



# Alpha Beta Bits

Delta Kappa Gamma International Society – Eta State, NC

VOLUME 11

ISSUE 3

JANUARY 2012

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 27-29  
2012**

Eta State  
Convention  
Cary, NC

**July 24-28  
2012**

International  
Conference  
New York, NY

**April 26-28  
2013**

Eta State  
Convention  
Charlotte, NC



## ALPHA BETA CHAPTER OFFICERS

**Jennifer Swartz**  
President

**Lorine Davis**  
1st Vice President

**Karen Creech**  
2nd Vice President

**Debra Avery**  
Secretary

**Becky Kuszmaul**  
Treasurer

## Message from President Jennifer Swartz

There is so much that I am excited to share with you as I sit down to write this quarter's message. The nominations committee members have been talking to many of you in order to provide you with a chance to use your talents to steer the leadership of our chapter. I'm looking forward to hearing your names called Tuesday night as we move toward a new biennium.

Another exciting

event we have coming up is the state convention in Cary. This year's convention will be special for our members because it is being hosted by our region and we have a role in serving as its hostesses. Alpha Beta chapter members have taken on the task of creating bags for speakers and special guests of the convention.

These bags are more substantial than the

participant bags all registrants receive upon checking in to the event. This year's remembrance service will also be very special to Alpha Beta members as we come together with our state sisters to remember Nancy Daughtery and other Eta State sisters who passed away last year.



## Embracing The Leader Inside You

On the **LeadershipNow Blog**, there is an article entitled, "12 Reasons You Will Be a Better Leader This Year." Ask yourself this question, "Is Leadership everybody's business?" If you answer yes, I challenge you to read the list of 12 reasons to become a better leader this year. Think of the endless possibilities for impacting your students, colleagues, family and friends. Look at the list and determine

which ones you already are doing well. Then embrace the ones you need to work on to make you a better leader this year.

### You are a good leader...

1. Because you are generous with information. You know it enables and values others.
2. Because you eschew the trappings of power. You respect your position too much to let yourself become self-absorbed and disconnected from those you serve.





# Message from President cont.

The convention committee has been meeting regularly since early fall to prepare a wonderful weekend of sisterhood and professional growth. If you have not registered, if you have not been to a convention at all or in recent years, or if you are interested in learning how Alpha Beta fits into the bigger Delta Kappa Gamma picture... go online and register now.



**Jennifer Swartz, President, [swartzwoman@gmail.com](mailto:swartzwoman@gmail.com)**

## Online Publications



If you are interested in accessing the *Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin, International Journal for Professional Educators*, online, you can go to the Delta Kappa Gamma Web site at : <http://www.dkg.org/site/c.meJMIOOwErH/b.5841719/k.DB95/Bulletin.htm>. You will find the latest issue of the Bulletin as well as archived issues. Also, you can send your *Letters to the Editor*, feedback and other comments to [bulletin@dkg.org](mailto:bulletin@dkg.org).

The *Eta State News* is available online as well. To access the most recent copy of the newsletter go to: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/Communications2members%20page.htm> There are archived issues from Jan. 2011 - Dec. 2011 available.

## Embracing the Leader Inside You Cont.



3. Because you know leadership isn't about how well you are appreciated, but it's about endlessly showing your appreciation of others. Leadership isn't about how you feel, but how you make others feel.
4. Because you are honored to lead, you genuinely respect and care for the people you serve.
5. Because you avoid the trivial and stay focused on your core values and the vision they enable. You will always pay attention to what matters most and you communicate it tirelessly and with clarity.
6. Because you are driven to produce and are accountable for it and expect the same from others.
7. Because you take time to reflect to keep yourself aligned and to continually evaluate your impact.
8. Because you exercise. You know that regular exercise not only makes you feel better physically and it has a profound impact on your cognitive abilities and mental health.
9. Because you are curious, you are committed to being a lifelong learner and building a learning culture within your team and organization. You won't rely on what worked for you in the past.
10. Because you are humble enough to know that you don't have all the answers and it doesn't have to be your way and it is in fact, unhealthy for you to insist on it.
11. Because you are committed to building others greater than yourself. You are validated not by your own knowledge and accomplishments but by those you help succeed. You are passionate about and energized by the people you serve.
12. Because you know that you are setting an example for others to follow. Everything you do matters. You know it's not about you.

