superintendent (current), Thomasville City Schools; principal (former), Brooks Global Studies; principal (former), Oak Hill Elementary; board chair of Teach For America of NC Piedmont Triad.

What is your top policy priority if elected? Addressing the state of our public education system is my top priority. We must attract and keep quality educators by increasing teacher pay, investing in new and existing schools, and ensuring our limited public dollars support public schools.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? We must expand Medicaid, now. In Guilford County alone, 17,000 people stand to gain coverage under expansion. Additionally, Medicaid expansion would bring
tens of millions of dollars of economic investment in Guilford County. We also need to close the gap in health care access between rural and urban areas in North Carolina.

**What are your thoughts on the redistricting process?**

More often than not, we have a system in which politicians pick their voters rather than voters picking their politicians. I will be a staunch advocate for an independent redistricting process as a core pillar of a sound democracy.

**With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control?**

As a mother and an educator, I care deeply about school safety. We need to arm our schools with counselors, teacher assistants, and the resources needed to educate children; not guns. I support universal background checks, closing the “gun show loophole” and banning assault weapons.

**More info:** clemmonsfornc.com

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**NC House - District 58**

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**AMOS QUICK**

**Party:** Democrat

**Occupation:** Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church

**Leadership experience:** NC State House 2017-present; Democratic Freshman vice chairman, NC House; Member, Guilford County Schools Board of Education, 2004-2016, Board Vice-Chairman 2005-2016;

**What is your top policy priority if elected?**

A quality education for every child in North Carolina. I have filed 38 bills (preK–12) that have sought to provide for safe, modern schools with a highly qualified, well-paid teachers, supported by competent, well-paid administrators and support professionals. These bills also addressed school safety and modernizing school facilities statewide.

**How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians?** I co-sponsored HB 858 which was legislation to expand Medicaid coverage for our most vulnerable citizens, and I continue to support that avenue. Additionally, I have co-sponsored other legislation to address our pressing health care needs.

**What are your thoughts on the redistricting process?**

I am firmly in favor of an independent commission for redistricting and was glad to co-sponsor a bipartisan bill (HB 200) that would have created such.

**With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control?** I have/will continue to support/sponsor commonsense gun legislation that makes our schools/streets safer while respecting the right of citizens to own firearms. I also support funding that modernizes our schools and uses available/emerging technology and student support to prevent further violence on our campuses. HB 204, on which I served as a primary sponsor, addressed school safety one year before the tragic Parkland shooting.

**More info:** pickquick2018.com

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**PETER BOYKIN**

**Party:** Republican

**Occupation:** Owner of MagaOneRadio.net

**Leadership experience:** As president of Gays For Trump I have worked to bridge the gap between the GOP and the gay community and lead conservative gays with their support of MAGA. I have also organized National March4Trump rallies, and I am

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**You can take a list inside the poll to help you remember your choices. It can be on paper or a cell phone.**

**Try to vote the whole ballot, top to bottom.**
the creator of The Maga Network.

**What is your top policy priority if elected?** My platform stands for public safety (including school safety), education, and job security.

**How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians?** Health care is an extremely open-ended issue and can be debated multiple ways. As someone who myself is without health coverage, I would be willing to work with both sides of the aisle to come up with the best proposal that could close such coverage gaps.

**What are your thoughts on the redistricting process?** I believe a nonpartisan commission to work on redistricting would be the best for all citizens. I do not feel that an area is represented well if either party makes the decisions.

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**Tips for College Students**

**WHERE’S HOME:** You may call your college community your home if you do not have a clear intent to return to another address. If you do, register at that address as home. Register at just one address; update your registration when you move, even if it is just to a new dorm on campus.

**REGISTER:** You cannot register to vote online. Download a form at demnc.co/rform. Write in your name as it appears on your Social Security card or NC driver’s license; use that ID number on the form. Fill in all parts of the form, sign, and mail it to the local elections board; see demnc.co/myboard.

**CAMPUS ADDRESS:** If you are registering with a Guilford County campus as your home, put your room number and dorm’s name on the Street line for your Residential Address. For Mailing Address, use the campus method to get mail. For A&T, Bennett, Greensboro College and HPU, that includes your Box number. For UNCG, write in your email address on Street line, then Greensboro, NC 27413.

