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### Burke County, NC Questionnaire - One Page Quick Reference Guide

		Central District			Eastern District		Western District
BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION		Tiana Beachler (R)	Mark Smith (D)		Leslie Ritchie Taylor (R)		Aaron Johnson (R)
1	Do you believe life begins at conception and deserves legal protection?	Yes	Did not respond		Yes		Yes
2	Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?	Parents	Did not respond		Parents		Teachers
3	Should sexually explicit books be removed from school libraries and classrooms?	Yes	Did not respond		Yes		Yes
4	Do you support any Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) programs, policies, or statements?	Do not support	Did not respond		Do not support		Do not support
5	Should all classroom educational materials and lesson plans be publicly available to parents?	Yes	Did not respond		Yes		Yes
6	Should biological males be allowed to compete in girls' sports or use girls' locker rooms?	No	Did not respond		No		No
7	Should schools emphasize civics, patriotism, and America's founding principles?	Yes	Did not respond		Yes		Yes
8	Do you support the Parents' Bill of Rights (SB49)?	Support	Did not respond		Support		Support
9	Should teachers and administrators be held accountable to community standards?	Yes	Did not respond		Yes		Yes
10	Do you support school choice options (charter, private, homeschool)?	Support	Did not respond		Support		Support

BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS		Randy Burns (R)		Shawn Freeman (R)		Tony Padgett (R)		Phil Smith (R)		Steve W. Starnes (D)
1	Have you ever been convicted of a felony or penalized for sexual misconduct?	No		No		Did not respond		No		No
2	Do you believe life begins at conception and deserves legal protection?	Yes		Yes		Did not respond		Yes		No
3	Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?	Parents		Parents		Did not respond		Parents		Parents
4	Do you agree that excessive regulations and taxes hinder small business growth and startups?	Agree		Agree		Did not respond		Agree		Agree
5	Do you support the county enforcing public nuisance laws and cooperating with federal authorities to address illegal activity, including drug use, trespassing, and unlawful immigration?	Support		Support		Did not respond		Support		Do not support
6	Should county funds support DEI training, programs, statements, or policies?	No		No		Did not respond		No		Yes
7	Would you oppose any new restrictions on the Second Amendment?	Yes		Yes		Did not respond		Yes		No
8	Should the Ten Commandments or "In God We Trust" be displayed in county courthouses?	Yes		Yes		Did not respond		Yes		No
9	Will you defend churches and ministries from government overreach or discrimination?	Yes		Yes		Did not respond		Yes		Yes
10	How would you approach county funding for local emergency services (law enforcement, fire, and EMS)?	Increase		Increase		Did not respond		Increase		Increase

Consider exploring iVoterGuide (<https://ivoterguide.com/All-in-State/north-carolina>) for comprehensive information on candidates.

Every attempt possible was made to contact the candidates via the information they provided when they filed to run. The contact information the candidates submitted can be found at <https://www.ncsbe.gov/results-data/candidate-lists#current>