"12 Reasons You Will Be a Better Leader this Year." *Leading Blog Creating a Community of Leaders*.  
LeadershipNow / M2 Communications, 16 01 2012. Web. 4 Feb. 2012.  
<[http://www.leadershipnow.com/leadingblog/2012/01/12\\_reasons\\_you\\_will\\_be\\_a\\_bette.html](http://www.leadershipnow.com/leadingblog/2012/01/12_reasons_you_will_be_a_bette.html)>.



# Eta State Convention



The theme for the **Eta State Convention** is “**Cherish the Past, Celebrate the Present, Commit to the Future.**” President Linda Little has announced the International Guest speaker for the convention being held at Embassy Suites in Cary on **April 27-29, 2012**. The guest speaker is Dr. Beverly Helms. She is the International Second Vice President.

Dr. Helms has roots in North Carolina. She was the Southeast Regional Direction. She also has ties to the Mu Chapter in Nash/Rocky Mount. Currently she resides in Florida and is a member of Mu State. Dr. Helms has served in many leadership roles at the state and international level. We are fortunate to have her presenting at our convention. Let’s show our support by attending the convention.

If you were able to attend the convention last year, you will remember the program books. Many members found the books to useful so they are going to be replicated for this year’s convention.

There will be space available in the program book for advertisements. Both members and non-members can advertise their business, talent or share information in the program book.

The prices for advertisements in the program book are listed on the side. For more information contact **Dr. Carol Maidon, 910-893-1637** or [maidonc@campbell.edu](mailto:maidonc@campbell.edu) by **March 15, 2012**.

### Advertisement Prices

**1/8 page - \$25.00**

**1/4 page - \$45.00**

**1/2 page - \$80.00**

**Full page - \$150.00**

Also, the **pre-conference workshop** is going to be help at the NC Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, NC. The workshop is entitled, “**Designing Women in Leadership** ” and will be help on **April 27, 2012 from 10:00—1:00**. The workshop includes lunch.

Following the workshop a there will be a **reception** held at the **Governor’s Mansion**. Dr. June Atkinson, State Superintendent, will be one of several speakers who have leadership roles in education as well as business.

If you are interested in attending the convention, a block of rooms have been reserved at the Embassy Suites. To make a room reservation, go to the Eta State Convention Reservation Web site at: <http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/>

## Attention Musicians



There is a lot of talent in our Chapter and we need to showcase it at the 2012 State Convention. If you are a singer and/or instrumentalist, the convention committee is looking for anyone interested in singing and/or playing during the convention.

If you are interested in participating, please contact **Elizabeth Beam** at [elizabethbeam@me.com](mailto:elizabethbeam@me.com)

### 2010-12 International Vision Statement

*Leading Women Educators  
Impacting Education Worldwide*

### 2010-12 Theme

*Embracing Our Vision  
Designing Our Future*

### 2011-13 Eta State Theme

*Embracing Our Vision Designing our Future*  
**Lead                      Serve                      Impact**

Visit our Chapter Web site at: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC-alphabeta/index.htm>



# Legislative Update

Eta State Legislative Coordinator

Lynn Ragsdale

## January 2012

I know you will agree with me when I say how very fortunate we are to have Lynn Ragsdale as a member of Alpha Beta, but most importantly as our Eta State Legislative Coordinator. She is one of Delta Kappa Gamma's (DKG) biggest advocates. She is so interested in making sure the leadership in NC understands who we are as an organization and what we represent.

As you can see, Lynn has been busy meeting with legislators such as NC House Speaker Tullus. But she doesn't stop with just NC leaders, she has been talking with Elizabeth Outten who is the regional liaison for US Senator Kay Hagan.

One of Lynn's goals this year was to find out some of the most important topics DKG members wanted addressed by our legislators. So she worked with the Education Law and Policy Committee to organize a survey that was shared with DKG chapters across North Carolina.

