



Leadership North Carolina Class 30

Education Session
December 6 - 8, 2022

Speaker Directory

Mr. Dillon Tyler

Tour Coordinator
International Civil Rights Center and Museum
134 South Elm Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
(336) 274-9199
tours@sitinmovement.org

Dillon Tyler has worked in numerous nonprofit and government roles in Greensboro and North Carolina. He currently serves as the Tour Coordinator and as a senior docent at the International Civil Rights Center & Museum, a leading site along the US Civil Rights Trail and an International Site of Conscience. Tyler takes a leading role in the museum, including with fundraising, outreach, operations, exhibit design, bookkeeping, and community engagement.

Within the community, Tyler is the vice chair of Guilford County's Juvenile Crime Prevention Council and an alumnus of the New Leaders Council, which works to recruit, train, and promote young leaders coming from elected office or business and industry. In 2021, Tyler was accepted to the Next City Vanguard conference, an experiential urban leadership gathering of 40 rising urban leaders working to improve cities across sectors, including urban planning, community development, entrepreneurship, government, transportation, sustainability, design, art, and media.

Tyler also serves as a Specialist within the North Carolina Army National Guard, where he is working to earn his commission as an Officer Candidate. Previously, Tyler had roles within the Walt Disney Company, the North Carolina Democratic Party, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In his spare time, Tyler enjoys writing and acting. His stories and projects have been featured in local news publications, *The Guardian*, and *The New York Times*.

Mr. Charles T. "Chip" Hagan III

Principal, Greensboro Office
Offit Kurman Attorneys at Law
300 North Greene Street, Suite 200
Greensboro, NC 27401
chip.hagan@offitkurman.com

LNC Class I Alumnus
LNC Founding and Lifetime Board Member

Charles “Chip” Hagan helps clients reach their business goals by anticipating and effectively solving legal issues that inevitably occur in today’s complicated and ever-evolving business environment. A seasoned attorney, his experience is invaluable in providing the best solution at the most opportune time. Mr. Hagan focuses his practice on providing counsel to business organizations including LLCs and partnerships, closely held companies and family businesses, and corporate governance.

During his time serving in the US Navy, Mr. Hagan realized that he enjoyed being able to advise others on legal issues. After serving his country for four years, he attended Wake Forest Law School where he was Editor in Chief of the Wake Forest Law Review. Upon graduation, he joined the firm his father (a well recognized trial attorney) had founded. After a few years of assisting in litigation matters, he shifted his focus to helping businesses grow, which led him to working with foreign companies seeking to do business in the United States – an international aspect of his practice that continues today. Mr. Hagan has been extremely active in community organizations, having served as Chairman of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce. He helped to found Leadership North Carolina, a statewide leadership development organization for which he served as Chairman for five years. Over the last several years, he has served as the Co-Chair of the Piedmont Angel Network, an organization that seeks to provide funding for early-stage entrepreneurs.

Ms. Erica Vevurka

Director of K-12
The Hunt Institute
4000 Centregreen Way, Suite 301
Cary, NC 27513
(508) 308-2470

evedurka@hunt-institute.org

@erica_vevurka

Erica Vevurka joined the Hunt Institute as the Director of K-12 in September 2021. Prior to arriving at The Institute, Erica spent a decade working at Communities In Schools, the nation’s largest dropout prevention organization, as principal of stakeholder engagement, where she supported the president & CEO in carrying out the organization’s strategic priorities, as well as led board engagement and alumni strategy.

Erica also has a background in marketing & communications, which she has used at positions with the District of Columbia Public Schools Office of Special Education, Communities In Schools of North Carolina, and in the press offices for former North Carolina Governors Mike Easley and Bev Perdue. Erica received her master’s degree in nonprofit management from The George Washington University and her bachelor’s degree in Spanish and journalism & communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Erica lives in Raleigh with her husband and two toddlers.

Dr. Oliver Thomas

Director of External Affairs, Office of the Chancellor
North Carolina A&T State University
1601 East Market Street
Greensboro, NC 27411
(336) 285-2436

omthomas@ncat.edu

Dr. Oliver M. Thomas earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, a Master of Divinity from Wake Forest University School of Divinity, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Studies with a Cultural Foundations concentration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He is a member of the American Educational Studies Association, the Association for the Study of African American

Life and History, and the South Atlantic Philosophy of Education Society. He has taught high school, undergraduate, and graduate students. Dr. Thomas is the author of *Toward a Pedagogy of Critical Liberative Theological Consciousness: Cultivating Students As Agents of Social Change*.

Ms. Theresa Roedersheimer

Senior Early Childhood Policy Advisor
Division of Child Development and Early Education
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
333 Six Forks Road
Raleigh, NC 27699
(919) 814-6313
theresa.roedersheimer@dhhs.nc.gov
@ncdhhs

Theresa is a Fellow of the Equity Leaders Action Network and serves as the Senior Early Childhood Policy Advisor for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Child Development and Early Education, where she leads statewide early education initiatives and develops system-level early childhood programs. In addition to a Master's degree in Education, she also holds an Education Specialist degree in Early Childhood Education. Her recent work has focused on infant/toddler programs, infant/early childhood mental health, and improving technical assistance to early care and learning educators.

