

**Race**

From A1

and newspaper publisher from Wilkesboro.

Hubbard has criticized Foxx as "a ruthless lawmaker who has worked to dismantle public education and workforce protections" while pledging that he will "prioritize our working families and small businesses, support public education, work to build an economy that works for all of us, and expand access to affordable healthcare" if he is elected.

Both candidates submitted responses to questions about their campaigns. Here is what they had to say:

**Virginia Foxx****Why should the voters of the Fifth District choose you over your opponent?**

It's simple. I have a strong, conservative voting record and a reputation of providing top-notch constituent services to folks in the Triad and across the Fifth Congressional District. My experience means I know how to get things done.

Plus, I've demonstrated my dedication to conservative values with common sense solutions that work for all North Carolinians. No one needs to wonder where I stand or whether I will fight for conservative principles. I have a clear and proven track-record as someone who won't back down from fighting for solutions that will make a difference in my constituents' lives.

Common sense solutions means things like my legislation, the SKILLS Act, which is helping



Foxx

workers build 21st century job skills, while slashing bureaucracy and wasteful spending.

The committee I chair also passed the first ever "Parents Bill of Rights" to ensure parents' rights are protected in public schools. I am currently leading a successful major investigation into rampant antisemitism at college campuses

— which has already resulted in the resignation of university presidents who had tolerated antisemitism and discrimination on their campuses.

There's also my very first bill, the HERO Act, which is now helping our military men and women by increasing their access to retirement savings accounts.

I'm an educator, mother, grandmother and small businesswoman, allowing me to understand many of the issues my constituents must grapple with. I am 100% committed to fighting for the North Carolina values we hold dear and solving our problems with conservative solutions to our tough problems.

**What do you see as the greatest challenge facing the district and what solutions would you support to address the problem?**

My constituents are fed up with the Biden-Harris economy, which

is crushing average, hard-working North Carolinians, thanks to spiraling inflation and job-killing regulation. The Biden administration's policies have produced a punishing cost of living and a slowing economy, which are bleeding families in the Triad dry.

If elected, I will continue to fight for legislation to rein in wasteful federal spending. I will support legislation to restart using taxpayer-owned federal lands to safely produce American energy — which the Biden administration has basically banned, helping drive up energy costs.

The solution to reigning in out-of-control government spending is to stop pumping out more inflationary "stimulus." That's why, in the 115th Congress, I voted for legislation to rescind \$15 billion dollars of previously authorized, but unused, funds from overfunded or expired programs.

I also cosponsored the Unauthorized Spending Accountability Act. This bill puts many government programs on a three-year pathway to sunset. It forces Congress to take responsibility for spending, rather than putting programs on spending autopilot — potentially saving 100's of billions of dollars per year.

**How will you ensure you adequately represent your constituents in Guilford County and the Triad?**

Excellent and responsive constituent service has always been a top priority for me and my dedicated staff.

I will continue to fight for my constituents — including those in the Triad — in Congress, while

also fighting to ensure that any one of my constituents who deals with any federal agency or bureaucracy is treated with the fairness and respect due to every citizen.

Fox's voting record speaks for itself: she continues to vote against the interests of the district she is supposed to represent. I can't sit back and watch this happen any longer.

Most importantly, I will never stop listening to the people I represent. The voice of the people of the fifth district matters to me.

When I travel the district and talk with folks I meet, their stories of success, hardship or struggle serve to inspire me to work tirelessly on their behalf.

That's what motivates me to tackle tough problems like our border security and immigration crisis, or repairing the Biden-Harris administration's failed policies

that caused the cost of living to spiral out of control for regular folks living in the Triad.

The truth is, we can't afford another four years of Biden-Harris policies. So I'm working hard to ensure we get back to focusing on growing our economy, keeping inflation in check and securing our border. By addressing these issues with conservative solutions that empower people, we can make life more prosperous and more free for everyone in the Triad.

**Chuck Hubbard****Why should the voters of the Fifth District choose you over your opponent?**

I spent 40 years at the Wilkes Journal Patriot as either a reporter or a publisher.

For the last 20 years, I have watched Virginia Foxx harm my community by tearing down public education and workplace protections as Chair of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Fox's voting record speaks for itself: she continues to vote against the interests of the district she is supposed to represent. I can't sit back and watch this happen any longer.

My intimate knowledge of this district and its struggles positions me to represent my community in a completely different way.

**What do you see as the greatest challenge facing the district and what solutions would you support to address the problem?**

I will do everything in my power to combat rising prices and the high cost-of-living.

The federal minimum wage is still \$7.25. This is unacceptable. We need to push for an increase to a livable standard.

Additionally, I will be supporting bills like the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which has helped North Carolina receive investment funds across the counties in the fifth district.

The creation of quality, livable wage jobs will be a priority.

**How will you ensure you adequately represent your constituents in Guilford County and the Triad?**

I will continue to show up in my community and make myself available to my constituents.

I will listen. I will be a legislator for the people. I will reject political theater, which has been central to my opponent's tenure.