The results are in and the data has been aggregated. The topics DKG members were asked to prioritize are listed below. There are pie charts representing all of the topics. These pie charts show how DKG members prioritized each of the topics. The Pie Charts can be found on pages 4-6.

The topics include: Health Care Benefits, Charter Schools, Children in Poverty, Teacher Training/Staff Development, Teaching Fellows, Student Testing, and Community College Consolidation.

If you have questions regarding the survey, please feel free to contact Lynn at [lharloe@hotmail.com](mailto:lharloe@hotmail.com).

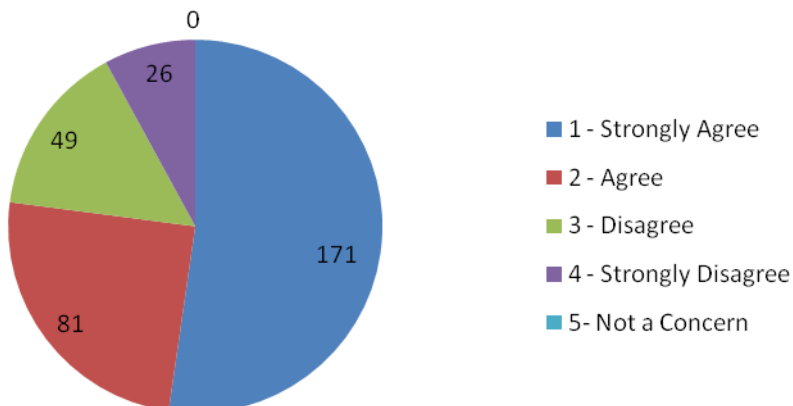


Lynn Ragsdale & NC House Speaker Tullus



Lynn Ragsdale & Elizabeth Outten, Regional Liaison for US Senator Kay Hagan

## Health Care Benefits



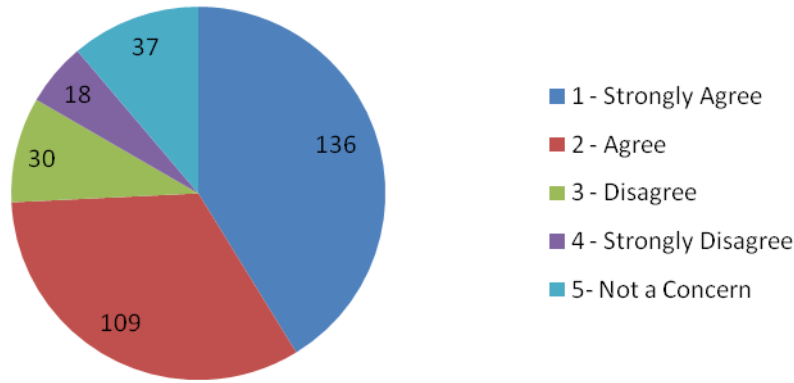
## Health Care Benefits

All State employees may be required to pay something into health care.

# Legislative Survey Data cont.



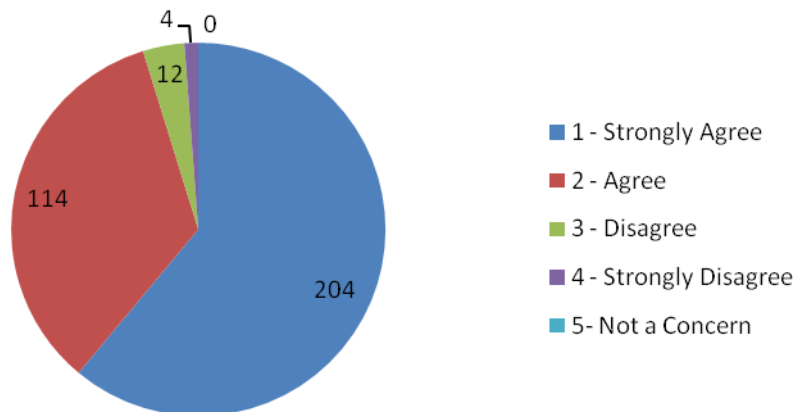
## Charter Schools



### Charter Schools

Lack of regulatory consistency in specific areas such as transportation, breakfast/lunch programs, entrance requirements, school calendar, etc.

