

# From the Board Room - October Edition

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Inbox

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## From the Board Room ACTIVITIES OF THE NC BOARD OF EDUCATION

**OCTOBER 2015**

*The State Board of Education is comprised of the State Treasurer, the Lieutenant Governor and 11 citizens appointed by the Governor. This newsletter highlights the Board's activities on behalf of the 1.5 million public school students in our state and the more than 100,000 educators who provide services to children. You may view all State Board of Education member and advisor information [online](#). To access current and archived versions of From the Boardroom, visit the State Board of Education's [website](#).*



### NC Educators Can Now Earn Global Educator Badge

As North Carolina's economy becomes even more globally connected and as global companies make North Carolina home for their operations, North Carolina students need to understand the larger world and how they can work and participate in a global economy.

Aligned with those trends and to encourage a global approach, the State Board of Education approved criteria this month for educators to demonstrate their global education expertise by earning the Global Educator Digital Badge. Educators may voluntarily complete the criteria for this designation as part of their personal growth goals or as a part of a school or district initiative.

The first Global-Ready School designation is expected to be awarded later this fall. A more comprehensive description of the Global Education initiative is [online](#).

## Number of Teachers Leaving the Classroom Up Slightly

The number of teachers leaving North Carolina public school classrooms increased slightly from last year according to the 2014-15 Annual Report on Teachers Leaving the Profession presented to the State Board of Education.

In 2014-15, 14,255 teachers left their local school districts resulting in an overall state turnover rate of 14.84 percent. This percentage was 14.12 percent in 2013-14. Local district turnover rates ranged from a high of 33.55 percent in Northampton County to a low of 5.75 percent in Graham County. All local district figures are included in the full [report](#).



The State Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction have a number of initiatives in place to help recruit and retain teachers including alternative entry licensure routes, beginning teacher support programs, 12 percent pay increase for National Board Certification and Troops to Teachers.

The turnover report reflects the time period from March 2014 to March 2015. During this time frame, 96,081 teachers were employed in North Carolina public schools. This report does not include charter schools' teacher turnover data as charter schools are not required to report turnover data since their teachers are employed "at will," and only 50 percent of them are required to hold teacher licenses.

## Read to Achieve in its Second Year

Seventy-six percent (89,906 students) of North Carolina public school third-grade students met the reading proficiency standards under North Carolina's Read to Achieve program according to the [Improve K-3 Literacy Accountability Measures](#) report. State Board of Education members approved the report's findings at their October meeting. In 2013-14, this figure was 79 percent.

These third graders demonstrated reading proficiency through one of the following options

- passing the Beginning-of-Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading assessment;
- passing the End-of-Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading assessment;
- passing the End-of-Grade 3 English Language Arts/Reading assessment retest;
- passing the Read to Achieve Alternative Test;
- passing an alternative assessment for reading; or
- successfully completing the reading portfolio.

Another 10.4 percent (12,360 students) of students were exempt from third grade retention for good cause (affects English Language Learners and some students with learning disabilities). In total, 86.4 percent or 102,266 students were promoted to the fourth grade.

The remaining 13.6 percent (16,089 students) of third graders were either retained in the third grade or placed in transitional or accelerated fourth-grade classes with special identification to provide them with extra reading help. Overall, 118,355 third-grade students were tested.

Of the 20,240 students eligible to attend a reading camp held by local districts during the summer, 12,586 (62.2 percent) students attended. Of that number, 4,151 (33 percent) were reading proficiently at the end of the camp. In 2013-14, 12,827 students attended reading camps, and 26.7 percent (3,426) were deemed proficient at the end of camp.

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*SBE Highlights: A [checklist](#) of Board actions is posted every month at the conclusion of the meeting. The State Board of Education's next meeting will be held Nov. 4-5 in the 7th Floor Board Room, Education Building, 301 N. Wilmington Street, Raleigh.*



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