In addition to leading the Division's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Council, she serves or has served on numerous boards and committees including Governor Roy Cooper's DRIVE Task Force, NC Birth-3 Interagency Council, NC Think Babies Alliance, and the NC Association for the Education for Young Children.

Ms. Heather Adams

Vice President of Public Will Building
Ready for School, Ready for Life
Post Office Box 13844
Greensboro, NC 27415
(336) 579-2977 x 2004
heathera@getreadyquiford.org
@4school4life

Heather Adams joined Ready Ready in August 2020 as Director of Family Engagement and Literacy Initiatives. She became Vice-President of Public Will Building in August 2022.

Prior to joining the Ready Ready team in 2020, Heather served as the Executive Director of the Rockingham County Partnership for Children, a local Smart Start agency, for 14 years. In this role, Heather worked to ensure that young children receive high quality early childhood experiences. Prior to her role as Executive Director, she served as the agency's Program Coordinator/Evaluator. Heather's prior experience also includes experience as a Montessori classroom teacher and work with the Greensboro Children's Museum during the design/implementation phase.

In addition to her professional experiences, Heather values the opportunities she has had to work with a variety of racial justice initiatives including the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She is also actively involved with the Blue Ridge Institute, a leadership organization for social change agents, and served as the organization's President through the summer of 2021.

Heather holds a BA in Sociology from Guilford College and had the opportunity to spend a semester in Ghana as a student. This experience significantly shaped her worldview and her commitment to serving her community. When she isn't working, Heather is an avid runner who enjoys being outdoors and spending time with friends and family.

Dr. Dudley Flood

Retired School Administrator
1408 Griffin Circle
Raleigh, NC 27610
(919) 306-2831
floodspeaker@bellsouth.net
@DudleyFloodCenter

Dr. Dudley E. Flood was born and reared in Winton, NC. Since 1970, Dr. Flood has lived in Raleigh, NC. He began his career as a teacher of math, science, and English at the eighth-grade level. He later taught high school social studies and coached high school basketball and football. He served for three years as principal of a school covering grades 1 - 12 before joining the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction as a specialist in school desegregation and race relations.

During his 21 years of service with the Department of Public Instruction, he earned promotions first to assistant and then associate state superintendent. After retiring from Public Instruction on December 31, 1990, he served for 5 years and 3 months as executive director of the North Carolina Association of School Administrators. Since April 1996, he has been a lecturer and consultant to groups throughout the country and abroad. He has also been a visiting professor at Meredith College and at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and he has taught in the Principals Executive Program at the University of North Carolina.

Dr. Flood earned a bachelor's degree from North Carolina Central University, a master's degree in educational administration from East Carolina University, and a doctorate degree from Duke University. He has studied further at Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Hampton University.

Dr. Flood has spoken in all 100 of North Carolina's counties. He has spoken or conducted workshops in 48 of the 50 United States, in Bermuda, the District of Columbia, Canada, and Germany. His writings have been published in more than 25 journals, and he has authored three books.

Dr. Flood has received more than 350 awards for civic service. He has been presented the Order of the Longleaf Pine Award (North Carolina's highest civic award) by three different governors—Governor James G. Martin, Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., and Governor Mike Easley. He has received the Outstanding Alumni Award from both North Carolina Central University and East Carolina University, and he has received the Doctorate of Humane Letters from both North Carolina Central University and the University of North Carolina in Asheville.

Dr. Flood served for twelve years on the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina. He currently serves on the NC Minority Cancer Awareness Action Team; the Public School Forum of North Carolina Board; the Wake Education Partnership Leadership Council; the UNC Press Advancement Council, and on several other boards and committees. He is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. He is also a member of Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh, where he serves as Sunday School teacher. For fifty-five years, he was married to the late Barbara Thomas Flood, whose inspiration he credits with any success that he has experienced.

Ms. Leah Carper

High School English Teacher, Guilford County Schools
2022 North Carolina Teacher of the Year
5607 Chapelwood Court
Browns Summit, NC 27214
(336) 471-5240
carperleah@gmail.com
[@howlteachHS](#)

Leah Carper, a dynamic and innovative English II teacher at Northern Guilford High School in Greensboro, NC, utilizes her curriculum to not only teach the skills and standards of the course, but also to teach her students how to be empathetic, contributing members of a global community.

