



Critical Information for the March 2016 Primary

North Carolina changed its primary to Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

Primaries allow registered voters the opportunity to choose which candidates will continue to the November 2016 general election. You'll see presidential candidates on the ballot, and you'll also see candidates running in critical local races, including County Commissioner, Board of Education, and NC House and Senate.

In Iredell County, a strong tradition of Republican support often means that some candidates go unopposed in the general election--**meaning that primary elections are even more important in determining which candidate will become your representative.**

Voter ID is required to vote at the polling place.

Before you can vote, you'll have to present an approved piece of identification. See www.voterid.nc.gov for accepted identification. Remember, free NC DMV ID cards can be obtained at the DMV.

Voter Registration Deadline and Party Change Deadline

In order to vote in the March primary, you must first be a registered voter. Remember, Republicans can only vote in the Republican primary races; Democrats can only vote in Democratic primaries. Independent or unaffiliated voters may choose to vote in either the Republican or the Democratic primary.

The deadline to register to vote or to change your party affiliation is Friday, 2/19/16. Forms can be found at <https://www.co.iredell.nc.us/166/Voter-Forms-Resources>

Early Voting Dates and Locations

Don't want to wait in line on March 15th? Vote early at one of these locations:

March 3 - 12	March 7 - 12
Iredell County Board of Elections Office	War Memorial Building, Peninsula Baptist Church, Troutman Baptist Church, Union Grove Fire Department
Mon-Fri 7:30am-5:30pm	Mon-Fri 10am-5:30pm
Sat. 3/12 8am-1pm <i>(only Saturday open)</i>	Sat. 3/12 8am-1pm <i>(only Saturday open)</i>
Closed Sundays	Closed Sundays

You can also vote by absentee ballot.

Absentee ballots can be obtained by mail on the State Absentee Ballot Request Form. Photo ID is not required to vote a mail-in absentee ballot. The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is March 8th, 2016. Find more information at: <https://www.co.iredell.nc.us/166/Voter-Forms-Resources>

Know your candidates and their motivation.

Local elections are critical in making a difference in our community and schools. If you don't know how a local candidate feels about public education, be sure to ask him or her! It's also helpful to follow local media coverage about the primary, or attend a candidates' forum. **Every vote counts, and your voice must be heard.**

Follow along with Our Schools First as we provide important updates.

Every election counts, and your vote can make sure our schools have the resources and support they need in our community. Be sure to follow us on social media or join our mailing list to ensure you're getting the latest and best information in time for our primary and general elections.



www.ourschoolsfirst.com