



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CHAMBER
STATE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
RALEIGH, NC 27601-2808

February 11, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Superintendent Maurice "Mo" Green
Guilford County Schools
712 N. Eugene Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
superintendent@gcsnc.com

Dear Superintendent Green:

I am deeply troubled by reports that the Guilford County School Board is considering ignoring a law enacted to recognize and reward excellent teachers. Doing so would not only be illegal, but also represents a "picking and choosing" of which laws the Board intends to follow and punishes top teachers for purely political reasons.

I appreciate your outreach and the discussions we've had on this issue. However, by focusing on tenure elimination – which does not take place until 2018 – instead of identifying top performing teachers for additional compensation, it appears that at least some members of the School Board are grasping at straws for a legal argument to support their preference for the status quo on teacher pay. Attempts to manufacture legal arguments to derail policy directives may be even more underhanded than openly refusing to follow the law.

Like the rest of us, local officials cannot pick and choose which laws to follow. Such action would give them an unconstitutional veto over the laws enacted by elected representatives in the General Assembly.

I urge you to strongly advise the School Board to faithfully execute the law and join the General Assembly in honoring excellent teachers across Guilford County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Berger".

Phil Berger