She earned an Associate of Arts degree from Davidson County Community College, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Secondary English Education from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership from Queens University of Charlotte. She has served and continues to serve on various state commissions. As state teacher of the year, Carper serves as an advisor to the state board of education. Carper has earned many awards in her career including the Guilford County Schools Rookie Teacher of the Year Award in 2007, the 2018 and 2020 Guilford County Schools PTA Outstanding High School Educator Award, and the 2021 Guilford County Schools Teacher of the Year. She also holds the record as the only 3-time Northern Guilford High School Dancing with the Faculty Winner.

Leah has been married since 2005 and is the proud mother of three children who are all students in NC public schools. She enjoys volunteering, singing karaoke, and roller skating. She utilizes social media to share teaching ideas and strategies that work in the modern classroom. Many of her posts have been featured in national and international educational publications.

Ms. Eugenia Floyd

Equity Specialist, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
2021 North Carolina Teacher of the Year
501 Kildaire Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
(919) 918-7165 Ext. 39308
efloyd@chccs.k12.nc.us
[@Gina4Lit](#)

Eugenia Floyd is the 2021 Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Following graduation, she became a teacher assistant at Morris Grove Elementary School within the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools district. She completed her K-6 teacher certification at North Carolina Central University in 2013. Eugenia then began her career as a fourth-grade classroom teacher at Mary Scroggs Elementary School. Through a partnership with her district, she earned a gifted certification from Elon University. She then continued on to graduate with a Master's degree in Gifted Education in 2020 from Elon. Ms. Floyd is currently an Equity Specialist for Instructional Equity for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools.

Mrs. Maureen Stover

High School Science Teacher, North Carolina Virtual Public School
2020 North Carolina Teacher of the Year
1017 Main Campus Drive, Partners 1 Building, Suite 3900
Raleigh, NC 27606
(830) 734-8315
stoverscience@gmail.com
@StoverScience

Maureen Stover is a high school science teacher at the North Carolina Virtual Public School. In addition to her role as a teacher, Maureen is the 2020 Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year (NCTOY), a 2021 National Teacher of the Year finalist, and a 2022 National Educators Association California Casualty Excellence in Teaching awardee. Before her position as the NCTOY, Maureen taught biology, earth and environmental science, and advancement via individual determination (AVID) at Cumberland International Early College High School in Fayetteville, Cumberland County, NC. She has taught at the elementary, middle, and high school levels and worked as an educational consultant for the National Science Teaching Association. Maureen earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from the United States Air Force Academy, Class of 1997; a Master of Arts Education in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) from Adams State University in Colorado; a Master of Arts in Teaching in secondary science from Western Governors University North Carolina; and a Leadership Certificate in STEM education from Teachers College Columbia University. As an educator, Maureen is dedicated to improving the educational opportunities for every student through equitable education initiatives and seeks to provide clear pathways for students to successfully enter the career or college program of their choice upon graduation from high school. Before becoming a teacher, she served as an Intelligence Officer in the United States Air Force.

Mr. Tabari Wallace

Special Advisor to the Superintendent—Principal Engagement
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
2018 North Carolina Principal of the Year
1800 Garden Street
New Bern, NC 28560
(252) 714-8607
tabari.wallace@dpi.nc.gov
@TabariWallace

Tabari Wallace is the Special Advisor for Principal Engagement in the Office of the State Superintendent. Previously, he served as the Principal of West Craven High School where he was recognized as the 2018 Wells Fargo Principal of the Year and laid the foundation for Craven County's first Career Academy School. He is the 2021 Raymond Saurbaugh Award winner and was highlighted on the Ellen Show for his service to his students. New York Bestselling Author Janice Dean of Fox News dedicated an entire chapter to illustrate Mr. Wallace's leadership during the pandemic in her book, *Make Your Own Sunshine*.

Mr. Wallace serves on the Governor's Crime Commission, Elevate NC, PEPSC Subcommittees, Human Capital Roundtable, Craven Community College Board Trustee, Principal Standards Committee, and as a New Bern Redevelopment Commissioner, and is a former Principal Coach for Pitt County. He is the co-founder of the Assistant Principal Accelerator Cohort, whose mission is to bridge the divide in school leadership between highly qualified and highly effective. He believes in the educational investment of each and every child, and it's their decision in which trajectory they so choose, after we (the educators) have laid a strong foundation of Career and College Readiness. Ride or Fly!

Ms. Ann McColl

Attorney
Post Office Box 5
Saxapahaw, NC 27340
(919) 610-5910
mccollatSXPWH@gmail.com
@MccollAnn

Ann McColl is a lawyer, historian, and writer. Her positions have included co-founder and president of The Innovation Project, legislative director for the State Board of Education, general counsel for the North Carolina Association of Educators, general counsel for the North Carolina Association of School Administrators and the North Carolina School Superintendents Association, and legal counsel and director of policy for the North Carolina School Boards Association. She also has served as associate professor of educational leadership at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte College of Education, visiting faculty at the School of Government, and adjunct faculty for the UNC School of Education and UNC School of Law. She has numerous publications in academic press and popular media. Her primary areas of interest are governance, innovative approaches to public education, and uplifting and making relevant the history of the intersection of race, equity, and rights in education.

