

With your support, we launched EdNC a year and a half ago with a set of core beliefs:

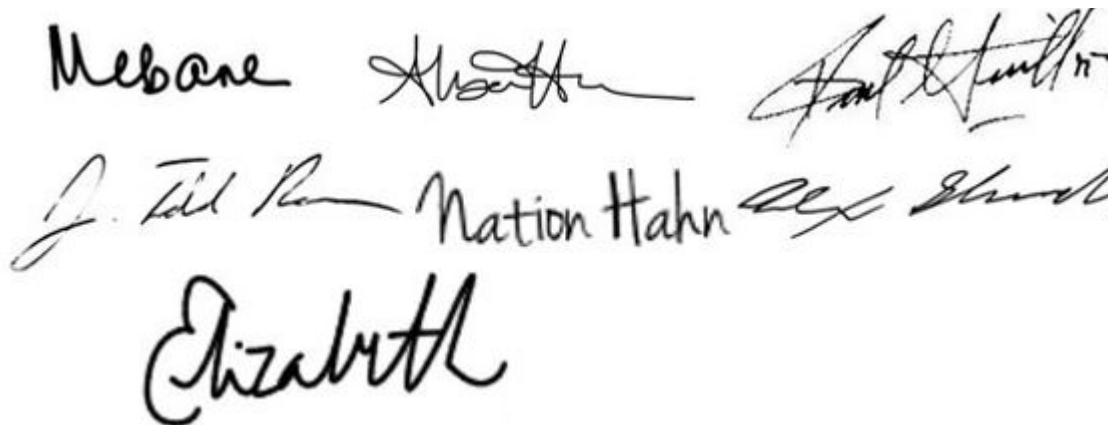
- it's all about our students,
- nothing is more important to the future of North Carolina than their education, and
- too many stories go untold — stories of teachers, leaders, programs, and schools doing incredible work each and every day.

It is our privilege and responsibility at EdNC to tell those stories, elevate voices, and create impact.

We bring *transparency* to the debate about education, we highlight important *trends* shaping the future of education, and we tell the stories of our *everyday heroes* — the leaders, programs, and schools doing remarkable work day in and day out all across our state. And we have built the *architecture for this state's participation* in a bipartisan conversation about what matters most — our students and their access to a high quality education.

We want the students across North Carolina to grow up wanting to call this state home as they become our leaders of tomorrow. We look forward to working with you to make a difference in 2016 and beyond for our students, educators, schools, and all of our communities across North Carolina.

On behalf of EdNC's board of directors, our sincere and humble thanks.



The image shows five handwritten signatures in black ink. The first row contains three signatures: 'Melbane', 'Hester', and 'Paul Henthorn'. The second row contains two signatures: 'J. Ted R...' and 'Nation Hahn'. The third row contains a single large signature: 'Elizabeth'.



Work

This year the story of who EdNC is has become more clear. Our online platform is the go-to, trusted source of data, stories, information, analysis, and research about all things K-12.

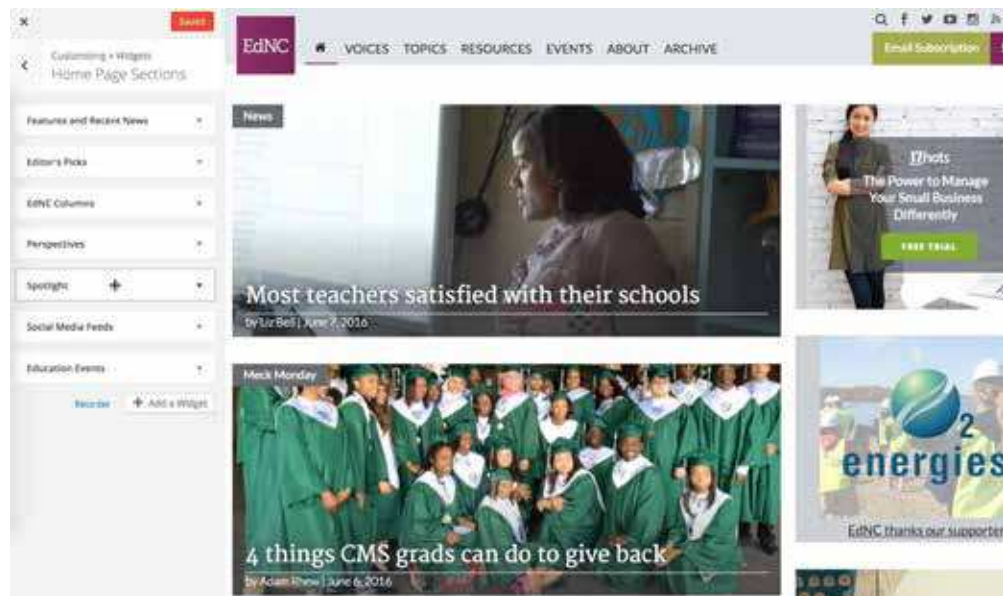
EdNC is innovative, and we have the same standards of excellence for ourselves that we have for our schools.

