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## Gov. Cooper Establishes Teacher Advisory Committee, Appoints Anson Teacher Nicole Sikes

Gov. Cooper issued Executive Order No. 16 last week establishing the Governor's Teacher Advisory Committee. Composed of up to 25 teachers and support personnel appointed by Gov. Cooper, the Committee will advise the governor on a variety of educational issues.

Members of the Committee will advise the governor on policies and the state budget and will also serve as education ambassadors, representing the Governor at designated events, maintaining communication with local boards of education and stakeholders, and sharing opportunities for the Governor to support teachers.

Among those Governor Cooper appointed was Anson High School art teacher Nicole Sikes.

Anson County School Superintendent Michael Freeman said, "I am excited to report to the Anson County Schools team that Mrs. Nicole D. Sikes has been appointed to serve on Governor Cooper's Teacher Advisory Committee. This is certainly another positive for ACS. I know Mrs. Sikes will represent us all very well."

"Teachers and school support staff will bring critical knowledge, skills, and experience to our ongoing conversations about improving North Carolina's education system," Gov. Cooper said. "The Teacher Advisory Committee will give insight into how we can show educators the respect they deserve and be instrumental in helping North Carolina become a Top Ten Most Educated State by 2025."

Gov. Cooper also released a back-to-school video for teachers to thank them for all they do for North Carolina's students. You can watch by searching for the title: *Back to School Message from Governor Cooper*.

"Thank you for the energy and care you put into teaching. Thank you for igniting that spark of learning in your students. I'm grateful to you for answering the call to teach," Gov. Cooper says in the video. "I wish a successful school year for you, your students, and all who help educate them."

Gov. Cooper has appointed the following individuals to serve on the Governor's Teacher Advisory Committee:

- Tomika Altman-Lewis is an academically and intellectually gifted (AIG) facilitator/teacher at Fayetteville Street Elementary School.
- Michael Bonner is an elementary school teacher at South Greenville Elementary School in Pitt County.
- Lara Brickhouse is an adaptive physical education teacher in Durham County Schools.
- Betty Brown teaches social studies at Zebulon GT Magnet School in Wake County.
- Bobbie Cavnar is the 2016 North Carolina Teacher of the Year and teaches AP literature at South Point High School in Gaston County.
- Christine Conley teaches music at Needham B. Broughton High School in Wake County.
- Nashonda Cooke is a special education interventionist at Carroll Middle Magnet School in Wake County.
- LeAnna Delph teaches English language arts and social studies at Joe P. Eblen Intermediate School in Buncombe County.
- David Diamont is the head football coach at East Surry High School and teaches history as a substitute following 40+ years as a classroom teacher.
- Lisa Godwin is the 2017 North Carolina Teacher of the Year.
- Demetria Grissett is a career and technical education coordinator in Robeson County Schools.
- Mark Jewell is the president of the North Carolina Association of Educators.
- Tasha Martinez teaches English language arts at Warsaw Middle School in Duplin County.
- Denise McCoy is a parent involvement coordinator for Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.
- Elyse McCrae teaches social studies at South Central High School in Pitt County.
- Julio Morales teaches Spanish at Mattamuskeet Elementary School in Hyde County.
- Juandalyn Ray Sampson is the teacher advancement coordinator and language arts teacher in Clinton City Schools.
- Brad Rhew teaches science and math at Cook Literacy Model School in Forsyth County.
- Mireya Ruiz teaches 2nd grade and Spanish at Siler City Elementary School in Chatham County.
- Kimberly Sanderlin is an academically gifted/ELA specialist in Durham County Schools.
- Nicole Sikes teaches art at Anson High School in Anson County.
- Kimberly Strickland teaches 1st grade at River Dell Elementary in Johnston County.
- Mark Townley teaches academic, honors, and AP earth and environmental science at Holly Springs High School in Wake County.
- Keana Triplett is the 2015 North Carolina Teacher of the Year and teaches English at Ashe County High School.

## Educators Apply for Bright Ideas Grants by September 18

Time is running out for teachers to apply for grants of up to \$2,000 from Pee Dee Electric's Bright Ideas education grant program. Educators with creative ideas for hands-on classroom projects must submit their application by Monday, September 18. Interested teachers can find the application, grant-writing tips and more information on the Bright Ideas grant website at [www.NCBrightIdeas.com](http://www.NCBrightIdeas.com).

Pee Dee Electric and North Carolina's electric cooperatives collectively have allocated close to \$600,000 to give to educators across the state during the 2017 - 2018 school year. Grants will be awarded in November for projects in all grade levels and all disciplines, including math, science, art, language, music and history.

The Bright Ideas grant application requires an outline of the proposed project, a detailed budget and a description of the benefit to students. Applicants are encouraged to highlight the innovative, creative elements of the project and to proof-read carefully. Teachers, submit your application by Monday, September 18!

Since 1994, the Bright Ideas education grant program has provided more than \$10.9 million for 10,400 projects benefiting more than 2.1 million students across North Carolina. "Pee Dee Electric is committed to local communities, and we believe there's no better way to contribute to our communities than by investing in the education of our youth," stated Ashley Haynes, communications specialist for Pee Dee Electric.

North Carolina's electric cooperatives serve more than 2.5 million people in 93 of the state's 100 counties. Pee Dee Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative whose goal is to provide reliable, dependable electric service for its members while focusing on value, quality customer service, and enhancing life in the communities we serve. Pee Dee's service area consists of Anson, Richmond, Union, Stanly, Montgomery, Moore and Scotland counties. For more information about Pee Dee Electric, please visit [www.pdemc.com](http://www.pdemc.com).

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**Contact Person: Peggy Kumm**

### Anson County Water Treatment Plant Sludge Lagoon and Dam Repair Project

Anson County, North Carolina

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Sealed Bids for the construction of the **Anson County Water Treatment Plant Sludge Lagoon and Dam Repair Project** will be received, by the Anson County, North Carolina, at the office of the **Mike Sessions, Utilities Director, Anson County, 101 South Green Street, Wadesboro, North Carolina 28170**, until **2:00 P.M. local time on September 21, 2017**, at which time the Bids received will be **publicly** opened and read.

There will be a Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid meeting held September 7, 2017, at 10:00 A.M. local time, at the Anson County Water Filtration Plant, 567 Filtration Road, Lilesville, NC 28091.

The project generally consists: of the dredging and disposal of existing alum sludge; clearing and tree removal from existing dam slopes; lagoon dewatering; reconstruction of existing dam embankments including outlet control structures; installation of a gravel maintenance drive; and revegetation of dam embankments.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Billy J. Roark, P.E., McGill Associates, P.A., 5 Regional Circle, Suite A, Pinehurst, North Carolina 28374, 910-295-3159. All project related questions must be in writing and email to [bill.roark@mcgillengineers.com](mailto:bill.roark@mcgillengineers.com). Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office and as described below.

Digital copies of Bid Documents are available for purchase at [www.mcgillengineers.com](http://www.mcgillengineers.com) for a fee of \$50.00 per set. These documents may be downloaded by selecting this project from the "Bids" link and by entering Quest Project Number 5327983. For assistance and free membership registration, contact QuestCDN at (952) 233-1632 or [info@questcdn.com](mailto:info@questcdn.com). <https://www.questcdn.com/>.

No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof. The Town reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

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