**TOO LATE?** If you miss the Oct. 12 regular deadline to register, use Same-Day Registration (see page 6 for details).

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With continued shootings in schools, **what is your stance on gun rights v. control?** I do not believe limiting our Second Amendment rights is the answer, although I believe that the proper education of those wanting to purchase guns should be enforced; an individual should be taught to respect guns and the proper handling (including shooting practice) of their weapons. The respect of what a gun can do is most important.

**More info:** boykinforhouse.com

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**NC House - District 59**

**JON HARDISTER**

**Party:** Republican

**Occupation:** Marketing/real estate investing

**Leadership experience:**
State legislator; member, Greensboro College Board of Alumni; member, Southeast Guilford Community Foundation; member, UNC-Greensboro School of Health and Human Sciences Board of Visitors; member, Boy Scouts of America Old North State Council.

**What is your top policy priority if elected?** There are several issues: continuing to improve North Carolina’s economy; increasing teacher pay; supporting public education; enhancing school safety; and operating state government efficiently. We also need to work on expanding access to affordable health care and mental health treatment.

**How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians?** We need to explore ways to lower costs and expand access to quality health care, especially for those who are working paycheck-to-paycheck. We also need to continue working to enhance the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of our Medicaid system to ensure that we are serving those who are truly in need.

**What are your thoughts on the redistricting process?** I have been a leader on this issue for years. I spon-
sored independent redistricting reform bills in each session that I have served in the legislature.

**With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control?** I serve on the House Select Committee on School Safety, which will consider several ideas. Making schools more secure, expanding background checks for gun purchases, and enhancing treatment and awareness of mental health must be top priorities.

More info: JonHardister.com

**STEVEN A. BUCCINI**

**Party:** Democrat

**Occupation:** Software engineer

**Leadership experience:** Eagle Scout; organized an event for 1,500 plus people and $250k plus budget three years in a row; started one of the country’s first independent, student-run co-working spaces. My tested private sector experience has helped some of our country’s largest companies succeed.

**What is your top policy priority if elected?** As a proud product of Guilford County Schools, I’m deeply concerned about our public education system. We have issues with teacher retention and school buildings in need of repair. Strong public schools aren’t just an investment in future generations but a great recruiting tool for attracting businesses.

More info: stevenfornc.com

**THE LAW & YOUR VOTE**

You do NOT lose your right to vote if you have a traffic ticket or outstanding civil fine, or if you are convicted of a misdemeanor.

If you are convicted of a felony, you temporarily lose your citizenship rights, including your right to vote. But you automatically get your right to vote back in North Carolina after you finish your sentence, including probation or parole. It doesn’t matter where the felony conviction occurred, in this state or elsewhere.

No court document is needed to “restore” your right to vote. Just finish your sentence and register like any other citizen. Failure to pay restitution does not block your right to vote, unless you are still on probation.

If you know someone who has completed a felony sentence, encourage them to register and vote!

Some responses are shortened. For the full responses and answers to more questions by the candidates, go to: vote411.org or demnc.co/GNR2018
CECIL BROCKMAN

Party: Democrat
Occupation: Legislator

Leadership experience: Two-term state legislator; vice chair, House Education K-12 Committee; Board of Visitors, UNCG’s School of Health and Human Science.

What is your top policy priority if elected? Our education system is leaving too many students behind, especially African-Americans. We need to address this performance gap and make necessary investments in our public schools. We should bring our teacher pay and per-pupil spending up, while we are leading in innovation to turn around failing schools.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? We should expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act in North Carolina. It is unacceptable that many thousands of people are being denied health insurance coverage due to nothing more than partisan politics.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? I support an independent redistricting process that would take the process out of the hands of partisan politicians.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? I am in favor of gun control measures that would serve to reduce gun violence in this country. I believe in banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, universal background checks, and gun-violence restraining orders so we can stop mass-shooting tragedies like the one in Parkland.