Mr. Anthony Johnson

K-12 Education Leadership Executive
Apple
210 Coventry Lane
Salisbury, NC 28147
(704) 682-4352
anthony_p_johnson@apple.com

Anthony Johnson is a part of the Education Team at Apple, working with school leaders to leverage technology to transform learning. Prior to Apple, Anthony served as a public school educator and a high school Authentic Work Coach. Anthony was also the North Carolina Regional Teacher of the Year, an Apple Distinguished Educator, and an international keynote speaker. He holds a BA in Elementary Education and a Master's in Educational Leadership.

Mr. Keith Bradley

Junior
A&T Four Middle College at NC A&T State University
kebradley@aggies.ncat.edu

Keith Bradley, a sixteen-year-old high school junior, is a dual-enrolled student in the A&T Four Middle College at North Carolina A&T State University. He plays football and runs track for Northeast Guilford High School. Keith is an AB honor student athlete with plans to go to college to pursue his dream of becoming a physical therapist. Having completed most of his high school classes enables Keith to take more college courses. Keith is a role model at school, assisting anybody needing help. He assists freshmen, sophomores, and sometimes even juniors and seniors. Students often seek guidance from him. Keith is available when students just need someone to talk with. In his spare time, Keith likes to hang out with his friends and play basketball. He has a good personality and is very laid-back. Keith is the type of person that is down to earth and likes to have fun.

Mr. Nicholas Brower

Freshman, NC A&T State University
Graduate, The STEM Early College at NC A&T State University
nickbrower03@gmail.com

Nicholas Brower is an 18-year-old graduate of the STEM Early College at North Carolina A&T State University. Upon graduation, he decided to stay at A&T to earn his bachelor's degree in computer engineering. As a recipient of NC A&T's full-ride, competitive engineering scholarship, Nicholas is active in the community while balancing schoolwork and extracurricular activities. In his free time, Nick enjoys building computers, playing video games, and trying different foods.

His passion to help others can be seen through his research interests and projects in computer engineering. A career goal of his is to increase the opportunities for minorities in STEM-related fields. This not only motivates Nick to continue pursuing knowledge in his field, but to make the most of every opportunity that crosses his path. Additionally, Nick has gained the opportunity to code in an upcoming hackathon with fellow classmates and professors. He hopes to use this experience to help build a foundation for his career.

Ms. Kayla Bryant

Senior
The STEM Early College at NC A&T State University
kayla.e.bryant83@gmail.com

From an early age, Kayla Bryant has had the passion to serve others. Attending NC A&T State University's STEM Middle College has provided her with life-changing opportunities to support her passion. During her time at STEM, Kayla has participated in multiple clubs and held several leadership positions such as President of Ladies of STEM, Secretary of HOSA, and co-founder of a club that encourages and embraces diversity within the school. Kayla's experiences in the classroom challenge her to be present in the community as well. She has given back by coordinating a Christmas gift drive for pediatric patients, volunteered at various organizations, coached youth baseball and softball teams, and more. Thanks to being challenged academically, morally, socially, and mentally, Kayla credits her time at STEM with helping her grow into a well-rounded person.

Mr. Calvin Wrobeh

Senior
A&T Four Middle College at NC A&T State University
cjwrobeh@aggies.ncat.edu

Calvin is a senior at the A&T Four Middle College at NC A&T State University. He was born and raised in Greensboro, NC, with his mom, dad, and little brother. He has two brothers and two sisters. Calvin's Dad and one of his sisters are A&T graduates. An avid learner, Calvin always seeks additional educational opportunities. Calvin is blessed and thankful for this opportunity and cannot wait to see the opportunities that will come out of this.

Dr. Kimberly Gold

Chief of Staff
North Carolina Community Colleges
200 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 807-7096
goldk@ncccommunitycolleges.edu
@NCCCommColleges

LNC Class 22 Alumna

Kimberly Gold currently serves as Chief of Staff for the North Carolina Community College System Office. She first joined the System Office in July 2019 as the Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer. Prior to serving in that role Dr. Gold served as the 5th president of Robeson Community College. During her time in the North Carolina Community College System Kimberly served in a variety of roles beginning at Isothermal Community College (ICC) in 1995 as an adjunct faculty member and ending her service at ICC as the Executive Vice President in 2016. Other roles at Isothermal included serving as the Vice President for Academic and Student Services (2008-14), Dean of the Business Sciences (2005-08), and faculty member from 1996 to 2005. In her role as faculty member, Kimberly taught business classes including accounting, economics, marketing, and finance. Prior to her service at Isothermal Dr. Gold also taught at Montreat College and worked as a Production Manager for American Greetings Inc.

Dr. Gold earned degrees in Bachelor of Science from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill (1987), Master of Business Administration from Western Carolina University (1995), and Educational Specialist (2004) and Doctorate in Education (2007) from Appalachian State University.

