

Meet the CIL Advisory Board

JUNE ATKINSON

June Atkinson is the first woman elected state superintendent of the public schools of North Carolina and has served in this position since August 2005. As state superintendent, Dr. Atkinson oversees almost 1.5 million students in over 2,500 public schools. She understands the importance of improving teaching and learning, creating school environments that encourage student success, keeping education modern and relevant, and graduating every student career- and college-ready. In leading the Department of Public Instruction, she has directed the groundbreaking Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort (ACRE) to revitalize the state's curriculum and accountability programs. North Carolina's landmark Race to the Top grant has helped support this work in addition to several other key reform initiatives. She also is focused on ensuring students have the opportunity to learn the technical skills that are important in today's global economy.

Dr. Atkinson received a bachelor's degree in business education from Radford University, a master's degree in vocational and technical education from Virginia Tech, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy from North Carolina State University. After graduating from Radford, she taught high school in Roanoke, VA, and Charlotte, NC. She worked for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction for nearly 28 years (1976–2004) as a chief consultant and director in the areas of business education, career and technical education, and instructional services. A former business education teacher, she has been involved in instruction and curriculum development throughout her career.



Dr. Atkinson is the past president of the National Business Education Association, and past president of the Southern Regional Education Board's High Schools that Work in 1995–1996 and 1996–1997. She was elected by her colleagues to represent them as president of the National Association of State Directors of Career and Technical Education Consortium for 2001–2003. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the National Council of Chief State School Officers as president-elect. Over the years, she has received numerous awards, including recent accolades such as the Champion of Children Award from the North Carolina Association of School Administrators, the State Policy Maker of the Year Award from the National Association for State Educational Technology Directors, and the North Carolina Association of Educators Inclusive Leadership Award.