



ENGAGE. CHALLENGE. INSPIRE.

Monday, December 9, 2024

North Carolina General Assembly
Legislative Building
16 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27601

cc:

Representative Allen Buansi
300 N. Salisbury Street, Rm. 503
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Senator Graig R. Meyer
16 West Jones Street, Rm. 1017
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

Representative Renee A. Price
16 West Jones Street, Rm. 1315
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

Congresswoman E Valerie P. Foushee
1716 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515



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Dear North Carolina General Assembly Representatives,

Over the past year, inflation has impacted our nation and our state. According to the North Carolina Commerce Department, the Median Personal Consumption Expenditure (PCE) inflation rate for North Carolina over the past year is approximately 3.8%. Multiple media reports have discussed this, as have press releases issued by several members of the General Assembly.

As we are all aware, the North Carolina General Assembly did not make any modifications to the provisions of the education budget passed in the 2023 biennium budget (Session Law 2023-134) during your recently concluded short session. The outcome of this decision means that most teachers across our state will have a reduction in their pay when accounting for inflation.

As the state inflation rate exceeds the 3.0% average raise to certified staff and a 3.0% raise to non-certified staff, the North Carolina General Assembly is reducing teacher pay in real dollars. These same teachers who are working tirelessly on behalf of the approximately 1.4 million students in our schools should not be forced to take a pay cut due to political discord outside of their control.

On behalf of the Orange County Board of Education, we implore you to pass a modified education budget with at least 5.0% across-the-board pay increases for certified and non-certified staff. You have received this request from other Boards of Education across North Carolina, and we unanimously join them in making this request.

Our teachers deserve it. Our staff deserve it. And most importantly... our students deserve it.



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Sincerely,

Mrs. Anne Purcell, Chair
Orange County Board of Education

Date

Mr. André Richmond, Vice Chair
Orange County Board of Education

Date

Mr. Will Atherton, Board Member
Orange County Board of Education

Date

Mrs. Carrie Doyle, Board Member
Orange County Board of Education

Date

Ms. Bonnie Hauser, Board Member
Orange County Board of Education

Date

Mrs. Wendy Padilla, Board Member
Orange County Board of Education

Date

Mrs. Sarah Smylie, Board Member
Orange County Board of Education

Date

Cc:
Dr. Danielle Jones
Superintendent
Orange County Schools