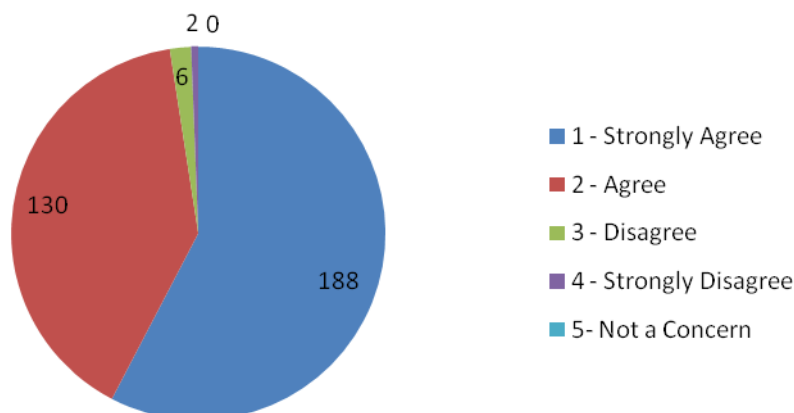
## Children in Poverty



### Children in Poverty

Sufficient funding to provide consistent support from kindergarten through grade 12.

## Teacher Training/Staff Development



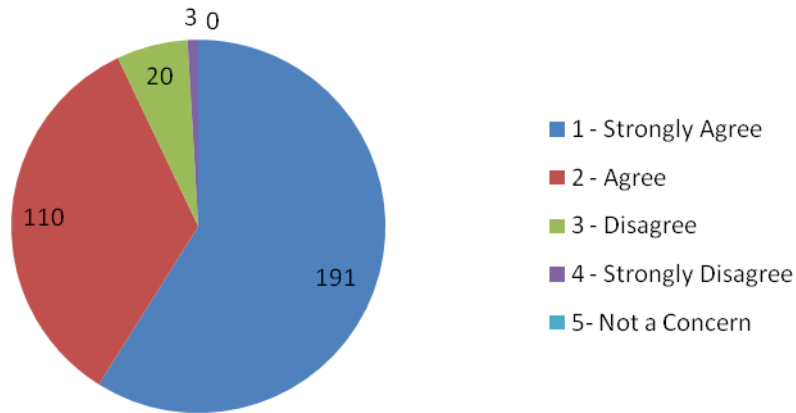
### Teacher Training/Staff Development

Reinstatement of funding to assist teachers with the addition of critically needed areas of licensure, to assist program development for teachers in all curriculum areas, not just reading and math.

# Legislative Survey Data cont.



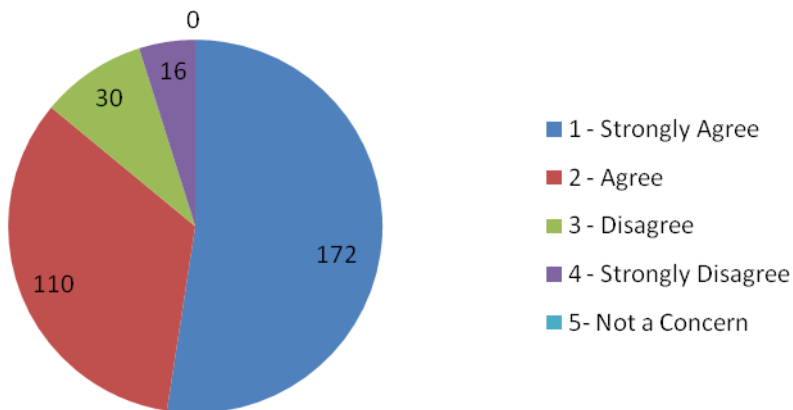
## Teaching Fellows



### Teaching Fellows

Reinstatement of the program.

