



**July 1, 1909** - The Dunn Graded-schools District (also known as the Averasboro School District) has its first meeting after state incorporation.

**1929** - The Great Depression begins with the crash of the American stock market.

**1933** - The General Assembly establishes a state system of school finance in North Carolina, bringing all schools under the state's umbrella in a public school fund derived from state taxes.

**1930s** - Schools across the country struggle to stay open as the economy worsens.

**1945** - Taxpayers in the Dunn school district vote on a special Averasboro school tax to supplement state and local funding. The referendum failed by a vote of 76 in favor to 110 against.

**1946** - A second vote for the Averasboro School Tax is called. It failed, too.

**Oct. 14, 1947** - A third vote for the Averasboro School Tax is called. It passes 237 to 42.

**1963** - Harnett County voters are asked to decide the fate of a school bonds referendum that would consolidate the high schools and generate enough funds to build new ones for the merged schools. It failed by a vote of 3,239 against to 1,419 in favor.

**1967** - A school bonds vote came up again to consolidate the county's high schools with promises of eliminating the Averasboro school tax which "wouldn't be needed" after consolidation. It failed by a vote of 4,217 against and 3,179 in favor.

**December 1972** - County commissioners agreed to add a vote on whether or not to keep the Averasboro School Tax to the ballots in another election on school bonds and consolidation. A repeal of the tax, however, would only go through if schools were consolidated.

**Jan. 9, 1973** - A majority of Averasboro voters approve the school bonds and vote to repeal the tax by a vote of 1,379 in favor of repeal to 544 against it. The repeal vote doesn't count, however, since the school bonds vote was defeated by 139 votes from elsewhere in the county.

**October 1985** - Triton High School opens as the new consolidated high school serving students from Dunn, Erwin and Coats. The Averasboro school tax couldn't be used for extra funding at the school that served students outside the tax district, but the tax remained.

**Today** - The tax continues.

