

Government Affairs and Legislative Update

*Elizabeth Yelverton, Legislative Liaison
Office of Government Affairs*

April 2, 2025



NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Upcoming Legislative Deadlines

- ✓ **February 27:** Senate Bill *Drafting* Deadline
- ✓ **March 6:** House Bill *Drafting* Deadline
- ✓ **March 25:** Senate Bill *Filing* Deadline
- ❖ **April 3:** House Bill *Filing* Deadline
- ❖ **May 8: Bill Crossover Deadline**



Legislative Update: Bill Tracking

- **DPI Government Affairs Team is currently tracking ~250 education-related bills including:**
 - **40** School Calendar bills, including [SB 754, School Calendar Flexibility: A New Alternative](#), introduced 3/25 by Senate leader Phil Berger;
 - **20** bills which have already met the Crossover Deadline; and
 - **10** local non-calendar bills

Access full 2025-2026 Bill Tracking Document (updated daily and shared in weekly newsletter)
[HERE](#)



Legislative Update: New Laws

- Two (2) bills have become law so far, including:
 - [SB 115 / S.L. 2025-1: General Assembly Appointments](#); and
 - [HB 47 / S.L. 2025-2: Disaster Recovery Act of 2025 – Part I.](#)
 - Signed into law by Governor Stein on 3/19
 - Includes \$9 million to Dept. of Public Instruction for “**School Extension Learning Program**” to be offered to students in Grades 4-8 in 13 counties (+ charter schools located in those counties) following the end of the 2024-2025 school year.
 - **Extends calendar flexibility in 13 districts** to cover instructional days/ hours missed due to inclement weather from Dec. 2024 - Feb. 2025; clarifies all PSU employees and contractors in these districts shall be deemed to have worked during days missed.
 - **Clarifies compensation for School Nutrition employees** so they are compensated as if they had worked on missed instructional days / remote instruction days.



House Bills to Watch

- [House Bill 56](#) – Publish Central Office Employment Information
- [House Bill 82](#) – Study Commission for LEA Size
- [House Bill 87](#) – Cell Phone-Free Education
- [House Bill 106](#) – Revive High-Need Retired Teachers Program (= [S441](#))
- [House Bill 144](#) – Elect SBE/Superintendent as SBE Chair
- [House Bill 192](#) – Raise Teacher Pay & Dollar Allotment Study
- [House Bill 365](#) – Workforce Education Act
- [House Bill 415](#) – Split Math Courses and Change Math Grad. Requirements
- [House Bill 464](#) – Healthy Students – A Nurse in Every School (= [S360](#))
- [House Bill 556](#) – 2025 Charter Schools Review Board Omnibus



Senate Bills to Watch

- [Senate Bill 48](#) – Access to Sports and Extracurriculars for All
- [Senate Bill 55](#) – Student Use of Wireless Communication Devices
- [Senate Bill 147](#) – Teacher License Reciprocity
- [Senate Bill 204](#) – Remove Testing Requirement for Teacher Licensure
- [Senate Bill 223](#) – Expand Academic Trans. Pathways/Sophomore HS
- [Senate Bill 227](#) – Eliminating “DEI” in Public Education
- [Senate Bill 259](#) – School Psychologist Omnibus
- [Senate Bill 657](#) – Keeping Our Coaches Act
- [Senate Bill 689](#) – 2025 Charter Schools Review Board Omnibus
- [Senate Bill 754](#) – School Calendar Flexibility: A New Alternative



State Budget Update

- **Governor Stein released his proposed budget on March 19.**
- **Proposed budget includes:**
 - 10.6% average teacher and instructional support salary increase, raising beginning teacher pay to first in the Southeast by 2026-27
 - Restores masters pay
 - 6% average salary increase for principals
 - 3% average salary increase for central office administrators and non-certified staff
 - \$4 billion school construction bond proposal
 - Moratorium on Opportunity Scholarship expansion (+ elimination of scholarships for top income tiers)