More info: cecilfornc.com

KURT COLLINS

Party: Republican
Occupation: Underwriter/real estate broker

Leadership experience: Treasurer, Employee Resource Group at United Guaranty/Arch MI Co; The Arc of High Point Art Auction Committee; Greensboro Jaycees Taste Carolina Committee; synerG Leadership Team

What is your top policy priority if elected? My primary focus would be economic development. This would include continuing to make North Carolina an attractive place for business, thus leading to job creation. I would support further tax reform and emphasize education and school safety as well.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? Continuing to focus on the economy and attracting businesses to the state will lead to further job creation, therefore generating an environment where individuals have access to quality employer-provided health coverage at an affordable rate.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? I would support an independent redistricting committee. Districts should be kept as concise as possible and not spread out over large swaths of various cities and counties.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? Gun safety should be the concern and this needs to begin with education and guidance within the home. Statistics show that most, if not all, of recent mass shooters have had little to no connection with their fathers. Engagement with children beginning at an early age has a dramatic impact on their development. There is no replacement for love and education.

More info: electkurtcollins.com

Think Voting Doesn’t Matter?

- In 2008, the biggest group using Early Voting in NC was African-American female Democrats. The next year, state legislators focused on K-12 education, childcare support, and the NC Racial Justice Act.
- In 2014, the biggest group using Early Voting in NC was white male Republicans. The next year, legislators cut corporate taxes, cut support for women’s health programs, and cut pollution regulations.
MARY PRICE (PRICEY) HARRISON

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Retired Lawyer

Leadership experience: I am serving in my seventh term in the NC House. Under Democratic leadership, I chaired several committees. I currently serve on 15 legislative committees. Prior to my election, I gained leadership experience serving on government commissions and on the boards of many nonprofits.

What is your top policy priority if elected? Improving our elections and campaign financing systems are priorities. Gerrymandered districts, attacks on our courts, and an unprecedented influx of campaign money have diminished public trust in government. We need expanded voting access, nonpartisan and publicly financed judicial races, and independent redistricting in order for our democracy to flourish.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? We must expand Medicaid. If we did, we would save more than 2,000 lives a year in NC as well as save our rural hospitals. By 2020, expanding Medicaid would create more than 43,000 NC jobs and boost our economy by more than $1 billion in tax revenue.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? I have long been a proponent of independent redistricting, even when Democrats were in charge. Gerrymandered districts have led to increased polarization and an inability of political parties to compromise.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? Since 2012, I’ve worked on comprehensive gun safety legislation that contains common sense measures such as universal background checks, banning high-capacity magazine cartridges, safe storage requirements, etc.

ALISSA BATT S

Party: Republican

Occupation: Manager, Records Management

Leadership experience: Mother Teresa said, “Do small things with great love.” While I believe leadership doesn’t come from titles, I have maintained a consistent and successful professional career. Social Media, Guilford County GOP; member, SynerG; interim 7-8 grade Faith Formation Lead, St. Pius X Catholic Church

What is your top policy priority if elected? The state is moving in the right direction, but I want to continue to reduce unnecessary regulations, which will promote economic growth. Special attention will be given to expanding access to affordable health care as well as educational initiatives such as increasing teacher pay and school safety.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? We need to research innovative ways to lower costs while expanding access to quality health care to all. In a related topic, the Medicaid system should be modernized to fit current and future use.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? I would support legislation creating an independent commission for redistricting so long as it was a well-vetted process based on previous successful implementations and the commission was truly independent.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? In mass shootings, the gun used (or access to) isn’t the root cause but rather the individual and specifically, their mental health. Gun Control ≠ Crime Control. Enhancing school safety protocols and mental health awareness & treatment are key.

More info: alissabatts.com

Resources for Voters

Vote411.org - Read about candidates, find polling locations, check registration status, and more.

NCVoter.org - All-purpose website for voting rules, how to preview your ballot, where to vote, etc.
JOHN FAIRCLOTH

Party: Republican

Occupation: Retired chief of police, broker and owner of real estate firm.

Leadership experience:
Director of NC Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission. High Point chief of police, 16 years, and City Council, three terms. NC House, four terms.

