



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**THE YEAR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**2024**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's public schools are essential to our state's prosperity and are the foundation of our communities, providing opportunities for all children, and ensuring that our state has a strong, well-educated workforce and well-informed people; and

**WHEREAS**, public schools welcome every child – celebrating students of differing ability, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, wealth, language, country of origin or needs – and help cultivate a passion for learning, inspire curiosity and imagination and unlock the potential of millions of young people each year; and

**WHEREAS**, public schools provide a pathway to economic success and serve as economic linchpins in every community, bringing together adults, children, educators, business leaders, volunteers, and elected leaders in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, public school employees – teachers, school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, school social workers, instructional assistants, school nutrition staff, custodians, bus drivers, office staff and administrators – work tirelessly each day for our students and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has a constitutional duty to ensure all children have the opportunity to receive a sound, basic education and strong, well-resourced public schools are critical to ensuring the state meets that obligation; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than 150 years, North Carolina has defined itself on the strength of our public education system, and generations of North Carolina leaders have worked to ensure that our public schools have the resources they need to educate all students, even in times of economic crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, early childhood education builds the foundation for achievement, and expanding access to early childhood education and quality child care is a critical component of providing a sound, basic education for all children; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages everyone across the state to observe this year by supporting our public schools and educators, sharing the great things that are happening every day in our public schools, and advocating for strong, fully-funded public schools in every county;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim 2024, as **“THE YEAR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS”** in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-third day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-eighth.