Dr. Gold lives in Raleigh, NC, and has two grown children.

Andrea R. Poole

Executive Director
North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority
Post Office Box 41349
Raleigh, NC 27629
(919) 248-4642
apoole@ncseaa.edu

LNC Class 22 Alumna

Andrea Poole is the fourth executive director of the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority.

Ms. Poole has more than 20 years of service to the State of North Carolina, including more than a decade focused on higher education. Immediately prior to joining the Authority in January 2021, she served as Vice President for Strategic Initiatives at the North Carolina Community College System. Ms. Poole worked from 2013 to 2019 at the University of North Carolina System Office, first as the Associate Vice President of Finance and University Budgets and more recently as Secretary of the University. From 2005 to 2013, Ms. Poole was a fiscal analyst in the North Carolina General Assembly's nonpartisan Fiscal Research Division. There, she specialized in issues surrounding higher education, financial aid, and health and human services. Ms. Poole began her career as a policy analyst for the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency.

Ms. Poole earned a Bachelor of Science from Duke University and a Master of Public Administration from North Carolina State University.

Dr. A. Hope Williams

President

North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities

530 North Blount Street

Raleigh, NC 27604

(919) 832-5817

williams@ncicu.org

@NCICUhighered

A. Hope Williams is in her 30th year as president of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU), the statewide office of the 36 private, nonprofit colleges and universities in North Carolina. She works closely with the State of North Carolina and the federal government and with the North Carolina public K-12 and higher education sectors to address education and related public policy and funding issues. In addition, she oversees fundraising for student scholarships and grants as well as the development of collaborative programs for the benefit of NCICU campuses. She joined NCICU in 1986 and has served as president since 1992.

Dr. Williams received her undergraduate degree from Duke University, an MPA from North Carolina State University, and a Ph.D. in Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a member of the Governor's Cabinet and was named a 2017 CEO of the Year by the Triangle Business Journal. She chairs the boards of MCNC, Dupont Circle Investments, and the North Carolina Aquarium Society and serves on the Governor's Education Cabinet and on the boards of the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center and the National Student Clearinghouse, College Foundation, Inc., the National Advisory Board of the Institute for Emerging Issues, the NCWorks Commission, the myFutureNC Commission, and Communities in Schools of North Carolina.

Mr. Jamie Vaughn

Senior Analyst for Market Intelligence

North Carolina Department of Commerce

301 North Wilmington Street

Raleigh, NC 27699

(919) 707-1528

jamie.vaughn@commerce.nc.gov

Jamie Vaughn has served as the Senior Analyst for Market Intelligence with the NC Department of Commerce's Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) for over 3 years. In this role, he focuses on economic and occupational research as well as the development of the NCcareers.org Career Information System.

He has more than 15 years of experience in the Economic and Workforce Development industry. Prior to joining LEAD, he worked for the Department of Commerce's Business and Industry Division, the Chatham County Economic Development Corporation, and the Durham Workforce Development Board working to recruit new businesses and expand existing ones.

A native of Chapel Hill, he holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from UNC Asheville and an MBA from Florida State University.

Mr. Marty Tobey

Assistant Director for CTE Regional Services and Reporting, Office of Career and Technical Education
NC Department of Public Instruction
1404 Sagewood Lane
Archdale, NC 27263
(336) 991-8521
Marty.tobey@dpi.nc.gov
@martytobey

Marty has over 30 years of education experience with a background of teaching business and marketing education 9-12. He earned his Master of Science in Marketing Education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and holds his School Administration license and Career and Technical Education Director's license. He has been named Teacher of the Year, Manager of the Year, and achieved his National Board Certification for Early Adolescence to Young Adulthood: Career and Technical Education.

During his career, Marty has served as a Business Teacher; Community College Instructor; Instructional Technology Specialist; CTE and High School Administrator; and currently serves as the Assistant Director for CTE Regional Services and Reporting for the Department of Public Instruction. As Assistant Director, he provides support to the regional services and reporting staff focusing on educational leadership, data and analysis, fiscal policy related to Perkins funding, support to new and aspiring CTE Administrators, and other CTE program improvement initiatives.

Marty also served as an adjunct instructor at Appalachian State University and now serves as the CTE Administration and Program Supervision instructor for East Carolina University providing prospective CTE Administrators the foundation as they begin their CTE Administrator career.

Ms. Kristie VanAuken

Special Advisor, Workforce Engagement
Division of State Superintendent, NC Department of Public Instruction
301 North Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27604
(984) 236-2314
kristie.vanauken@dpi.nc.gov
@KVA_Inc

Kristie VanAuken serves the Department of Public Instruction as the special advisor to the superintendent: workforce engagement. With more than two decades of leadership experience in the private and nonprofit sectors, VanAuken is a seasoned facilitator. Before coming to DPI, she served as vice president of stakeholder engagement for Research Triangle Park (RTP), connecting blue chip companies to the foundation and to each other. She facilitated business committees and helped attract new resources to support STEM education, diversity, communication, economic development, and the environment. Prior to RTP, Kristie served as Vice President, Communications and Community Affairs at RDU airport. She is the Superintendent's designee to the NC Works Commission, the myFutureNC Credentials Advisory Group, and serves as a member of the North Carolina Education and Workforce Innovation Commission. VanAuken is a first-generation college grad who attended Community College, University, and earned a master's degree in public administration.