Student and School Support

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2025-26)
Increase in School Health Personnel Allotment	\$65,490,706 (R)	\$32,745,000 (R)
Implement Exceptional Children Weighted Funding Formula	\$89,400,000 (R) \$109,200,000 (NR)	\$27,000,000 (R)
Student Transportation Information Management (TIMS)	\$140,500 (R)	\$116,300 (R)
New Cooperative Innovative High Schools (Martin County Schools, Moore County Schools, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools)	\$635,000 (R)	\$635,000 (R)
School Breakfast and Lunch at No Cost to Students	\$377,000,000 (R)	\$85,300,000 (R)
Convert SRO Grants into an Appropriation Based on Formula for Elementary and Middle Schools	\$120,000,000 (R)	\$63,000,000 (R)
Charter School Review Board Operating, Travel Expenses, and Legal Counsel	\$82,100 (R)	\$82,100 (R)



Academic Support and Coaching

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2025-26)
Support for Low Performing Districts	\$4,500,000 (R)	\$4,500,000 (R)
Expand DIBELS Diagnostic to Grades 4-5	\$1,390,800 (R) \$966,508 (NR)	\$1,390,800 (R) \$967,000 (NR)
Expand Literacy Professional Development and Support to Grades 6-8 (9 FTE)	\$14,000,000 (R) \$25,002,000 (NR)	\$14,000,000 (R) \$25,002,000 (NR)
K-8 Math Screener	\$44,000,000 (R)	n/a
High-Impact Tutoring Support for School Districts	\$23,200,000 (R) \$875,000 (NR)	\$6,000,000 (R)
Beginning Teacher Support Program Regional Convenings	\$500,000 (R)	n/a
Beginning Teacher Support Program Evaluation (FY27)	\$750,000 (NR)	n/a
Professional Misconduct Investigator (1 FTE)	\$120,000 (R)	\$120,000 (R)
Rulemaking Coordinator (1 FTE)	\$120,630 (R)	\$120,630 (R)



Technology

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2025-26)
One-to-One Device Refresh	\$152,620,000 (R)	\$100,000,000 (R) \$11,300,000 (NR)
Additional State Funds for Federal E-Rate Match	\$2,500,000 (R)	\$2,500,000 (R)
School Cybersecurity Support	\$6,910,000 (R)	\$6,910,000 (R)
School Business Systems Modernization	\$45,000,000 (NR)	\$15,000,000 (NR)
Uniform Education Reporting System (UERS)	\$17,500,000 (R)	\$16,400,000 (R) \$1,100,000 (NR)
State Dept. of Information Technology (DIT) Billing Requirements	\$1,140,000 (R)	\$1,140,000 (R)
M365/Google Backup Server Requirements for State DIT Policy	\$720,000 (R)	\$720,000 (R)

Compensation Pathways

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2025-26)
Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) Salary Supplements	\$14,100,000 (R)	\$14,100,000 (R)
Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) Grants Expansion	\$2,000,000 (R)	\$2,000,000 (R)



Other Items Of Note In Governor's Budget

Governor Stein's budget also includes:

- **\$4 million (R)** for TA to Teachers Tuition Reimbursement Program
- **\$30 million (NR)** for tax-deductible stipend for classroom teachers to purchase supplies and materials
- **\$3.7 million (R) / \$9 million (NR)** increase in funding for classroom materials allotment
- **\$5.1 million (NR)** for pilot program to limit cell phone use in schools

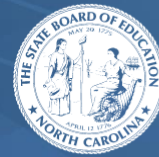
State Budget Update

2025 State Budget Timeline:

- ✓ Governor Stein will release his proposed FY 2025-27 biennial budget
- ❑ Senate will propose and approve their budget proposal
- ❑ Following Senate, House will propose and approve their budget proposal
- ❑ Chambers will appoint a conference committee to work out differences between proposed budgets with goal of sending a final budget to Governor by June/July

Questions and Discussion





NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction