

Cycle NC 2024 Route Announced



Visit NC Executive Director Wit Tuttell was featured in a [video on Wednesday](#) announcing the [selected stops in the 2024 Mountains to Coast](#) ride on October 6-12.

The ride starts in mountainous Spruce Pine and continues to Lenoir, Thomasville, Pittsboro, Benson, Roseboro, Elizabethtown, and ends in flat Oak Isle Beach.

The Cycle North Carolina Mountains to Coast Ride is a 7-day, fully supported bicycle tour traveling along scenic back roads that showcase rural North Carolina. The ride is celebrating its 25th year this year.

Each day, the 800+ cyclists can expect to ride an average of 55-65 miles between overnight towns. Meanwhile, towns along the route, including the overnight stays, are welcoming riders and supporters to their communities for food, fun, and festivities.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

More School Districts to Break Law

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools is the latest school district to break state law and start school on August 12 next fall.

“The schools in Forsyth County are not just ignoring a 20-year old law, they are brazenly defying state law and their oaths of office as school board members,” said NCTIA Executive Director Vince Chelena. “They are also serving as terrible role models for their students, who are being taught that the rule of law does not matter.”



Chelena points to the 2004 law enacted by the General Assembly that clearly states that no school district can start school earlier than the Monday before August 26.

With their 6-3 vote on Thursday, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools will join a number of school districts breaking the law, including Henderson County Public Schools, which voted on Monday to start the next school year two weeks earlier than the state allows.

In a repeat of last year's vote, Henderson County once again voted a 4-3 split decision on this week. Henderson County School Board member Alyssa Norman declared, “I’m not willing to break state law over this,” in her no vote.

Last year, Henderson County wasn't the only district that voted to break the law and start early. Polk County Schools and Avery County Schools started on August 14; Jackson County Schools started on August 16; and Madison County Schools, Swain County Schools, Graham County Schools, Haywood County Schools, Mitchell County Schools and Yancey County Schools all started a week early on August 21.

NCTIA expects these school districts will vote to break the law again.

Meanwhile, the Wilkes County School Board is contemplating a pair of school calendars for next year. One calendar complies with state law and the other starts school August 15. A calendar is likely to be approved on February 5.

NCTIA is meeting on February 6 in Raleigh with coalition partners about this developing story.