



North Carolina State Board of Education Complementary Requests:

- Academics, social & emotional learning, physical well-being and mental health have been compromised during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There is a sense of urgency across the country to address these challenges.
- Prior to the pandemic, there were numerous needs in schools, especially in schools and districts that are under-resourced.
- Federal funding provided as COVID relief offers non-recurring funds. To overcome the loss experienced during the pandemic, a long-term solution is needed with long term funds.
- Long term funding can and would secure staffing that is long term and high quality.
- The following requests address both the academic and emotional well-being challenges that schools are facing.

Areas of Need	Requested Position	Number of Staff Needed in these positions	Potential Cost	Special Considerations	Possible Model for Implementation
Social, emotional, and mental health supports	Social Worker	115 (School district positions)	\$15 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider more competitive pay during the long session for bachelor degreed social workers (base pay) and master’s degreed social workers • Though, there are 1300 social workers in school districts, only 50% of those with master’s degrees are paid for their master’s degree. 	Deploy beginning with the schools in greatest need based on key school data sets



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the need for a social worker internship program that is similar to the school psychologist internship program being recommended in the Government Affairs agenda. 	
Transformation of Low Performing Schools	District Improvement Specialist, with a focus on school and classroom academic support	Total of 98 (DPI positions) 33 from current staff (Short term federal funding) 6 from the BSOP Agenda (Short term federal funding) 8 from the Government Affairs Agenda Additional request is 51	\$18 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor student outcomes Create the conditions for rapid and sustained change Shift school culture Establish high expectations for academic performance Build on current transformation efforts and the State Superintendent's request for additional positions to support 80 schools 	Serve 181 chronically lowest performing schools