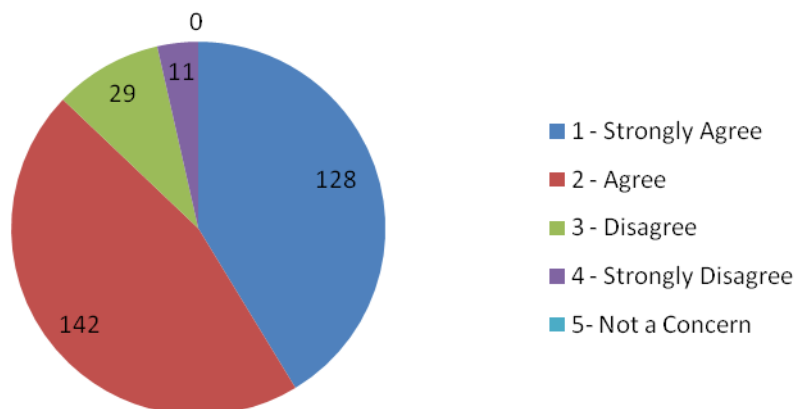
## Student Testing



### Student Testing

Assess school and teacher performance on student academic growth rather than on proficiency.

## Community College Consolidation



### Community College Consolidation

Affects colleges with less than 3000 enrollments.



# Celebrating our Members



It is time we celebrate the accomplishments of our members. **Sue Roberts, Eta News Editor**, would like to highlight our members who have earned a higher degree, received an honor, and/or published a book or manuscript. Please send your information to Karen or directly to Sue at [suebetatau@comporium.net](mailto:suebetatau@comporium.net). Please include your **name, chapter, region, and achievement**. The news **deadline** for the next issue is **February 15th**.



## Spotlighting Alpha Beta

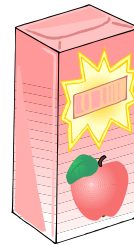
We were fortunate to have 2 of our Alpha Beta members highlighted in the Eta State Newsletter.

One of the stories highlighted the dedication ceremony at the Johnston Community College's Learning Resource Center Library for our beloved member, Anne Ogburn.

The other story highlighted the accomplishments of Cynthia Toudle who earned her Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) credential from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHEC).

To access the **Eta State News** go to: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/ESN/Winter11-12.pdf>.

## Back Pack Buddies



If you plan to attend the State Convention in May, we hope you will support the **Backpack Buddies Program**. This program provides nutritional food for qualified children in the following counties: Chatham, Durham, Edgecombe, Johnston, Nash, Orange, and Wake.

The types of items that can be donated include: canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meats, packaged noodle meals, and 100% juice boxes.

To learn more about the program, go to: <http://www.foodshuttle.org/program/backpack-buddies>

# NC Teachers #1 in National Board Certification

It is true, NC teachers are #1 in National Board Certification. Also, NC universities leads in the top 50 of alumnae achieving first-time certification. We want to congratulate Mary Helen Sills who recently earned National Board Certification! Mary Helen teaches at Meadow School in Johnston County.

We are fortunate to have 1,244 newly-certified National Board teachers in our classrooms according to the 2011 certification results just released by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). This brings the state's total number of National Board Certified Teachers to

19,193. This is the largest number of National Board Certified teachers in the nation.

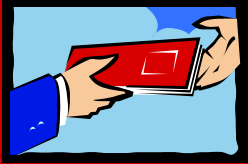
For more information, including the list of North Carolina universities and colleges making the Top 50, please visit [www.ncpublicschools.org](http://www.ncpublicschools.org) and click on the appropriate link under "News." If you have just received your NBC or renewed your certification, please let us celebrate your great news. Please contact Karen at [karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov).



**NBPTS**

**National Board for  
Professional Teaching  
Standards**

Image taken from <http://www.nbpts.org/>



# From Raleigh to NYC

If you are interested in a little adventure and want to fellowship with your fellow Delta Kappa Gamma colleagues, you won't want to miss this trip. DKG members are planning to travel by train to attend the International Convention in New York City. The trip is planned for **July 23-30, 2012**.

There are accommodations available for Senior Fares, Business Class, as well as Roomettes (2 beds). **Departure** begins on **Monday, July 23 at 8:45 a.m.** Arrival time at Penn Station in NYC

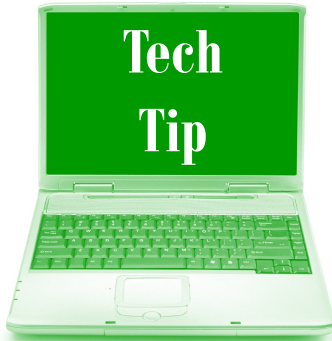
is 7:18 p.m.. Meals will be available in the dining car with group setting available.

