

Local Board Resolution Urging State Budget Passage

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 143C-4-1 states the General Assembly shall create a budget for two fiscal years beginning on July 1 of each odd-numbered year; and

WHEREAS, it is **9** months into Fiscal Year 2026 and a Current Operations Appropriations Act has not yet been enacted by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, **New Hanover County Schools** receives approximately **54%** of its funding from State appropriations and builds its budgets according to those appropriations; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Short Session convenes on April 21, less than one month before local boards must submit their budgets to county commissioners; and

WHEREAS, **New Hanover County Schools** and **New Hanover County Government** have had to plan the Fiscal Year 2027 budget without accurate knowledge of State appropriations adjustments for the current fiscal year, let alone the next one; and

WHEREAS, despite the provision in North Carolina General Statute § 143C-5-4(b) for budget continuation of recurring funds at the level of the previous fiscal year, the failure to pass a biennial budget has forced **New Hanover County Schools** to operate with budget uncertainty into the fiscal year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **New Hanover County** Board of Education does hereby request that the North Carolina General Assembly immediately pass a 2026 Appropriations Act that:

- Reflects the New Hanover County Schools Board of Education Legislative priorities of the 2026-2027 School Year

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

The School Board Chair and Superintendent of New Hanover County Schools are authorized to disseminate this Resolution and New Hanover County Schools Board of Education Legislative Priorities to members of the North Carolina General Assembly and the Governor; and

The Board encourages parents, students, and other community members to contact their North Carolina legislators requesting that the General Assembly pass a State budget that includes the items listed above.

Adopted by the _____ Board of Education this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Pete Wildeboer, Chair

Dr. Christopher Barnes, Superintendent