

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A Joint Resolution of

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

and

THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 4, 2021

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Education and the North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction believe and acknowledge that in-person learning provides students with the best opportunity for academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Education and the North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction believe that in-person learning can be provided in a manner that is safe for students and staff if provided in accordance with the public health recommendations found in the North Carolina Strong Schools Toolkit promulgated by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, scientific understanding of the methods of transmission of the COVID-19 virus has advanced significantly since the public schools of North Carolina closed for in-person learning in March of 2020 such that preventative measures can now be effectively employed in schools to deter the spread of the virus; and

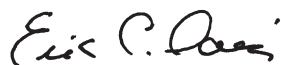
WHEREAS, school staff have now been afforded the opportunity to begin receiving COVID-19 vaccinations;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the North Carolina State Board of Education and the North Carolina State Superintendent of Public Instruction that the governing boards of all North Carolina public school units should resume providing all students enrolled in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade with the option of in-person learning to the fullest extent possible consistent with the guidelines in the North Carolina Strong Schools Toolkit and the health and safety needs of the students, beginning no later than the end of March of 2021 and that such governing boards should adopt plans to accomplish this reopening as soon as possible; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT any action to reopen schools for in-person learning should be in accordance with the North Carolina Strong Schools Toolkit promulgated by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (K-12).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the North Carolina State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, in accordance with Session Law 2020-49, approve as official guidance for in-person instruction for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year for all elementary and secondary public schools in North Carolina, the North Carolina Strong Schools Toolkit (K-12), as most recently amended on March 4, 2021.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Secretary to the State Board of Education shall enter a copy of this resolution into the official minutes of the North Carolina State Board of Education.



Eric C. Davis, Chairman
North Carolina State Board of Education



Catherine Truitt, Superintendent
of Public Instruction

March 4, 2021