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**Magnet**

From A1

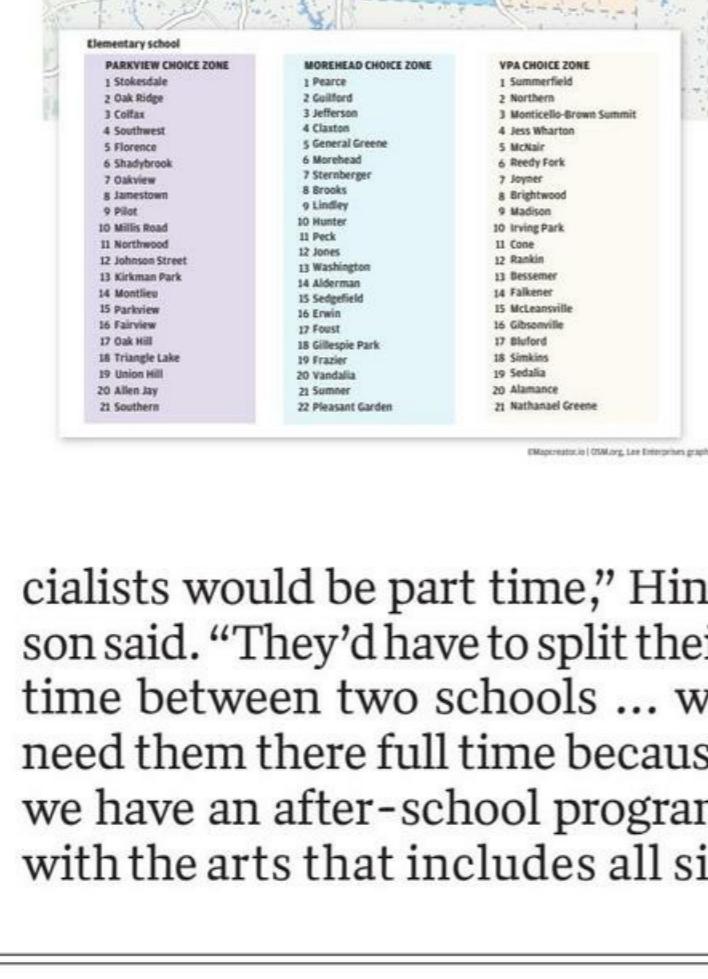
Morehead, said in an interview she's concerned that without transportation, many of those 46 students wouldn't be able to stay at Morehead.

"I don't know exactly the numbers, but I would guess if we lost enough to lose one whole class of kids, that would be one position gone."

Hinson also said if enrollment decreased, specialized teachers could go from full time to part-time positions.

At most schools, specialized teachers include art, physical education, and music teachers, but Morehead also has a drama, dance, and orchestra teacher.

"What we've been told by Guilford County is if our enrollment goes down, then some of our spe-



cialists would be part time," Hinson said. "They'd have to split their time between two schools ... we need them there full time because we have an after-school program with the arts that includes all six

of those teachers."

Heather Scavone, a PTA member at Morehead, said in an interview that the new zoning also reduces choices for parents.

"For the past 20 years parents had the option of two different arts magnets, and they could apply to both of them," Scavone said. "So why constrain them to only one? They could apply for two if they don't get into one, they get into the other, that's good for both of the schools."

District 3 Board member Michael Logan asked during the meeting about the financial cost if the district allowed students in the Greensboro zone to choose between the arts programs at Morehead and the Visual and Performing Arts School, which is set to open in August 2025.

"We won't know until we have kids that apply and know where they live," Oakley answered.

Oakley added that part of the reason for the proposed new zoning is the school district didn't have the resources to provide transportation countywide for all students enrolled in the school choice program.

"I don't think with a transportation efficiency rating as low as ours ... we can continue to bus students all over the county given the fact that we've also had about 65 bus driver vacancies for three consecutive years," Oakley said.

At-large board member Alan Sherouse asked if transportation was the primary reason for the tighter zoning.

"There's lots of reasons," Oakley responded. "I mean we've looked at seats over time, applications over time, what it means to have a new choice school with an awaited neighborhood magnet, equity, access across the county, staffing."

Despite some hesitation from board members, all nine ultimately voted in favor of the new feeder zones.

"The Morehead decision tonight is not easy," Board Chair Deena Hayes said.

Logan said that despite some of his concerns, he ultimately voted in favor of the new zoning because there wasn't sufficient evidence Morehead would see a significant decrease in enrollment.

"It's not a large portion of the school being bused from outside of the attendance zone to the school," Logan said. "Most of the people I talked to said they would find a way to get their kids there."

The Elementary Choice Application Window will open on Oct. 23 and closes Nov. 27.

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ERIK VERDUZCO, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connecticut Army National Guard members stand in a debris field in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene on Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024, in Burnsville, N.C.

made in conjunction with Golden Leaf Foundation that will be reimbursed through FEMA.

"There are thousands of businesses in this region that have been severely damaged or destroyed," said Sen. Warren Daniel, R-Burke.

"They're struggling to figure out whether they will ever be able to rebuild and reopen. Local residents and the state economy depend heavily on the businesses in Western North Carolina, especially small businesses."

"It's the General Assembly's duty to provide them help during their darkest hour and we are intent on doing just that."

The law also includes the Potential Tropical Cyclone #8 Fund for Brunswick and New Hanover counties, as well as language to fund the relief needs for the Nash County tornado that caused damage in Rocky Mount.

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