What is your top policy priority if elected? My focus is the ongoing consideration, development and passage of the state budget. As a chair of the House Appropriations Committee, I have responsibility for guiding the available funds, agreed to by the Finance Committees, to the various departments and divisions of state and to local governments.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? I sponsored the bipartisan bill HB 662, "Carolina Cares," for citizens whose income makes them ineligible for Medicaid but unable to afford health insurance. Residents with income not exceeding 133 percent of the federal poverty level, not enrolled in Medicare, can be covered if this bill is successful.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? I have supported an independent body to address redistricting. The difficulty comes in how we structure a truly “independent” body.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? I am vice chair of the House Select Committee on School Safety, which will examine data and hear experts from all viewpoints. We should consider how to use technology to permit safekeepers to monitor conditions in schools and how to identify and assist students with mental conditions that lead toward violence.

More info: johnfaircloth61.com

MARTHA R. SHAFER

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Retired VP, The Women’s Hospital of Greensboro

Leadership experience: A former health care executive, I led 10 departments and 150 plus employees. I was part of the team that started the Women’s Only Run which funds mammograms for poor women. I know how to work across boundaries and deliver solutions in a complex, highly-regulated environment.

What is your top policy priority if elected? The Legislature needs to reinvest in public education; it is short-changing our students and teachers. North Carolina is ranked 43rd in the country in per-student spending. My mother was a public high school teacher, and I attended public schools in Charlotte.

How do you propose to close the coverage gap in health insurance for 400,000 North Carolinians? We must strengthen our Medicaid program to provide coverage to low-wage workers and others who can’t work because of illness or because they are caring for others. Expanding care will stimulate business and employment throughout North Carolina, adding billions to our local economy and creating thousands of jobs. Our federal tax dollars are already funding expansion in 32 other states. It’s time North Carolina joined them.

What are your thoughts on the redistricting process? Gerrymandered districts make the General Assembly less representative. An independent redistricting commission would be a smart way to address this problem.

With continued shootings in schools, what is your stance on gun rights v. control? Our first responsibility is to protect our children, who must feel safe in school. There are ways to curb this violence while still respecting Constitution rights – for example, improve criminal background checks, raise the age for purchasing rifles, and ban “bump stocks.”

More info: MarthaShafer.com

Some responses are shortened. For the full responses and answers to more questions by the candidates, go to: vote411.org or demnc.co/GNR2018
SCOTT A. JONES

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Entrepreneur, executive board chair for nonprofit building permanent affordable housing

Leadership Experience: Business owner and nonprofit executive director; former Fire Department captain; NC certificated fire inspector; served on numerous nonprofit boards in Guilford County

What is your top policy priority if elected? Housing and school system to name a few.

As state legislators require schools to reduce class size, how will you help ensure classrooms are fully funded? Re-evaluating county budget, work closer with staff and business owners to build more corporate and community involvement.

What changes will be needed to the county’s Juvenile Detention Center after Dec. 2019 when 16- to 18-year-olds are no longer charged in adult court? Working closely with staff and community leaders for guidance in this process.

How would you reduce the ratio of nearly 2,000 students per nurse? Work with local school board and administrators to find opportunities for paid and volunteer internships for students from our local universities.

More info: electscottjones@gmail.com

ALAN W. PERDUE

Party: Republican

Occupation: Public safety consultant

Leadership experience: 20-plus years of progressive leadership within public safety, including 10 years as the director of Guilford County Emergency Services; 3+ years District 2 commissioner; president of the NC Fire Marshal’s Association.

What is your top policy priority if elected? The current access to care/treatment of mental health and substance abuse must be improved. Working with our community partners, a model organization and facility focused on clinical results can be obtained.

As state legislators require schools to reduce class size, how will you help ensure classrooms are fully funded? We as a board are working with our state legislators to seek additional funding to address the state mandate. Additionally, we have authorized a study with our Board of Education to determine the status of school facilities and how to be more efficient and effective.

What changes will be needed the county’s Juvenile Detention Center after Dec. 2019 when 16- to 18-year-olds are no longer charged in adult court? The county is evaluating the number of juveniles that will be impacted by the change, the number of beds needed, and funding sources to reduce the impact to the county. The evaluation includes juveniles within and outside Guilford County, as we provide a regional service.
How would you reduce the ratio of nearly 2,000 students per nurse in the county (the ideal is 750 students per nurse)? The board added additional school nurses this year, and we have asked for more data related to utilization and service delivery. Simply picking an ideal ratio is not as important as evaluating data to determine future resource allocation.

