

Dare County Board of Education Advocates for Public Education

The Dare County Board of Education traveled to Raleigh on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, to advocate for public education. The Board members and superintendent met with Dare County's General Assembly members Senator Bill Cook and Representative Beverly Boswell.

Additionally, in small groups they met with Representative Linda Johnson, who is the Chair of the Appropriations Committee and of the Education K-12 Committee, and with Senator David Curtis, who co-chairs the committees on Appropriations in Education and of Education/Higher Education. The Board also had the opportunity to meet with the new State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mark Johnson.

The Board expressed its news on a variety of topics, including increasing teacher and principal pay, restoring pay for teachers who earn masters' degrees, reducing the number of state tests, emphasizing the importance of career and technical education courses, continuing to provide teachers of art, music, and physical education teachers in elementary schools, and increased funding for staff development.

"We appreciated the time the members of the General Assembly gave us to express our views on challenges facing teachers and students," said Board Chair Bea Basnight. "The Dare County Board of Education feels it is part of our responsibility as Board members to be active participants in the political process at the state level."

Superintendent of schools Dr. Sue F. Burgess said, "This was my first chance to talk to State Superintendent Mark Johnson. He was very interested to hear our concerns and priorities. We have invited him to visit our schools and agreed to send him information about how we are using computer technology in classrooms."



From left to right:

Joe Tauber, David Twiddy, Superintendent Sue Burgess, Board Chair Bea Basnight, Board Vice-Chair Margaret Lawler, Mary Ellon Ballance, and Charlotte White.