

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023**

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HOUSE BILL 31

Senate Redistricting and Elections Committee Substitute Adopted 5/31/23

Short Title: Rowan-Salisbury Board of Educ. Partisan.

(Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

January 31, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR PARTISAN ELECTIONS FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE
ROWAN-SALISBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Sections C and D of Article V of A PLAN FOR MERGER OF THE
ROWAN COUNTY SCHOOL AND THE SALISBURY CITY SCHOOLS, as approved by the
State Board of Education on December 3, 1987, filed with the Secretary of State in accordance
with G.S. 115C-67 on December 21, 1987, and as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 890 of the
1987 Session Laws, are repealed.

SECTION 2. The Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education shall consist of seven
members elected on a partisan basis at the time of the general election in each even-numbered
year. Members shall serve staggered four-year terms. One member shall be elected from each of
seven single-member residency districts, as described in Section 3 of this act, by the qualified
voters of the entire county. Only a person residing in a residency district shall be eligible as a
candidate in the election for the seat apportioned to that district. Candidates for election to the
Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education shall be nominated at the same time and manner as county
officers. Members elected shall take office and qualify on the first Monday in December of the
year of the election, and the terms of their predecessors shall expire at that same time. Members
shall serve until a successor has been elected and qualified. Except as otherwise provided by this
act, the election shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapters
115C and 163 of the General Statutes.

SECTION 2.(b) Vacancies on the Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education shall be
filled in accordance with G.S. 115C-37.1. To be eligible for appointment to fill a vacancy, the
person must reside in the residency district where the vacancy exists.

SECTION 3.(a) The seven residency districts for the Rowan-Salisbury Board of
Education are as follows:

- Seat 1: The North Rowan High School attendance zone, except for that portion
included in the district for Seat 6.
- Seat 2: The South Rowan High School attendance zone.
- Seat 3: The East Rowan High School attendance zone.
- Seat 4: The West Rowan High School attendance zone.
- Seat 5: The Salisbury High School attendance zone, except for that portion
included in the district for Seat 6.
- Seat 6: All of the East Spencer, East Ward II, and West Ward III precincts; the
portion of East Ward I precinct between Main Street and I-85; the portion
of South Ward precinct between Main Street and I-85 and bordered on the



1 south by the Southern Railroad line running from Harrison Street to I-85;
2 the portion of West Ward I precinct north of a line consisting of Wilson
3 Road, Taylor Street, Harrison Street, Fulton Street, and Monroe Street;
4 and the portion of Milford Hills precinct between the Southern Railroad
5 line and Highway 70 (Statesville Boulevard) west of Jake Alexander
6 Boulevard and within the Salisbury city limits.

7 Seat 7: The Southeast Rowan High School attendance zone, except for that
8 portion included in the district for Seat 6.

9 **SECTION 3.(b)** The Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education may revise the residency
10 districts set forth in this section if an adjustment is required for a change in the attendance zones
11 to accommodate a new school, closure of a school, or consolidation of one or more schools. A
12 change in the boundaries of attendance zones shall not affect the ability of any person to complete
13 the term of office.

14 **SECTION 4.** In 2024 and quadrennially thereafter, one member shall be elected for
15 Seats 3, 5, and 7 to serve four-year terms. In 2026 and quadrennially thereafter, one member shall
16 be elected for Seats 1, 2, 4, and 6 to serve four-year terms.

17 **SECTION 5.** This act does not affect the term of office of any member elected in
18 2020 or 2022 to the Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education. Any vacancy on the Rowan-Salisbury
19 Board of Education for a member elected in 2020 and 2022 shall be filled by appointment by the
20 remaining members of the Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education; to be eligible for appointment
21 to fill a vacancy, the person must reside in the residency district where the vacancy exists. The
22 members of the Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education elected in 2020 and 2022, or any member
23 appointed by the remaining members of the Rowan-Salisbury Board of Education to fill a
24 vacancy for a member elected in 2020 or 2022, shall serve until a successor has been elected and
25 qualified.

26 **SECTION 6.(a)** G.S. 115C-37.1(d) reads as rewritten:

27 "(d) This section shall apply only in the following counties: Alleghany, Brunswick,
28 Cherokee, Clay, Davie, Graham, Guilford, Harnett, Iredell, Lee, New Hanover, Rowan,
29 Rutherford, Stanly, Vance, and Washington."

30 **SECTION 6.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2024.

31 **SECTION 7.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law
32 and applies to elections held on or after that date.