More info: alanperdue.com

TRACY LAMOTHE

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Bookkeeper/chef

Leadership experience:
Restaurant owner, executive chef; board positions including currently Deep Roots Market treasurer; business manager of a Greensboro church for five years; leadership team for a Title 1 Guilford County elementary school.

What is your top policy priority if elected? The school system needs our attention quickly. Our children deserve principals and teachers that are paid competitively and buildings that are safe and secure.

As state legislators require schools to reduce class size, how will you help ensure classrooms are fully funded? We need to politely request the state to fully fund their mandate. Then we will have to develop a plan to increase classrooms and get school buildings up to date.

What changes will be needed to the county’s Juvenile Detention Center after Dec. 2019 when 16-to-18 year olds are no longer charged in adult court? Guilford County has requested assistance from the General Assembly to expand the Center to house another 32 or 48 youth.

How would you reduce the ratio of nearly 2,000 students per nurse in the county (the ideal is 750 students per nurse)? School nurses have been a focus of mine since I was on the Guilford County Board of Health. Under previous boards, this wasn’t a priority. I’ve met multiple times with Project One members who are leading community efforts to increase nurses in schools. I am proud to have supported hiring six new RN positions and three CNA positions.

More info: conradnc.com

JUSTIN CONRAD

Party: Republican

Occupation: President, Bay Hill Seafood Sales and president, Libby Hill Seafood Restaurants Inc.

Leadership experience:

What is your top policy priority if elected? Guilford County still lags behind our peer counties in unemployment, which is why I have supported projects such as the Haeco expansion and the Publix distribution facility. In addition, continued support of the Family Justice Center, our efforts to combat domestic violence will be a priority.

As state legislators require schools to reduce class size, how will you help ensure classrooms are fully funded? My support of our public schools has been shown consistently in my voting record. In the last three budgets, I have supported increases to Guilford County Schools in excess of $27 million.

What changes will be needed to the county’s Juvenile Detention Center after Dec. 2019 when 16-to-18 year olds are no longer charged in adult court? Guilford County has requested assistance from the General Assembly to expand the Center to house another 32 or 48 youth.

How would you reduce the ratio of nearly 2,000 students per nurse in the county (the ideal is 750 students per nurse)? A more economical way to deal with this issue would be to have CNA staff fill these empty seats as a majority of work done by school nurses would also fall under CNA abilities. Specialty services like feeding tubes and special medication can be trained individually at the schools that need them.

More info: Facebook:@tracyforguilford
Winston McGregor

Party: Democrat

Occupation: Executive director, Guilford Education Alliance

Experience: Nearly two decades of community leadership, managing budgets and organizations, and working with diverse stakeholders, including board member of NCCJ, past president of Habitat for Humanity, and leadership team of Onward!

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? I support the district’s strategic plan and will work to bring people together to ensure every child has the joyful, safe, high expectations learning environment they deserve.

What programs or services would you like to see added or cut? I am excited about investments and innovations that will strengthen Career Pathways and Career Technical Education programs. All students deserve strong academics AND opportunities to explore how their learning will be applied in – and to help invent – the future.

How would you address the challenge of scarcer resources as charter schools grow? Charter schools ARE public schools and have risen in popularity because of the disciplinary and safety problems specifically in our middle schools. To stem the tide of parents opting for other educational opportunities, order and structure must be restored. We are also losing veteran teachers for these reasons as well.

More info: winston4kids.org

Marc Ridgill

Party: Republican

Occupation: Retired from Greensboro Police Department, former school resource officer

Experience: As school resource officer at Grimsley High School from 2006-2014, I have a working knowledge of what is taking place regarding student safety, teacher safety and working conditions. I also am a current parent of a GCS student.

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? Student and teacher safety. Our school system has no structure or disciplinary plan. Students and teachers are exposed to and are victims of violent acts and crime every day, INSIDE our schools.

What programs or services should be added or cut? I would like to see an extracurricular activity similar to Grimsley’s Man Up and Girl Up programs. Change the SCALE program from a 45-day program to a full-time optional school policy. Give those students a chance to succeed, not put them back in an environment where they cannot.