Class 30 Education Session Planning Committee

The following members of LNC Class 29 make up the planning committee for the Class 30 Education session.

Mrs. Amanda Balwah *Forsyth*

Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity

UNC School of the Arts

balwaha@uncsa.edu

Amanda Balwah is a higher education professional with experience in governance, policy implementation and analysis, strategy, risk management, trustee cultivation, and project management. After earning her bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a first-generation college student, Amanda returned to her hometown of Winston-Salem and began her career at the Kenan Institute for the Arts at the UNC School of the Arts in 2005. Almost sixteen years later, Amanda has worked her way up the ranks and now serves as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and Secretary of the University. Passionate about work/life balance and supporting women in leadership, she completed the BRIDGES Professional Development Program for Women in Higher Education through UNC-Chapel Hill and worked with the Chief Operating Officer of UNCSA to develop the campus's first teleworking policy. She earned an MA in Nonprofit Management from High Point University and an Ed.S. in Higher Education Administration from Appalachian State University. Amanda has served as Vice Chair of Heartstrings, a triad-wide nonprofit organization that supported families dealing with infant, pregnancy, and child loss. She is a member of the Executive Board of the Parent/Teacher organization of her sons' school, a Den Leader for Cub Scout Pack 721, a Columbiette at Holy Family Catholic Church, and a member of Leadership North Carolina Class XXIX. She is passionate about working across industries and communities to drive improvements that will enrich the lives of all North Carolinians. In her spare time, Amanda enjoys camping, reading, traveling, and spending quality time with her husband and two sons.

Mr. Chris Brandenburg *Wake*

Associate State Director, Advocacy

AARP North Carolina

cbrandenburg@aarp.org

Chris Brandenburg joined the AARP NC team in March of 2020 to serve as the Associate State Director of Advocacy. In his current role Chris works with AARP members, volunteers, and colleagues to advocate at the NC General Assembly for the 50+. He arrived at AARP having spent the previous 8 years working as a congressional staffer in the offices of Senator Richard Burr and Congressman George Holding. During that time, Chris interacted with folks from all walks of life across North Carolina, listening to their concerns and trying to solve problems they had with various agencies within the federal government. He also conveyed legislative information to constituents and often served as the point of contact for the member of Congress at meetings across NC.

Chris is passionate about serving others and is excited to be part of an organization like AARP that shares that goal. Outside of work Chris loves running, working out, basketball, and geeking out over anything US history related. Chris is an active member at the Summit Church. He's still waiting on NC State to win a championship in his lifetime, but not holding his breath. Chris lives in the sprawling metropolis of Fuquay-Varina along with his wife and son.

Ms. April Harley *Mecklenburg*

Executive Director

LEAD NC/LEAD NC Institute

april@leadnc.org

April N. Harley is the Executive Director of LEAD NC and LEAD NC Institute. She joins LEAD following three years as the North Carolina Executive Director of Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), a national maternal and child health organization that pairs first-time, vulnerable Moms with a nurse who provides regular in-home support from early in the pregnancy to child's age 2. In this role, she was responsible for expanding NFP in North Carolina to serve more Moms, babies and families.

Prior to this role, from 2007-2012, April was a development professional who raised upwards of \$15 million for President Barack Obama's presidential campaigns, Inaugurations, and nominating conventions. A year into her work as the Illinois Finance Director on Obama 2012, then-Mayor Anthony Foxx asked her to return home to help with the execution of the Democratic National Convention (DNC), so she came to Charlotte to serve as his Senior Advisor for Convention Activities. From 2012-2017, she founded and ran The Harley Firm, a fundraising and development consulting firm that provided consulting services to local and statewide non-profit organizations, candidates, and committees.

A native North Carolinian (and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools graduate!), April is a proud Howard University alumna. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors of NC Parents as Teachers and the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Charlotte.

Mr. Mat Hayes *Guilford*
Account Executive
Siemens Medical Solutions
matehayes@gmail.com

Mat is passionate about serving his community, leading by example, and in particular advancing education and technology in the health care industry. With over 25 years in that arena, he has seen a lot of change, especially in the delivery of education.

When he's not working (LOL), you can find him outside doing something (just about anything) sporty. Whether it's running or riding trails, slinging a line for the evening's fresh catch, or simply hanging out by the fire pit . . . Mat is most happy in the out of doors!

