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In Our 31th Year

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Serving the Triad

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New Era Of Growth, Innovation And Accountability In Public Charter Schools

By Darrell Allison



Darrell Allison, President

Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina

North Carolina has a deep commitment to public education.

Our state educates 1.5 million children in approximately 2,500 traditional public schools in all 100 counties.

As a product of North Carolina public schools with a daughter in the third grade who attends public school, I'm proud of the long-standing tradition they have and will continue to have in serving the majority of our children.

I am equally proud that North Carolina, which has been the envy of other states because of our willingness to modernize our educational delivery system, has fully embraced public charter schools as an additional option for our children.

Since state leaders lifted the cap in 2011 on the number of public charter schools, we now have 148 public charter schools operating in North Carolina that serve 75,000 students in 57 counties. Another 13 public charter schools are in the pipeline to open their doors next year, pushing the total to 160.

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"However now we actually have a little more control and it's called a vote."

Republican Party learned from their mistakes of alienating minority voters and realized that they wouldn't be successful in gaining a lot of their support in the near future, so the plan was voter suppression laws. These laws supported their agenda of picking up momentum in the midterm elections and setting the stage for the 2016 presidential election. The GOP's strategy was that they needed to limit the minority vote and they were quite successful with it, there were fewer early voting sites and the early voting period was shortened. This coupled with the unsolicited help from democrats proved to be a recipe for success. The Democratic Party apparently thought that they would inherit the minority vote and made minimal efforts to identify with them, more specifically the young minority voters. North Carolina had the most expensive senatorial race in history, with both parties spending over \$100 million collectively in efforts to get their candidate elected. Very little was done to reach the young and minority voters. Statistics show that these demographics of voters were highly under represented in the voter turnouts; this was a very costly mistake by the democrats. As we prepare for the 2016 elections, we cannot turn a blind eye and not see the power of the minority vote, nor can we continue to allow the GOP to treat us as if we are invisible. Despite any and all obstacles your vote is the single most way to rectify the notion that "we are blind or invisible".



Clarence B. Jones

Reflections On The 2014 Mid-Term Elections

By Clarence B. Jones

I wish we could select winning lottery numbers as accurately as we anticipated the Republican sweep in the midterm elections. The strategic objective of the Republican Party was to make the elections a national referendum on the policies and leadership of President Obama.

Rather than stand and fight on these issues, the Democratic National Committee decided to run away and decouple their reelection campaign from the very visible, 24/7 presence of President Obama. This was their "playbook" for holding or increasing Democratic Party seats in the House and Senate. How did that work out?

The not-so-subtle abandonment of President Obama fractured, confused and potentially alienated important core constituencies of his election base. Why didn't more Democratic candidates for Congress and the governorships of various states acknowledge the initial failures of the roll-out of the Affordable Care Act but then defend the historic change it accomplished in providing health care for an unprecedented number of previously uninsured persons?

Why didn't Democratic candidates preempt the discussion about some of the failures and improper care for veterans by indicating that the president moved decisively to address this issue? Why didn't they point to his administration being proactive in protecting our country from Ebola?

Yes, we have heard and read complaints about President Obama's "indecisive leadership" in foreign policy. But much of our problem and dilemma in the Middle East today is a consequence and by product of the "decisive" preemptive military "leadership" of former President George W. Bush. Almost a trillion dollars later, we are still dealing

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Is ADHD A Real Disease?

By Derrick Lane



One doctor questions if ADHD is a real disorder or overdiagnosed.

Dr. Leon Eisenberg, who passed away at the age of 87 in 2009, was a prominent figure in the field of child psychiatry who during the 1950s and '60s conducted medical studies of children with developmental problems, including some of the first findings of autism and attention deficit disorder.

Often described as the "inventor" or "father" of attention deficit disorder (ADD) and/or attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) Dr. Eisenberg contributed a great deal to the body of knowledge on childhood psychiatry.

But the scientific father of ADHD has followed the explosion of prescriptions with growing horror. The claim that Dr. Eisenberg said that "ADHD is a fictitious disease" is reproduced on countless web sites as something he said "before his death in his last interview," which would place the date of his utterance around February 2009. When documentation for the putative quote is provided, it references an article (often described as a "cover story") published in the German weekly Der Spiegel on 2 February 2012.

In the literal translation of the statement in context, some native German speakers have reported that Dr. Eisenberg wasn't

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Are We Blind or Are We Invisible?

By Gerald Greene



Gerald Green

The fact that our African American ancestors were enslaved seemed egregious enough; unfortunately this new aged era of mental slavery seems to be just as hideous. We are taunted daily by innumerable illustrations of bias acts, such as racial discrimination, police brutality, judicial inequality and political exclusion to highlight a few. However now we actually have a little more control and it's called a vote. Our once seemingly insignificant presence in the political arena has now proven to be quite significant. The black vote has made its mark in mainstream America and continues to boast its influence in the outcome of elections. In past elections we were invisible, republicans have never needed the minority vote and we were blind because we couldn't see the potential of our vote and democrats didn't realize the trump card they possessed in utilizing the minority vote. Now the cat is out of the bag, "the minority vote sways elections". The

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