How would you address the challenge of scarcer resources as charter schools grow? Charter schools ARE public schools and have risen in popularity because of the disciplinary and safety problems specifically in our middle schools. To stem the tide of parents opting for other educational opportunities, order and structure must be restored. We are also losing veteran teachers for these reasons as well.

More info: Electmarcridgill.com

Some responses are shortened. For the full responses and answers to more questions by the candidates, go to: vote411.org or demnc.co/GNR2018
GREG DRUMWRIGHT
Party: Democrat

Occupation: Pastor

Experience: Former teacher in Guilford and Alamance/Burlington school systems; tutor and mentor for student leadership; organizer of 2016 Let Us Speak Community Forum on Social Justice; member of the Greensboro Chapter NAACP; member of the Pastors of the Piedmont and Greensboro Pulpit Forum

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? Equal representation and equitable access! The current school board does not reflect the demographics of the student body it serves. Furthermore, students from various socio-economic and multi-ethnic backgrounds deserve to be educated in safer schools under effective instructional support to close existing achievement gaps.

What programs or services would you like to see added or cut? I would like to implement a GCS student leadership academy to foster student potential around citizenship, social/civic interest and community involvement, open to all students. To increase accessibility to school board leadership in District 2, I would implement a reoccurring town-hall meeting, for all constituents, to collect ideas, offer greater accountability and build community within the district. I would also encourage parents to bring their children to speak as well. The voice of students will have as great an impact!

More info: gregdrumwright.com

ANITA SHARPE
Party: Republican

Occupation: Office manager/accountant

Experience: Guilford County Board of Education, 1990-2008, 2016-2018; school volunteer, 1975-2008; PTA officer, SAC chair, various years and schools

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? Increase/improve security at all entrance points (metal detectors, security staff) and mental health staff. Achievement-GCS has approximately 40 schools receiving D or F on state report card. Put resources in schools to reduce class size, recruit volunteers, and incentivize best staff to work in those schools.

What programs would you like to see added or cut? Eliminate all unnecessary positions and courses and as much testing as allowable by law. Increase course options for vocational/Career Technical Education and apprenticeships. Many careers do not require a four-year degree, but do require students to have skills in their chosen area of work. Vocational and CTE are vital to the success of many students who need support and investment in these programs.

More info: Anita Sharpe for Guilford County School Board on Facebook

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

Nine candidates are running for two seats on the nonpartisan Soil & Water Conservation District board, which focuses on natural resources (soil loss, erosion control, agricultural concerns, etc.) You may vote for up to two candidates:

- MIKE FAUCETTE
- LEWIS A. BRANDON
- JOSH MYERS
- A. J. (ANDY) COURTS, JR.
- KIRK PERKINS
- DAVE CRAWFORD
- MICHAEL A. WASHINGTON
- GAY DILLARD
- ANNA GERRINGER AMORIELLO

Tips for Voting

- When is the shortest wait time at the polls? Answer: Mid-morning or early afternoon.
- If you mark the wrong choice by mistake, ask the poll worker for a new ballot to replace a “spoiled” one.
- Go to your own precinct on Election Day. If you can’t get to it in time, you may use a provisional ballot at another precinct, but some items may not count.
**DESIREE BEST**

**Party:** Democrat  

**Occupation:** Retired Teacher, Guilford County Schools  

**Experience:** I am a lifelong educator. I retired from GCS after serving as a teacher’s assistant and a teacher for more than 31 years. I am currently a tutor in the district, and graduated from Dudley High in 1979. School boards need authentic educator voices; teachers are uniquely driven to lead and impact our communities.

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? Recruiting/retaining highly qualified teachers, school safety, lack of resources, and class sizes are some of the challenges that require swift action. I will work to make sure the community is well informed about the state of GCS, advocate relentlessly at all levels for fair funding, and ensure that funds are used wisely.

What programs or services would you like to see added or cut? I would support comprehensive educational programming so that all children can pursue their talents and interests. There should be greater emphasis on Career Technical Education and STEAM, as well as on social-emotional learning. We must also enhance services for academically gifted and exceptional children.

How would you address the challenge of scarcer resources as charter schools grow? Per pupil spending in North Carolina ranks 43rd in the nation. Policies like not granting districts a state sales tax exemption while doing so for cities, counties, and private schools decreases revenue for classrooms. School board members must spend far more time galvanizing communities to change public policy.