We are the think tank of the future, conducting nonpartisan research and presenting it to stakeholders in a way they will consume, use, and share it.

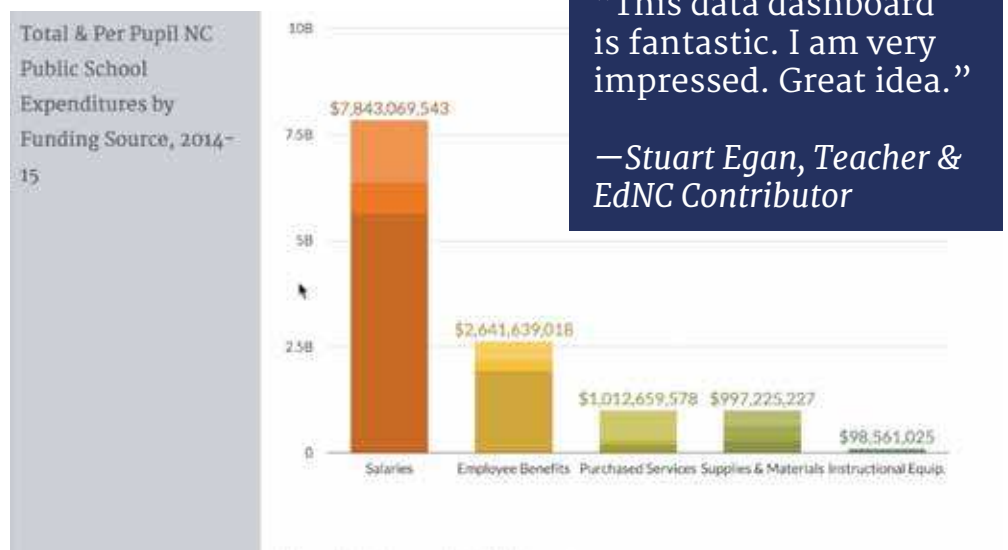
“As a student and as a native resident of North Carolina it means a lot to be able to share stories that affect me personally and that affect my community. Through EdNC I am able to do just that. ... There is a certain authenticity and power embedded within these personal and localized stories that just can’t be found anywhere else.”

—Eugenia Huang, Student & EdNC Contributor

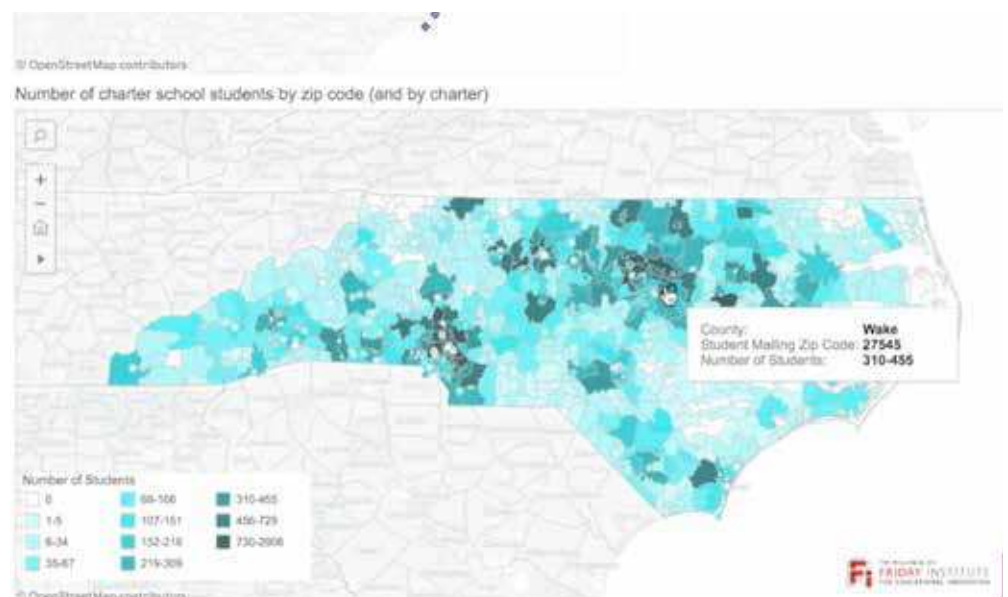
Our platform has a new, modular front page and industry-leading, multimedia digital content design.

