

# Education & Workforce Conference: Virtual

AUGUST 13, 2020 | VIRTUAL

**John B. (J.B.) Buxton**  
President, Durham Technical Community College  
Member, N.C. State Board of Education



J.B. Buxton serves as the president of Durham Technical Community College. He began serving in this role in July 2020.

Prior to joining Durham Tech, Buxton ran the Education Innovations Group, a consulting practice focused on PreK-12 and postsecondary public education. Buxton worked with states, foundations, nonprofit organizations, and companies focused on improving public education.

Since September of 2018, Buxton has served as a member of the N.C. State Board of Education. He was appointed by Gov. Roy Cooper to an at-large seat and confirmed by the NC General Assembly. The Board is comprised of 13 members, including eight regional representatives, three at-large members, the State Treasurer, and the Lt. Governor. Buxton chairs the Board's Student Learning and Achievement committee.

Buxton also has an appointment as a part-time teaching assistant professor in the Public Policy Department at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Prior to starting the Education Innovations Group, Buxton served as the Deputy State Superintendent of the NC Department of Public Instruction. In this role, he reported directly to the State Board and was responsible for all operations of the Department. Under his leadership, the Department created the District and School Transformation division, intervening in and supporting 135 schools and six chronically low-performing districts; rolled out statewide principal and teacher standards and evaluation systems; and supported the expansion of the state's *Learn and Earn* Early College high schools initiative to 70 schools.

Before managing DPI, Buxton was senior education advisor to NC Gov. Mike Easley; legislative director for the N.C. State Board of Education; a White House Fellow working with the Domestic Policy Council under President Clinton; director of policy and research for the Public School Forum of N.C., and coordinator of special programs for the NC Teaching Fellows Program. He began his career as a high school English teacher and coach in Massachusetts.

Buxton serves on the national advisory board of the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at NC State University and on the NC Center for the Advancement of Teaching Foundation board. He has also served on the Raleigh Planning Commission and as board vice-chair of North Carolina FC Youth, one of the nation's largest youth soccer clubs.

Buxton attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on a Morehead Scholarship, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in English. He received his Master's in Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University.

Buxton and his wife, Hunter, have three children: Drake, a recent graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill working with Deloitte Consulting; Luke, a senior at UNC-CH; and Sadie, a sophomore at N.C. State University.