

## Letters to the Editor

**Stand up for public schools** Henderson County is fortunate to have great public schools. Our non-partisan school board and the leadership in HCPS have done an outstanding job leading us through difficult COVID-19 months. They have kept schools open almost all last year when most counties offered only digital learning. They have made sure thousands of children who couldn't get to school still received meals delivered on school buses. With funding from the county commissioners, they have added a nurse for each school and added staff to meet students' many mental health needs. Henderson County teachers have done everything possible to meet the academic needs of digital and in-school students under immense difficulties. Through many added duties, teachers and staff have worked to keep our children healthy. North Carolina's booming economy has produced billions more than expected. Yet, legislators are not paying public-school teachers and staff appropriate 2021 salaries. They are spending billions of taxpayer dollars on private schools, billions that could be used for public-school needs. Henderson County citizens, stand up for public schools, the underpinning of our democracy. Please contact state representatives on Page [2A](#): Senator Edwards, Representatives Moffit and Representative Johnson. Ask them to fully support public schools and use taxpayer money only for public schools.

*Linda Miller, Hendersonville*