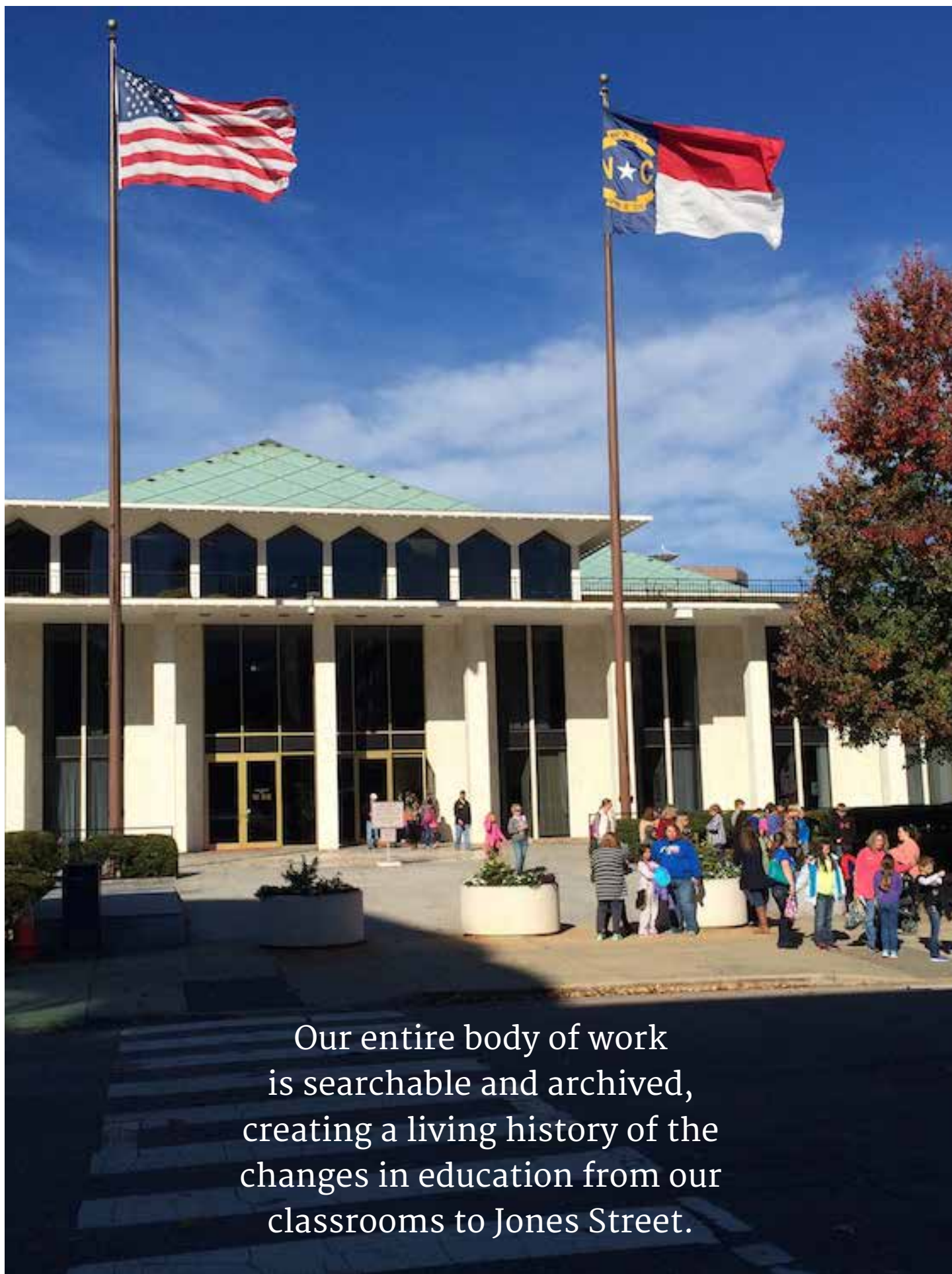


The EdNC data dashboard allows citizens, the media, funders, and policymakers to track and share demographics, market share, funding, and data on students and teachers with ease.