You can include up to 3 pieces of luggage with each piece being no more than 50 lbs. The maximum size of a checked bag is 36x36x36. This does not include laptops, books, purses, etc. The cost of the trip is **Senior: \$182.00** and **Adult: \$213.00**. **Return** trip is on **Monday, July 30** with departure from Penn Station at 7:05 a.m. Arrival time in Raleigh is at 4:02 p.m.

If you are interested in this adventure, please contact **Dr. Judith B. Carlson, 125 Laurel Hill Drive, Boone, NC 28607**.



## Tech Tip



Many of you have probably heard of Google docs, but have you discovered the different tools available to you? Google docs has several easy-to-use tools such as online word processor, spreadsheet and presentation editor. You can create new documents, and even upload existing documents, spreadsheets and presentations.

The magic of Google docs is there is no software to download. You can store all of your documents online, share them with students and colleagues, secure them and access them from any computer.

A web page has been created to provide Tips and Tricks you can use in your classroom to utilize Google Docs. There are 6 tips listed below.

### Using Google Docs in the Classroom: Tips and Tricks

[https://docs.google.com/a/ncpublicschools.gov/View?id=ddnctvgt\\_216hf44mcf](https://docs.google.com/a/ncpublicschools.gov/View?id=ddnctvgt_216hf44mcf)

- Tip #1:** Use standard document names and folders to keep organized
- Tip #2:** Timestamps help keep track of student work
- Tip #3:** Use revision history to view previous versions of a document
- Tip #4:** Have your students collaborate on projects
- Tip #5:** Encourage the use of "comments" for peer feedback
- Tip #6:** Publishing documents for parents and others to view

If you haven't tried out Google Docs, here is your chance. Let me know how you use Google Docs in your classroom and we'll feature it in our newsletter.



# Feb. – July Birthdays



A special **“Birthday Wish”** from your Alpha Beta Sisters

Feburary	March	April
Mary Helen Sills – 26	Dorothy Harris – 17	Freddie Creech – 1
	Allette Hale – 19	Bess Ragsdale – 14
	Jean Simmons – 20	Frances Warren – 14
	Sue Wood – 20	Olive Cooke – 16
	Renee Oliver – 28	Pama Kirby – 24
	Thelma Harris – 30	
	Maylene Sanders – 30	



May	June	July
Camille Boone – 6	Amy Stanley – 8	Vivia Creech – 7
Denise Luper – 7	Noela Sue Woodall – 9	Ann Carwper – 15
Rose Walker – 11	Tucker Twisdale – 19	Edna Luper – 20
Mary Sauls – 12	Peggy Batten – 19	Helen Ellerbe – 22
Jennifer Moore – 13	Lynn Ragsdale – 25	
Karen Hicks – 17		
Sybil Edwards - 18		
Lorine Davis – 23		

**SPECIAL NOTE:** If you have a birthday in February-July and you do not see your name in the list, please contact Karen at [karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov). She will make sure you are included in the list.

# Purpose and Mission



The Delta Kappa  
Gamma Society  
International

promotes professional and  
personal growth of women  
educators and excellence in  
education.

**Alpha Beta Chapter**  
**Organized April 19, 1952**

**TO UNITE** women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.

**TO HONOR** women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.

**TO ADVANCE** the professional interest and position of women in education.

**TO INITIATE, ENDORSE, AND SUPPORT** desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.

**TO ENDOW** scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators.

**TO STIMULATE** the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.



# Thoughts and Prayers



We have several members who are not doing well. I know they will appreciate you keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

Barbara Barnes

Lynn & Bess Ragsdale

Dorothy Driver

Margaret Walker

Iris Scarborough

Sue Wood

If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact Karen at [karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov)



If you have an idea for an article or information you would like to see added to the newsletter, please contact the editor, **Karen Creech**, at [karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov)