From: EdNC.org
To: Rep. Mike Clampitt
Subject: Thomas Stith talks his vision for N.C. community colleges
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The **State Board of Community Colleges** revisited their legislative agenda, discussed the shift to online learning, and heard from new system president Thomas Stith during **its first meeting of the year last week.**

"Thank you for your confidence in me to lead the North Carolina Community College System at this time in history," Stith said. "We're at a crucial point, and I want to appreciate that honor."

Stith said he intends to be present in the General Assembly to advocate for the state's community colleges, focusing on **funding and budget stabilization**, faculty and staff salaries, and innovations in IT.

In this week's **Awake58 podcast**, Stith spoke with Nation Hahn about his legislative priorities, his own education, and his business background. He also spoke about **his vision for the system's role in the state**, highlighting his goals to make the system a national model for diversity and inclusion and to establish strong partnerships with the state's private sector.

"I want the North Carolina Community College System to be the first choice for an affordable education," Stith said.

Digital learning has been tough for teachers, students, and families. One school district held a series of engagement nights to connect with their most disengaged students and families. ***Hear how they did it in this week's moment of hope.***

More from EdNC.org...

Dudley Flood Center kicks off student voices series // Alex Granados
The Public School Forum of North Carolina's Dudley Flood Center launched its student voices series with a discussion of culturally responsive curriculum. Find out what a group of students and teachers had to say.

Here are 12 education podcasts you should know about // Alli Lindenberg
From teachers to principals, we're following education podcasts from across North Carolina and you can too.

What we're tuning into

First in Future: Patrick Miller and Brad Wilson

In this episode of First in Future, Patrick Miller and Brad Wilson, members of the Governor's Commission on Access to Sound Basic Education, discuss the Leandro report that was released a little more than a year ago. Over its 287 pages, the report recommends a series of changes to ensure North Carolina meets its constitutional obligation to provide each child a sound basic education.

Nuestro South Podcast

The Nuestro South Podcast is a five-part podcast series that explores the stories of Latinx people in the South from the Jim Crow era to the present. Join the conversation as the hosts unpack the experience of being Latinx in Nuestro South.

Data Lit

Teachers are inundated with data, but none of those numbers will help if they're not paired with accessible and informative data literacy training. This podcast seeks to empower teachers with the skills they'll need to turn the data given to them into powerful instructional practices.

Perspectives

- **Supporting BIPOC women in the classroom: Profound Ladies // Keiyonna Dubashi and Anna Almore**
- **Leading in the 'new normal' — A mini-series on school leadership during COVID-19 // Melissa Altemose and Lauren Lampron**
- **DavieLEADS professional development provides lifeline for teachers during pandemic // Jeanna White**
- **NC COVID-19 Student Response Corps: Supporting students in pursuit of public service careers // Liam Miranda and Dylan Russell**
- **A message for education in an uplifting — and realistic — inaugural // Ferrel Guillory**

Do you have a story or reflections you want to share? Find general guidelines for Perspectives **here**, or email **asorrells@ednc.org** for more information.

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