Our maps continue to set the bar for data visualization.



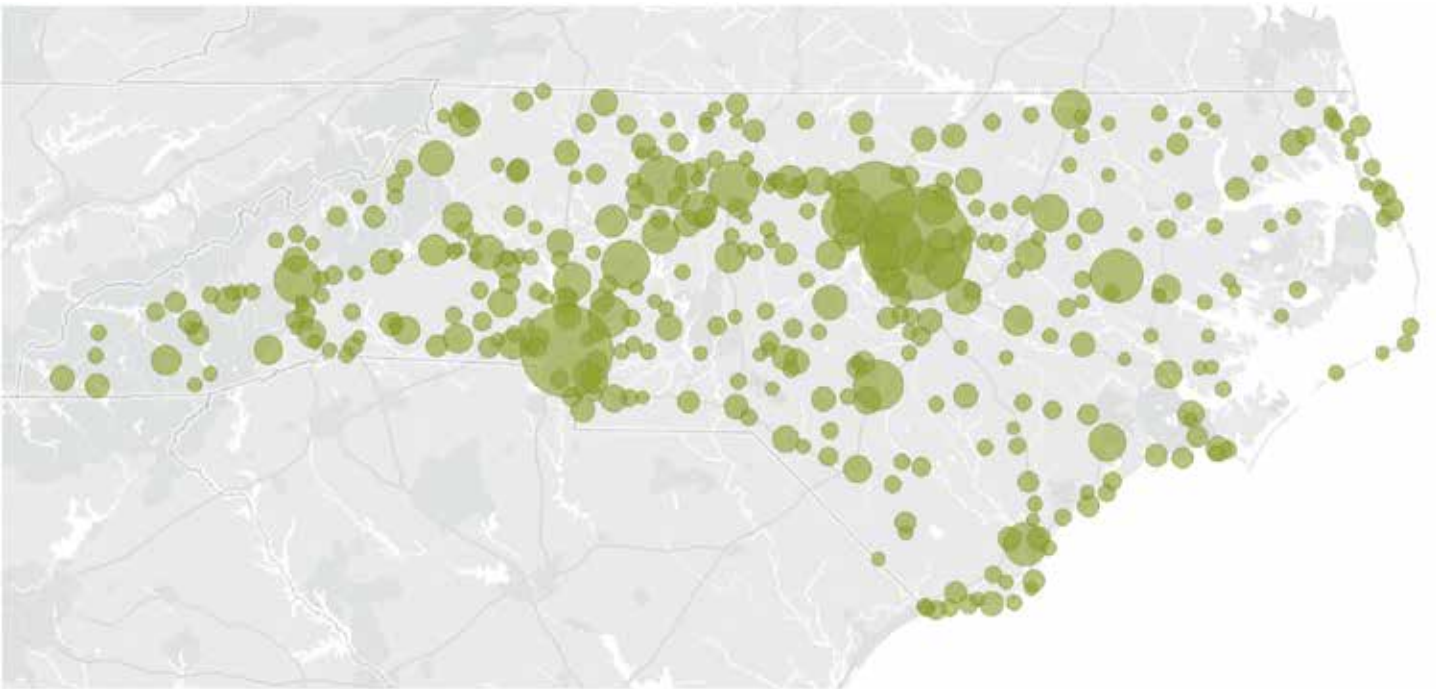


Our entire body of work
is searchable and archived,
creating a living history of the
changes in education from our
classrooms to Jones Street.

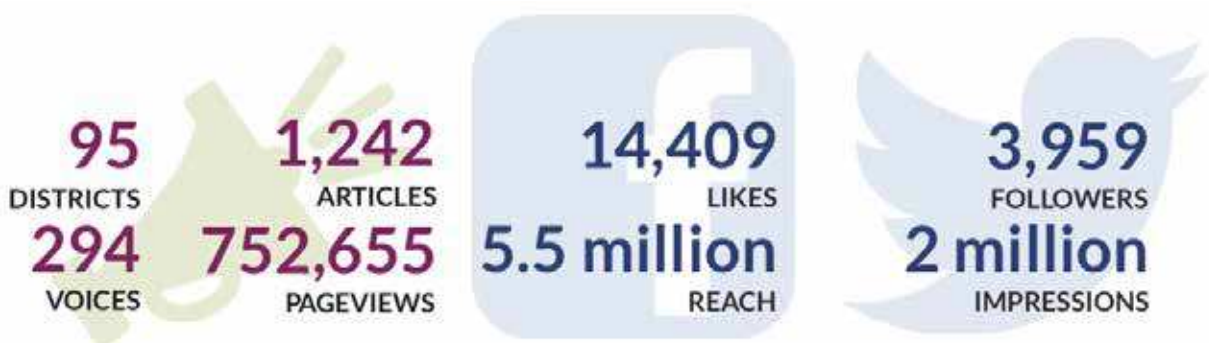
Impact

At EdNC, we evaluate and track our impact in a variety of ways, including the big reasons we do this work:

- to provide citizens with information to be free and self governing,
- the disinterested pursuit of the truth,
- the monitoring of power,
- giving voice to the voiceless, and
- creating a forum for more voices to be heard.



Number of website sessions by location





Saturating the community with possibility

In May, John Farrelly, the superintendent of Edgecombe County Public Schools, spoke to the EdNC Board of Directors about hope, resiliency, grit, and tenacity. He knows first hand why students need these attributes. After losing his father unexpectedly at the age of 11, Farrelly dropped out of school and went to work to help provide and raise his siblings, making sure they had access to the educational opportunities he believes are so important. He says experiences like these “form who you want to be in life.” And so as superintendent, he says his job is to “saturate the community with possibility.”

This is why we do this work. We believe that all things are possible for North Carolinians if we have hope.

Watch our year-in-review video at
<https://www.ednc.org/annual-report/>





Driving momentum

Districts are considering Eric Jensen's Teaching with Poverty in Mind because of our work to highlight how that model works to close the achievement gap in Hoke County and at Old Town Elementary.

Because of our research and reporting, trauma-sensitive learning models are being considered and implemented in more districts. We have worked to elevate the work of David Thompson and Buncombe County, Katie Dight in Cabarrus County, and others who are doing this important work.

Our work on access to healthy food led to four presentations across the state to childhood nutrition directors and an invitation to host a symposium on food at UNC-Chapel Hill in the fall with the goal of working towards a more inclusive statewide food policy. We know hungry kids don't learn well.



Creating your architecture of participation

More than 200 voices from across the educational and political landscape of North Carolina have been amplified by EdNC. These voices — educators, policymakers, researchers, parents, and teachers — are helping to shape the future of education in North Carolina now that they are at the table.

In our most widely read article — The real problem with teaching in North Carolina — teacher Nancy Snipes Mosley made recommendations based on her experience in the classroom. And policymakers listened.

“There ARE real solutions to the problem with teaching in North Carolina. Progress will require the active involvement of invested educators and concerned citizens throughout the state.”

— Nancy Snipes Mosley

Consistently, our most read articles are written by teachers and policymakers. You all are EdNC’s architecture of participation.

“It is not always easy for a teacher’s voice to be heard amidst the dull roar of educators running across state lines for a livable salary and the impassioned shouts of protest on the General Assembly lawn, but EducationNC has given myself and many others in the state a platform to share our experiences in the world of education.”

—Allison Stewart, Teacher & EdNC Contributor

“I never really told the public school system because I was afraid. Please make people understand sometimes situations happen that people have no control over. I am on the verge of giving up. I salute you and your partners on what you’re doing.”

—A homeless mom of three public school students, on EdNC’s work to close the achievement gap



Next

You will see more independent news and analysis from our team in 2016-17 with a focus on covering the elections. We expect education to be an important issue for those running for office, and we want it to be easy for you to know where policymakers stand on the issues.

Transparency. Trends. Engagement.

Deep dives on issues and regions understand our state better. We will continue to underscore the issues that matter most.

What are the problems with our teacher pipeline and how do we fix them?
How do we retain great superintendents, principals, and teachers?



Where are our children being educated — traditional public schools, charter schools, private schools, and homeschools — and what are the implications of the shifting market share for each sector?



