



@NCCSS



@nccss



nccss.voice

# WELCOME TO #NCCSS24

*"Hidden Treasures and Histories of North Carolina"*

## Bringing Local Government to your Classroom

Candi Harris Tucker  
Kellie Harris Hopkins

Thursday Feb 22 3:30pm  
Tidewater B



Candi Harris Tucker  
Washington High School  
Beaufort Co Schools

[ctucker@beaufort.k12.nc.us](mailto:ctucker@beaufort.k12.nc.us)

252-945-5301



Kellie Harris Hopkins  
Director

Beaufort County Board of Elections

[kellie.hopkins@beaufortcountync.gov](mailto:kellie.hopkins@beaufortcountync.gov)

252-946-2321



# EDUCATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Founding Principles of the  
United States of America and  
North Carolina: Civic Literacy

# NC EDUCATION STANDARDS

CL.C&G.2.1 Compare how national, state, and local governments maintain order, security, and protect individual rights.

CL.C&G.2.3 Differentiate between the types of local governments in order to understand the role, powers, and functions each plays within an intergovernmental system.

CL.C&G.3.1 Differentiate citizenship and civic participation in terms of responsibilities, duties, and privileges of citizens.

CL.C&G.3.6 Distinguish the relationship between the media and government in terms of the responsibility to inform the American public.

CL.E.1.1 Explain how the role federal and state governments play in economic decision-making impacts economic mobility, status, and quality of life of individuals living in America.

## WHY INVITE THEM

# We The People

- Let students know they are in charge of their government
- Eliminate the fear or suspicion of those in power
- Build working relationships with local officials



## HOW TO GET STARTED

- X Contact your Director
- X CLEAR THIS WITH YOUR ADMINISTRATOR
- X Prepare your students
  - X Titles, Names, Photos
  - X Their responsibilities
  - X Questions- take their concerns but also you may have to lead them with current events



# EDUCATE ON ELECTED BODIES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

X State Officials



X NC General Assembly

X County Officials



X County Commissioners

X Municipal Officials



X Mayor and City Council

A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE:




Candi Harris  
Tucker

Washington  
High School

**“Having Local Officials engage in open discussions with high school students who will be voters provides hope for the future. Officials learn what our youth wants and expects while the young adults learn how to participate in our government.”**





# BOARD OF ELECTIONS RESPONSIBILITIES

## WHAT THE DIRECTOR DOES

This is the **EASIEST** thing ever for a teacher.

- X Coordinate and decide on date, time, and length of “Bringing Local Government to your classroom” with school representative.
- X Coordinate and decide on location of “Bringing Local Government to your classroom” with school representative. Examples: School auditorium, school classroom, Board of Elections Office, or other location for meetings.
- X Decide on agenda which can include elected official panel, instruction by board of elections on voter registration and/or the voting process, question and answer, and/or mock election.



## WHAT THE DIRECTOR DOES (CONTINUED)

- X Contact local officials for Elected Official Forum. Try to get a wide range of officials. Take into consideration party affiliation, sex, race, and level of government (Municipal, School Board, County Commissioner, North Carolina House of Representatives, etc.) 4 or 5 are a good working number.
- X Prepare handouts. This can vary depending on agenda and time of presentation. These can include a list of elected officials, a list of candidates, district maps, and sample ballots if available.
- X Prepare voting equipment and ballots if a mock election is on the agenda.
- X Plan for equipment transport to the meeting facility.

# THE AGENDA

(A TWO TO THREE HOUR TIME BLOCK IS RECOMMENDED. ONCE THE CONVERSATION BEGINS IT'S HARD TO GET THEM TO STOP)

## I. Introduction by Director

Teacher introduces Director who then introduces each of the elected officials.

## II. Elected Official Panel

Each elected official details their level of government and what their particular focus is (housing/education/etc)

## III. Student Questions

Students should have prepared questions (maybe teacher led) but hopefully will ask something based on what the speakers have said

## IV. Registration and Mock Voting

Discussion with Director on how to register, political parties, primaries, second primaries, general elections, Mock Election with NC Favorites Ballots on county voting equipment.



A DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:



Kellie  
Harris Hopkins

Beaufort  
County Board  
of Elections

**“This program has been one of the most rewarding parts of my career. To witness high school students realize that elected officials are approachable and accountable to the public is a beautiful thing. Students, educators, directors and elected officials always leave the room energized.”**



# STUDENT REACTIONS

# AXEL RUIZ

With NC Representative Keith  
Kidwell District 79



\*  
“I learned that it is important to know what is going on in our communities in order to make decisions that help contribute to a better society.”

TANNER MOORE

“They took  
time for  
us.”







DEMIAH COPELAND

**"They  
listened to  
us."**



# ELECTED OFFICIAL REACTIONS



“I am happy to participate in the civic education of our high school students with Director Kellie Hopkins of our county board of elections. I believe it is very important for our students to understand the process and role of government and the election process. It is also inspiring to see the interaction and interest the students have displayed.”

Keith Kidwell (R), North Carolina House of Representatives



ED BOOTH (D)

Member, Beaufort County  
Board of County  
Commissioners





At the National Association of County Commissioners Meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota, Beaufort County Commissioner Ed Booth shared information on the Beaufort County Program and shared examples of what he and other commissioners have been doing in having conversations with students -

“THAT’S THE GOOD STORIES WE NEED TO TELL”

“I always jump at the opportunity to participate in an event that involves our students. Getting to answer questions about the process of running for office, the responsibility of being an elected official and how we can improve our community is fantastic. These students are engaged and ask such great questions. I wish all teachers participated in this event!”



CAROLYN WALKER (R),  
BEAUFORT COUNTY DISTRICT 7 SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

# EXTRA RESOURCES

Interested educators should call the local director of the board of elections to discuss. Kellie would be happy to assist educators or other directors of elections across the state with questions about the program.

Contact information:

**Kellie Harris Hopkins, Director**  
**Beaufort County Board of Elections**  
**1308 Highland Drive, Suite 104 / PO Box 1016**  
**Washington, NC 27889**  
**Phone: 252-946-2321**  
**Email: [kellie.hopkins@beaufortcountync.gov](mailto:kellie.hopkins@beaufortcountync.gov)**  
**Website: [WWW.beaufortncboe.org](http://WWW.beaufortncboe.org)**



@NCCSS



@nccss



nccss.voice

Thank you for attending!

Please scan the QR code below to provide feedback on this session.



Checkout the Convention Hall and visit the vendors who are here to support YOU!