Dr. Shakira Henderson, Program Chair *Pitt*
Assistant Vice Chancellor of Clinical Research, UNC-CH
Clinical Research Integration Officer, UNC School of Medicine
System Vice President Research Officer, UNC Health
drshakiralihenderson@gmail.com

Dr. Shakira Henderson wears several professional hats, including hospital-based nurse researcher, health educator, and certified neonatal nurse. Currently, she serves as the System Vice President, Research Officer for UNC Health, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Clinical Research for UNC Chapel Hill campus, and the Clinical Research Integration Officer for the UNC School of Medicine. She previously served as the founder and Senior Administrator of the Vidant Health Center for Research and Grants. She is a life-long learner and holds dual doctoral degrees, PhD and DNP, and master's degrees in public health, anatomical sciences, and advanced nursing practice with a sub-specialization in nursing education.

Dr. Henderson serves as an elected member and neonatal expert on the national board for the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses and has recently been elected as the 2022-2023 President. This year she was elected to the North Carolina Board of Nursing. She also serves as Co-Chair of the North Carolina Nurses Association Nurses on Board Council. She previously served on an international board for lactation and was

a fellow, mentor, and faculty advisor in Sigma's Maternal Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy. She is a faculty advisor for the new Sigma Nurse Leadership Academy for Practice. Her expertise is in the innovative application of research and nursing practice to increase the generation of research from the bedside and expedite the translation of evidence into practice. She is passionate about equitable breastfeeding and lactation opportunities for the residents of North Carolina.

Dr. Henderson is interested in global health as she is originally from the tiny Caribbean Island of Dominica. Thus, one of her hobbies is traveling. And in her spare time, she enjoys sound sleep!

Ms. Elayne Jones, Session Co-Chair *Guilford*

Business Officer

North Carolina A&T State University

egjones@ncat.edu

Elayne Gibbs Jones is a graduate of Leadership North Carolina Class 29. She serves as Co-Chair for the Education Session for LNC Class 30. Elayne has been employed at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University for over 21 years and currently is a Business Officer in the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences. Elayne obtained her B.A. from Bennett College and Post Baccalaureate Certification in Non-Profit Management from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Elayne gets sheer joy in making a difference through service and always looks for opportunities to broaden her perspective through education. Enjoying serving in leadership capacities as well as contributing in the background to ensure positive outcomes, many describe Elayne as being selfless, committed, and hardworking. Successful at fundraising and friend raising, her enthusiasm and high energy motivate others to get involved. Having spent most of her professional career in accounting positions in front of a computer, Elayne thoroughly enjoys engaging and interacting with others in making a difference with causes close to her heart.

In Elayne's spare time, she enjoys dancing, exercising, reading, cooking, traveling, and shopping. Elayne's parents are forever jokingly telling her to slow down. Her response is, "I am driven by my internal zest to do all that I do because there is still work to be done."

Mr. DeWarren Langley *Durham*

Executive Director

Charles Hamilton Houston Foundation, Inc.

dlangley@charleshamiltonhoustonfoundation.org

DeWarren K. Langley, JD, MPA, MHFA, YMHFA is an equity-minded thought leader, public servant, Black male achievement specialist, career pathway strategist, policy analyst, and strategy consultant.

He is the Visionary & Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Foundation, Inc. which is an academic, leadership, and professional development 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization that provides a continuum of innovative and impactful programs, mentorship, and service to educate, engage, empower, and equip boys and young men of color with the strategies they need to succeed in the competitive workforce and to secure socioeconomic success.

DeWarren earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Management & Economics with a minor in Leadership Studies from Hampton University, Juris Doctor with a concentration in Civil Rights & Constitutional Law from North Carolina Central University School of Law, Master of Public Administration with a concentration in Government Administration

and Public Policy from North Carolina Central University, and a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Duke University.

He earned a Certificate in Mental Health First Aid and Youth Mental Health First Aid from the National Council for Behavioral Health and a Certificate of Completion in Technology of Participation Group Facilitation Methods from the Institute of Cultural Affairs. In addition, he completed the Board Leadership Boot Camp of the Executive Service Corps of the Triangle, SPARC Nonprofit Board Training of the United Way of the Greater Triangle, and Racial Equity Training I of the Racial Equity Institute.

Mrs. Deepa Naik Mecklenburg

Director of Philanthropy
The Merancas Foundation
dnaik@merancas.org

Deepa Naik joined The Merancas Foundation as Director of Philanthropy in May 2021. Formerly, she cultivated external relations for Upstream USA as a Regional Director of Partnerships, expanding contraceptive access across NC. Deepa is highly motivated and thoroughly enjoys building stakeholder relations, project management, creative thinking, and facing diverse challenges.

Deepa has been consulting for nonprofit organizations throughout the Carolinas since 2012. Early in her career, she gained knowledge and expertise from program and development work in a substance abuse treatment center and domestic violence organizations.