More info: DesireeBest.com

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**LINDA WELBORN**

**Party:** Republican  

**Occupation:** Retired information technology professional  

**Experience:** Through my professional career and advocacy work, I have acquired the skills and knowledge base needed to be an effective leader. Having advocated at the local, state, and federal level on a multitude of key issues, I have established that my sole purpose for being on the board is to serve our students.

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? Acquiring and retaining strong teachers is essential. At GCS, we are looking at different ways to compete for teachers, compensate them in new ways, and provide more support for new teachers. A positive work environment helps with retention; sometimes small things can make a huge difference.

What programs or services would you like to see added or cut? Currently, businesses in the area are struggling to find skilled workers. Career Technical Education provides students with solid careers making good middle income wages. I would like to expand our Career Technical Education programs and seek new opportunities to work with businesses. All of our magnet programs should be reviewed, strong programs kept and struggling programs redirected.

How would you address the challenge of scarcer resources as charter schools grow? GCS will do the best job possible to provide an excellent education to all students. If there is a flood of new charters, GCS will have to make hard decisions, looking at outsourcing services or consolidating schools. That’s a difficult process which means larger schools and fewer resources for our students.

More info: facebook.com/Linda.Welborn.GC.BOE

*Some responses are shortened. For the full responses and answers to more questions by the candidates, go to: vote411.org or demnc.co/GNR2018*
WES CASHWELL
Party: Republican

Occupation: General contractor

Experience: GCS Board of Education District 6, 2016-present; chairman, Board of GO FAR (Go Out for A Run) 2017-present; a business owner involved with budgeting, personnel and planning

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? Attracting and retaining the best and brightest educators will be key. The goal can be achieved by providing growth and leadership opportunities, promoting collaboration in professional learning communities, and creating a salary structure that attracts entry-level teachers and rewards master teachers.

What programs or services would you like to see added or cut? Services should be expanded that assist students in addressing problems that create obstacles to learning. Staffing in the areas of school nursing, counseling and psychologists should be increased to reflect the need for both prevention and intervention to achieve positive academic and personal outcomes.

How would you address the challenge of scarcer resources as charter schools grow? Shortfalls can be mitigated by maintaining and improving teacher quality, increasing parental involvement and strengthening school leadership. The engagement of parents, teachers and administrators is validation of the district’s goal to “increase organizational efficiency and effectiveness to better support student learning.”

More info: cashwellforeducation@gmail.com

KHEM DENISE IRBY
Party: Democrat

Occupation: Afterschool teacher

Experience: 20 years as a corporate legal secretary; three term on NYC District School Board; 10 years with Naval Reserves; 15 years as a public education advocate; GCS parent and employee; secretary of NC Association of Educators’ Education Support Professionals (ESP) program

What are the current challenges facing public education in our county? We are challenged with lack of funding, school safety, parent engagement, poverty, limited English proficiency, school nurse ratio, and more. This requires putting students first in all decisions, collective advocacy, innovative ideas and joint efforts with county commissioners in removing these barriers.

What programs or services would you like to see added or cut? Each school is unique; schools need the flexibility to provide what their student population needs. Educators should allow student data to drive the instruction at their school. Our students need the wraparound services and non-sports related afterschool programs in middle schools.

How would you address the challenge of scarcer resources as charter schools grow? Guilford County Schools should continue to build support from business partners, groups such as Guilford Education Alliance, Communities-in-Schools, GTCC apprenticeship programs, Say Yes initiatives, and grant opportunities. GCS must seek to attract funding toward STEM and the arts to maintain balance in education.

More info: khemdirby.org

DEENA HAYES
Party: Democrat

Deena Hayes, who currently represents District 8, is unopposed.
A Threat You Can Stop!

Legislative leaders in the General Assembly placed descriptions of 6 proposed amendments to the NC Constitution at the end of your ballot. The descriptions (at right, in box) sound very appealing — but they are misleading and dangerous! Here’s why:

If enough people are tricked into voting for them, the actual amendments will give legislative leaders enormous new powers to pick our judges, make voting harder, and increase the tax burden on working families!