How do we educate children in poverty well? Tammi Sutton, the executive director of KIPP:ENC, says, “Is it hard to educate kids in poverty? Yes. So what? Let’s do it.”



How do education issues play out differently for different groups of students?



How can we help citizens understand the state budget and education spending?
How can we help all citizens to be comfortable interacting with policymakers?





About

Our mission

EdNC works to expand educational opportunities for all children in North Carolina, increase their academic attainment, and improve the performance of the state's public schools.

How we do it

EdNC provides citizens and policymakers with nonpartisan data, research, news, information, and analysis about the major trends, issues, and challenges bearing on education. We gather and disseminate information employing the most efficient means of communication, primarily through the Internet.

In addition to the content distributed, EdNC fosters an active and connected community of those interested in education policy and practice throughout the state. The work of EdNC encourages informed citizen participation and strong leadership on behalf of the school children of North Carolina.

Our team



Mebane Rash, CEO & Editor-in-Chief



Alisa Herr, Chief Technical Officer



Alex Granados, News Director



Todd Brantley, Director of Policy & Research



Nation Hahn, Chief Growth Officer



Liz Bell, Researcher/Reporter

2016-17 Board of Directors

Gerry Hancock, Chair & Publisher

Ferrel Guillory, Vice Chair & Editorial Advisor

Andrew Holton, Treasurer

Debra Horton, Secretary

Newell Clark, Executive Committee

Ed Croom, Executive Committee

Mebane Rash, CEO & Editor-in-Chief

Edna Earle Blue

Tom Bradshaw

JB Buxton

James Ford

Mo Green

Sam Houston

Tom Lambeth

Chuck Neely

Bob Orr

Shirley Prince

English Sall

Keana Triplett, Teacher of the Year

Joy Vermillion Heinsohn

Brad Wilson

Larry Wooten



Supporters

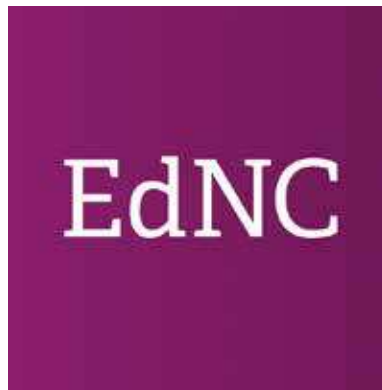
Our sincerest thanks goes to the following list of donors for funding EdNC during the 2015–16 year.

Low Wealth Schools Consortium	O2 Energies	David Dunaway	Mebane Rash
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation	Goodnight Educational Foundation	Noel Fox	The Lloyd and Margaret Rash Family Advised Fund
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina	James Barrett	Lisa Fox	Nancy Rose
The Winston–Salem Foundation through a Donor Advised Fund	Lynda Blancato	Claire Goebel	Sarah Shifflet
The InSight Fund of the Triangle Community Foundation	Leigh Bordley	Ferrel Guillory	Rodney Shotwell
Burroughs Wellcome Fund	Frances Bradburn	Richard Hart	Jeannie Smith
John William Pope Foundation	Tom and Mary Mac Bradshaw	Andrew Holton	Jeff Sossamon
Park Foundation	Judith and Earl Britt	Debra Horton	Amy Strecker
SAS Institute	Glenda and Bob Burgin	James B. Hunt, Jr.	Tony and Beth Swartz
Duke Energy Foundation	Hunter and JB Buxton	Deborah Jones	John Tate III
Viacom	Damon Circosta	Robert Kennedy	Valerie Truesdale
	Catherine Clabby	Amanda Martin	Edwin Vaden
	Ned Cline	Day McLaughlin	David Vandenberg
	Sandra Conway	Dr. Lory Morrow	Dianne and Steven Wrenn
	Marie DeRenne	Shirley Prince	
		Dennis and Betty Chafin Rash	

EdNC provided professional services to Everett Gaskins Hancock LLP, First Vote NC, NC Community Development Initiative, and the University of North Carolina.

“You are a wonderful magnifier of good. Thank you for all the ways you are lifting up the good people and bright spots of work in this state.”

—Anita Brown-Graham, Director, Institute of Emerging Issues



For previous annual reports and audited financial statements,
please visit:

<https://www.ednc.org/annual-report/>

EducationNC | PO Box 1636 | Raleigh, NC 27602 | info@ednc.org