In addition to her professional experience, Deepa is an active volunteer. She currently serves on the YWCA Central Carolinas Board of Directors. Deepa completed Leadership Charlotte in 2018 and Leadership NC in 2021.

Dr. Stephanie Norander Mecklenburg

Associate Chair and Professor, Communication Studies
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
snorande@uncc.edu

Stephanie Norander is a Professor and Associate Department Chair of Communication Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Her research and teaching focus on building stronger organizations through resiliency, strategy, and social change. A trained facilitator, Norander has led strategic planning processes for a wide range of corporate and nonprofit agencies both domestically and abroad.

Dr. Norander is passionate about intentional leadership and mentoring across the career span. In her academic career she has launched and lead mentoring programs for students and faculty and has presented extensively on women and leadership and inclusive mentoring. She is an alum of Leadership North Carolina and of the Management Development Program through the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Norander can also be found hanging out with her two teenagers, husband, and two dogs. Finding new North Carolina hiking trails, trying a new recipe, and picking up a good cozy mystery from the library are some of her favorite ways to enjoy life.

Ms. Amy Policastro Schroeder, Session Co-Chair *Wake*
Career Development and Work-Based Learning Consultant
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
amy.schroeder@dpi.nc.gov

Amy serves as the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Career Development and Work-based Learning Consultant for the NC Department of Public Instruction. She provides leadership, professional development, curriculum development, and advocacy to 500+ NC Career Development Coordinators (CDCs), CTE Directors, and stakeholders to ensure students are career and college ready. She is the certified National Career Development Association's (NCDA) "Facilitating Career Development" licensure course instructor for CDCs.

Amy has over 18 years of K-12 and Higher Education experience and over 10 years in the Business Sector within Human Resources, Publishing, and Corporate Education and Development. She earned her master's in teaching from Montclair State University (NJ) and began EdD Studies within Curriculum and Instruction while faculty at Illinois State University. Amy is currently working on her MBA, with Meredith College. Amy serves on the board for Junior Achievement of Eastern NC, NC Career Development Association, and the Government Relations committee for NCDA.

Amy believes travel is the best education and has been to 49 states, 11 countries, and eaten in 45 NC counties. Raised in NJ, she has lived in Illinois; Washington, DC; and the UK but calls NC Home! Amy is the proud mother of two amazing young adults; her daughter attends Meredith College, and her son attends the University of Lynchburg (VA). Her favorite scent is sawdust; favorite food is anything anyone cooks for her; and favorite quote is: "You can do anything you want to do, if you really want to do it!" – Lawrence Alloysious Conroy

Mr. Irvine Sloan *Mecklenburg*
Social Impact Strategy Leader - ESG
Duke Energy
irvine.sloan@gmail.com

Irvine is an award-winning executive strategist with a history of transforming corporate culture for success in today's increasingly dynamic business environment. He is a thought leader who accelerates revenue growth while improving gross margins and organizational excellence through the combination of transdisciplinary research, multi-dimensional problem-solving, and the application of disruptive innovation.

Irvine has more than 15 years of technical management, commercial operations, and business development experience in numerous industry sectors globally and domestically. He demonstrates an exceptional ability to leverage a broad body of work experience, professional connections, and global industry knowledge to efficiently drive growth and implement best practices across a multitude of organizational functions.

Irvine's academic credentials and qualifications encompass a balance of professional development, certifications, and education over a period of more than 20 years. His lifelong commitment to self-improvement and a strong work ethic are evident in a diverse portfolio of coursework in Engineering, Economics, Public Policy, Law, Finance, and Business Management from some of the world's preeminent universities.

Ms. Kelly Webb *Wake*
Vice President of External Affairs
Communities In Schools of North Carolina
kwebb@cisnc.org

Kelly Webb is a nonprofit resource development professional with more than 15 years of experience helping mission-driven organizations thrive. Mixing her expertise from a prior career in entertainment public relations and marketing with her passion for helping build strong communities, Kelly has raised more than \$40 million for organizations throughout the country.

Kelly is an arts and culture nerd and loves sarcasm, good food, and travel. As a pint-sized scribbler growing up in a small town in Arizona, she often got caught correcting local restaurant menus, church bulletins, and anything else she could get her hands on (much to the chagrin of her parents). Before long, she headed to New York and Los Angeles as a copywriter, publicist, and brand manager for artists signed to Sony Music. Her adventures have taken her across the world and back again, but after losing her mother to cancer, Kelly decided to embrace her passion for helping others and made a career change to nonprofit work.

Since settling in North Carolina in 2012, Kelly has spent countless hours volunteering for organizations like the Food Bank of Eastern & Central NC, Ronald McDonald House, Boys & Girls Clubs, the Board of Visitors for St. Mary's School, and more.

In 2019, Kelly made an instant best friend when her niece Liv was born. On any given weekend, you can find Kelly exploring North Carolina's food scene, catching live music with friends, or hopping a train to hang out with her niece in the DC metro area.