Republicans, Democrats and Independents are calling this “an aggressive power grab” by legislative leaders who want to change the NC Constitution so they can control all three branches of government.

You have the power to stop this, because the NC Constitution can’t be changed without voter approval. Here’s why you should vote AGAINST all 6 amendments:

**Right to Hunt:** Sounds good, but does putting this into the Constitution mean people can challenge laws against hunting in parks or near schools? Nobody knows.

**Victim Rights:** Thisdelays justice and will cost millions to notify victims of every detail of court action. It doesn’t say who pays! The amendment is full of such unknowns.

**Income Tax:** Putting a cap in the Constitution saves the rich from paying a higher rate than others; it will lead to more sales taxes to balance the budget. This is a big gift to political donors, at the expense of working families.

**Voter ID:** Only Mississippi has this in a Constitution and it has exceptions. Will college or military IDs be ok? Not known. This lets legislators exclude who they want. Black voters were most harmed when NC last had an ID law.

**Judicial Vacancies:** The ballot description is misleading. Governors now get local input to fill vacancies; the new scheme says legislators control whose names go forward for appointment. It’s a way to make their friends judges.

**Board of Elections:** NC has a 9-person Board now; 4 Republicans, 4 Democrats, 1 Independent. This cuts the Independent, leading to 4-4 deadlocks; for ex., 1 party can block Early Voting plans, kicking them to legislators.

Taken together, the amendments are a way to give more power to legislators; as written, they even get to fill in all the “unknowns.” Vote AGAINST all 6!

“The amendments would destroy our State’s balance of power [and] cherished principles . . . Vote against them.”
- Henry Frye, NC’s first black Chief Justice, NC Supreme Court

“Ballot questions shouldn’t be a riddle. Or, even worse, a lie.”
- Raleigh News & Observer

“Fair government and equal rights are at stake. Vote against.”

**NC governors, judges, and civil rights leaders urge you to vote against the Amendments**

Refereeendum

**“CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS”**
(The descriptions below leave out key parts of the actual Amendments)

**Right to Hunt and Fish**
“Constitutional amendment protecting the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife.”
- For ☐
- Against ☐

**Rights of Victims**
“Constitutional amendment to strengthen protections for victims of crime; to establish certain absolute basic rights for victims; and to ensure the enforcement of these rights."
- For ☐
- Against ☐

**Income Tax**
“Constitutional amendment to reduce the income tax rate in N.C. to a maximum allowable rate of seven percent (7%).”
- For ☐
- Against ☐

**Board of Elections**
“Constitutional amendment to establish an eight-member Bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections Enforcement in the Constitution to administer ethics and elections law.”
- For ☐
- Against ☐

For    Against

This page is paid for by Democracy NC, not the League of Women Voters of NC. For its positions, see demnc.co/lwvamend

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3 WAYS TO VOTE IN GUILFORD COUNTY

Voters in Guilford County will elect judges, lawmakers, the sheriff and other officials, who will make decisions that affect virtually every part of your life — but you decide who wins! Read the candidates’ views in this Guide, then make your choices.

At the end of the ballot, voters are asked to mark FOR or AGAINST several controversial Amendments to the NC Constitution. The descriptions on the ballot are NOT the same as the Amendments. Be sure to read about them on page 31. Your vote is crucial!

NO PHOTO ID NEEDED TO VOTE
You’ll be asked to state your name and address and sign in.

Questions? Call the hotline!
1-888-OUR-VOTE

1. EARLY VOTING: Oct. 17-Nov. 3
Voting early in person is the best option. Definitely use Early Voting if you have moved or need to update your voter registration. See page 11 inside to find Early Voting times and places for Guilford County.

2. IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY
On Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, go to your own precinct’s polling place. Polls are open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. If you’re in line by 7:30 pm, you will be able to vote. If you go to the wrong polling place and don’t have time to get to the right place, ask about using a provisional ballot. To find your precinct’s poll, go to demnc.co/distr or call the Board of Elections at 336-641-3836.

3. MAIL-IN ABSENTEE VOTING
Any registered voter may use this method; no special reason is needed. See the box on page 4 of this Voter Guide or go to demnc.co/mail for details for how to vote by mail.