

Candidates for NC State Senate and House of Representatives (3 of 3 posts)

Early voting started October 20. Here is the [schedule and list of locations](#) for early voting for Mecklenburg County. And be sure to be educated about who and what is on your ballot!

This is my 3rd summary-of-candidates post for the November 8, 2022 election which includes all Mecklenburg County candidates for the NC State Senate and House of Representatives.

[Post 1 included descriptions](#) of all the federal and judicial candidates.

[Post 2 included descriptions](#) of all the local candidates for the Board of Commissioners, the Board of Education and the Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors, as well as the 3 bond referendums.

To receive future election writeups, sign up to receive them via email:
<https://citizenprofane.substack.com/>

NC State Senate District 37

Victoria “Vickie” Sawyer. Sawyer is an incumbent who has served 2 terms in the NC Senate. She is an insurance agent and said she grew up in a trailer park in Davidson County. The top issue listed on her website is to cut the state income tax. (Age 47, White, Republican)

NC State Senate District 38

Mujtaba Mohammed. Mohammed is also an incumbent and has served 2 terms in the NC Senate. He grew up in Charlotte and is a lawyer. The top issue listed on his website is education, particularly quality early education programs with manageable class sizes. (Est age 35, Asian, Democrat)

NC State Senate District 39

Mark Robeson. Robeson is a banker, Christian and graduate of the Citadel according to his website. The key issue cited on his website is the economy and jobs. He wants to lower corporate taxes and reduce regulation. He said in an Observer interview that he believes that more of the NC taxes that Mecklenburg County residents pay should go back to the county. He

also supports the legalization of marijuana and the expansion of Medicare. (Age 51, White, Republican)

Deandrea Salvador. Salvador is the founder and CEO of an energy education non-profit. She is the incumbent and a 5th generation Charlottean. Affordable healthcare is the top issue listed on her website. She is a mom of 2 and the youngest state senator currently. She received the Observer's endorsement for this race. (Incumbent, Age 30, Black, Democrat)

NC State Senate District 40

Bobbie Shields. Shields is running because he says the district needs a senator "who understands economic development issues." The Observer called him a "true moderate" and endorsed him. (Age 69, Black, Republican)

Joyce Waddell. Waddell is a 5 term incumbent but the Observer did not give her its endorsement this year because "she has not been especially effective in Raleigh." (Age 78, Black, Democrat)

NC State Senate District 41

Bonni Leone. There is little publicly available information about Leone. She had [short, poorly thought through answers](#) in this Vote411 questionnaire. (White, Republican)

Natasha Marcus. Marcus is the incumbent and has served 2 terms in the NC Senate. The top issue listed on her website is to close the healthcare coverage gap. She is a mom and lawyer. She is "strongly recommended" by the Observer and is the chair of the Mecklenburg County delegation to the state legislature. (Age 53, White, Democrat)

NC State Senate District 42

Axios calls this "the most watched Senate race this year in the county." Already there has been lots of mud slinging (mainly through a number of fliers that have been mailed to voters) where Hunt accuses Russo of being extreme on abortion rights, while Russo accuses Hunt of being soft on crime.

Rachel Hunt. Hunt was in the NC House for 4 years prior to running for this role. She is the daughter of Jim Hunt, the longest-serving governor in NC history. She said she is running for state senate to tackle the "rising costs on the middle class" and "underfunded public schools." Key issues listed on her website include education, the economy and health/environment. She has supported adding teaching assistants to elementary classrooms and has sponsored bills to eliminate predatory lending in higher education. She has sponsored legislation to expand broadband access across NC. Hunt is a lawyer by training and now runs a college consulting business. On her fliers, she say she supports "protecting every woman's right to choose," raising teacher pay and reducing health care costs by expanding Medicaid. She is endorsed by

the Sierra Club, the NC State AFL CIO and State Senator Jeff Jackson (she is running for his old seat).

She responded to me very quickly when I wrote to her. I asked her why she was giving up her House seat, she said, "I want to help as many people as possible and the district of a NC Senator is approximately three times as large as a NC House member." I gave her an A for accessibility and responsiveness. She is endorsed by the Observer. (Age 57, White, Democrat)

Cheryl Russo. Russo has not held public office before. She is a conservative Catholic cardiologist who calls herself a "tough mom" and says that she will fight for parental rights and Opportunity Scholarships to help low-income parents. She says that businesses need "freedom from high taxes and bureaucratic red tape." Issues cited on her website are to "protect family budgets," "keep our schools safe and open" and to eliminate "career politicians." There is little else about her that is publicly available and she hadn't previously responded to interview requests from the Observer.

Russo had a form field on her website and hadn't even responded to Observer interview requests so it didn't surprise me that she didn't respond to me either. I gave her an F for accessibility and responsiveness. (Age approx. 51, White, Republican)

NC House of Representatives District 88

Anne Peacock. Peacock was a former Army Officer and lists reducing inflation as the top issue on her website. She moved to Charlotte 5 years ago. (White, Republican)

Mary Belk. Belk is an incumbent who has been in the NC House for 3 terms. She grew up in Charlotte and is passionate about equity in education and believes there should be no restrictions on abortion.. (Age 66, White, Democrat)

NC House of Representatives District 92

Mario Robinson. It was hard to find much information about Robinson online but he did say in a WSOC-TV interview that education and neighborhood safety are his top priorities. (Black, Republican)

Terry Brown. Brown is the incumbent, His top priorities are increasing education funding (eg more teacher's assistants to improve literacy) and infrastructure. (Age 35, Democrat, Black)

NC House of Representatives District 98

Christy Clark. Clark won against Bradford in 2018 but lost in 2020. She is a mother of 5. She believes more schools are needed in the northern part of the county. (Age 51, White, Democrat)

John Bradford. Bradford is the incumbent and believes inflation is the biggest problem facing his district now. He served in the legislature twice before that. He is a sales executive. He said he secured \$25MM in specific project funding for the district. (White, Republican)

NC House of Representatives District 99

Nasif Majeed. Majeed has served 2 terms in the legislature before. He is a veteran and a businessman and the first thing he lists as a priority in an Observer interview is supporting Medicaid expansion. (Age 77, Black, Democrat)

Michael Anderson. Anderson is worried about inflation. He is the father of 5. He accuses his opponent of wanting to defund the police. He believes in school choice and parental rights in education. (Black, Republican)

NC House of Representatives District 100

Johnnie Autry. Autry is the incumbent who has served 3 terms in the legislature. He was on the Charlotte City Council and a Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor prior to his time in the legislature. He is an information technology executive. (Age 69, White, Democrat)

NC House of Representatives District 101

Paul Mauney. There is little available about Mauney.

Carolyn Logan. Logan is the incumbent in the legislature. She has served for 2 terms. She is a mom and former police officer. She lists housing, transportation and food deserts as the issues most important to her district. (Age 65, Black, Democrat)

NC House of Representatives District 102

Rebecca “Becky” Carney. Carney has served 9 terms in the state house. She was a former Mecklenburg County commissioner. Her passions are public education, arts education, and health care issues. She is a great-grandmother. (Age 77, White, Democrat)

Cynthia Clementi. She said in an Observer interview that she “maybe” accepts the results of the 2020 election and that there should be a ban on abortion. She appears to be a former flight attendant. (Age 57, White, Republican)

NC House of Representatives District 103

William “Bill” Brawley. Brawley is a veteran who lists ending human trafficking as the first issue on his website. Other issues listed include education and a better economy. He served in the NC House previously from 2011-18. Wikipedia lists a number of actions he took while in the legislature including holding teacher pay steady, giving tax cuts to businesses, blocking Medicaid expansion and making it difficult for towns to inspect unsafe conditions in residences. (Age 73, White, Republican)

Laura Budd. Budd is an attorney who believes teacher pay should increase and schools should have more social workers. She supports a \$15 minimum wage and paid parental leave. (Age 45, White, Democrat)

NC House of Representatives District 104

These two candidates ran against each other previously in November 2020. At that time, Lofton won with 54% of the vote.

Brandon Lofton. Lofton currently represents District 104. He has been a state representative since 2018. During his time in the legislature, he has supported expanded Medicaid, greater teacher pay (eg master’s pay), more school funding (eg more teachers) and “fair elections” (eliminating partisan redistricting, or gerrymandering). He also supports the right of women to “exercise control over their reproductive health decisions.” He is currently a public finance attorney at a Charlotte law firm and started his career as a civil rights attorney. He is the father of two boys currently in high school.

I contacted Lofton and after my second email to him, he wrote me back to say that he would write more when he had time. I did not hear back from him and gave him a C- for accessibility and responsiveness. (Incumbent, Age 43, Black, Democrat)

Don Pomeroy. Pomeroy doesn’t appear to have been elected to public office before but cites that he is a “fiscal conservative and free enterprise champion.” His website says he was a CPA and then a C-suite executive. Top issues cited on his site are business and job creation (including reduction in state corporate tax rates), education (“more parent involvement”), and prudent spending. He believes “no state ever taxed its way to prosperity.”

I contacted Pomeroy and did not hear back from him. I gave him an F for accessibility and responsiveness. (Age 55, White, Republican)

NC House of Representatives District 105

Wesley Harris. This is Harris’ 3rd term and his is the incumbent. He has a PhD in Economics from Clemson. His dissertation back in 2014 was on why urban poor tend to vote Democrat but

not rural poor. He says he is running again “because our work is not finished.” His representation was essential to breaking the Republican supermajority in the NC legislature in 2018. He believe in quality education, smart infrastructure and affordable healthcare.

I didn't reach out to either of these candidates. I believe they represent Ballantyne and Piper Glen. (Incumbent, Age 36, White, Democrat)

Joshua Niday. Niday has run unsuccessfully for State House twice before. He believes “liberal policies destroy cities.” He says that he supports small businesses and that “all unborn are human and alive.” He supports the legalization of marijuana and does not think the 2020 election was stolen. He supports school choice and wants to alleviate the CMPD staff shortage. (Approx age 29, White, Republican)

NC House of Representatives District 106

Carla Cunningham. Cunningham is the incumbent who has served 5 terms in the state house. She is a health care professional with a nursing degree. She believes health care should be available to every North Carolinian and that NC should increase investment in all levels of education and job training. She is a great grandmother. (Age 60, Black, Democrat)

Karen Henning. Henning describes herself as a “Conservative Constitutionalist.” Her top issue is public safety including stopping human trafficking and crafting a parent's bill of rights. (White, Republican)

NC House of Representatives District 107

Mark Alan Cook. Cook is an engineer and former Army colonel. His top priority is increasing funding for law enforcement. He said in an Observer interview he does not accept the results of the 2020 election and that he is not supportive of “gender affirming sex alteration education.” He lists other things on his site that he is against such as “medical protocol tyranny,” “political lawfare” and “mass media psychosis formation.” (Age 59, White, Republican)

Kelly Alexander. Alexander is a funeral director who wants to increase educational funding and expand Medicaid. He is the incumbent and has served 7 terms in the House. (Age 74, Black, Democrat)

NC House of Representatives District 112

Tricia Cotham. Cotham is a former House member (from 2007-17) and former teacher. She wants a \$15 minimum wage, expanded Medicaid and better funding to poor schools. She is the daughter of Mecklenburg County Commissioner Pat Cotham. (Age 43, White, Democrat)

William “Tony” Long. I could not find any information about Long online.