

BILLS/ISSUES DELAYED OR DEFEATED

- ◆ Requiring Age 65 for Full (100%) Retirement Eligibility. **No Age Change Approved.**
- ◆ Elimination of All Sick Leave for Additional Retirement Service Credit.
- ◆ HB 3 — “Tabor Like” (Capping Income Tax at 5.5 Percent and Establishing a Mandatory Savings Reserve).
- ◆ Unfair Charter School Funding.
- ◆ Expansion Voucher Program in K-1.
- ◆ Proposed Changing the Math Standards to Two Tracks.
- ◆ Elimination of the 15-point Scale for the School Grading System.
- ◆ Elimination of School Personnel to Fund Leasing of Schools in Poor Districts.
- ◆ Maintained Year-Round Schools Statewide, Instead of Limiting to Multi Tracks.
- ◆ Elimination of Payroll Deduction (Active and Retired).
- ◆ HB 2 — Elimination of Employee’s Right to Sue Workplace Discrimination Claims in N. C. State Courts. (Note: Needs Full Repeal).

TO SEE A LIST OF ALL EDUCATION BILLS
VISIT THE LINK BELOW:

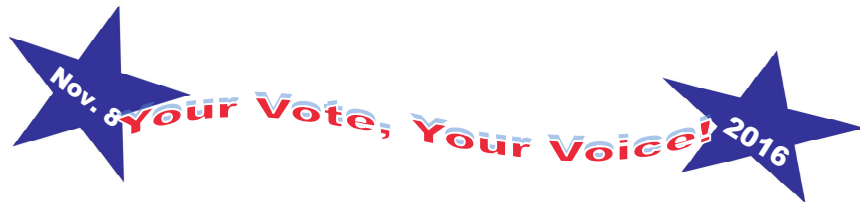
<http://goo.gl/qAAeJw>

“The truth is none of the budgets—the governor’s, the House, nor the Senate budget does enough to give our students the resources they need. In fact, last year our state fell another \$70 behind the national average, so North Carolina is nearly \$2,800 behind in per-pupil spending.

That’s at least one textbook for every student in North Carolina.

I don’t know about you, but North Carolina should be moving forward on public education, not backwards.

It’s about priorities...and we should not be prioritizing tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy over our public school students. Instead of corporate board rooms, we should be focusing on our public school classrooms.” —NCAE President Mark Jewell



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2016 LEGISLATIVE & BUDGET UPDATE



All In FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

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2016-17 LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION BUDGET: "KEY HIGHLIGHTS"

The 2016-17 State Budget signed by the governor on July 14, 2016, once again contains unfulfilled promises to fully restore education funding in North Carolina's Pre K-12 public schools, and fails to move the state forward. When you take out the educator salary and benefit changes, the state budget invests less than 25 percent more in our public school students; at a time when there is an \$800 million surplus over two years. North Carolina is better than this.

GIVING RAISES ONLY TO EARLY AND MID-CAREER EDUCATORS, WITH MINIMAL PAY BONUSES, WILL NOT ATTRACT NOR RETAIN QUALIFIED EDUCATORS

- ◆ **All Teachers** paid on Steps 1-25 receive a salary raise. All teachers (approximately 4,000), at the top of their respective salary schedules in 2013-14, and currently held harmless, will receive no pay raise in 2016-17.
- ◆ **School-Based Administrators** Salary schedules increased by 1.5 percent and were granted a step increase (average increase of 2.85 percent). A 0.5 percent bonus paid to all school-based administrators.

Note: Teachers who become principals, all assistant principals, and principals are eligible to be paid the higher of the teacher's or administrator's salary schedule. **No retro-active pay prior to 7-1-16.**
- ◆ **Non-Certified and Central Office** 1.5 percent across the board raise, plus .5 percent bonus and 1.00 percent merit bonus (criteria to be established by LEA). **All 0.5 percent bonuses payable in October.**
- ◆ **Retirees** Received a 1.6 percent one-time bonus, payable in October.
- ◆ \$10M to establish a pilot program to give performance bonuses to the top 25 percent of third-grade teachers statewide and locally.
- ◆ Funded \$4.9M for a two-year bonus program to give teachers \$50 bonuses, for each student taught, who successfully earns college credits by passing the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate test, and \$25 or \$50 for each student who receives a career and technical certification or credential.
- ◆ Provided \$1.1M to create a new three-year pilot bonus pay program based on advanced teaching roles. (Lead teacher with more students as peer/coach, mentor, instructional facilitator, or literacy coach, e.g.).

NCAE FOUGHT TO SAVE RETIREMENT, HEALTH INSURANCE, AND OTHER EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

- ◆ Annual Required Contribution (ARC) for the retirement system fully funded. Prevented requiring age 65 for full (100 percent) retirement eligibility, and eliminating use of sick leave for additional service.
- ◆ Fully funded the State Health Plan for 2016-17, while reducing the required savings reserve, from 20 percent to 12 percent, effective 1-1-17.
- ◆ Personal devices (smartphones, laptops, tablets, etc.) may be subpoenaed with court approval as part of an investigation of job-related misconduct. The law, also, allows limited disclosure of personnel files when an employee files a claim against a school district.

LEGISLATORS FAVOR TAX BREAKS TO WEALTHY OVER SUPPORTING PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

- ◆ The budget continues the biggest tax cuts for the wealthy and for-profit corporations, resulting in less future revenue for Pre-K-12 education.
- ◆ Expanding the tax on services while reducing the income tax is not the balanced approach needed to increase funding for our communities and our public schools.

MINIMAL INCREASES IN SOME STUDENT LEARNING RESOURCES, BUT DOES NOT KEEP PACE WITH ENROLLMENT GROWTH

- ◆ NCAE fought to increase additional funding for textbooks and digital resources. The end result was \$10M additional dollars totaling \$71.5M.
- ◆ Increased instructional supplies, materials, and equipment funding by \$2.5M new dollars, totaling \$47M.
- ◆ Reduced class size funding ratio in first grade to 1:16, effective for the 2016-17 school year. Class size average and minimums did not change.
- ◆ Funded \$43.5M more for the principal preparation program initiated in 2015.
- ◆ The State Board of Education will approve up to five local alternative Teacher Preparation Programs and lateral-entry changes.
- ◆ \$1M funded for five UNC Schools of Education to establish "Laboratory Schools, similar to the new ASD model, for "Low Performing" K-8 public school students. An additional five schools added in the 2017-18 school year.

SOME ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS—OFFSET BY DRAINING OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDS FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL VOUCHERS

- ◆ Maintained full funding of all teacher assistant positions.
- ◆ Created the Teacher Assistants Tuition Reimbursement Program, for 25 TAs, in five counties (Anson, Franklin, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland) to attend college to become teachers.
- ◆ Ensured full funding of total enrollment growth.
- ◆ Maintained all year-round schools, instead of limiting to only multi-track programs.
- ◆ Full funding of all Pre-K slots maintained and added 260 new slots.
- ◆ Maintained the 15-point grading scale for the grading of schools.
- ◆ Increased funding for private school vouchers by \$34.8M, which drains vital funding from Pre-K-12 public schools. There is budget intent language to increase vouchers annually by \$10M through the 2027-2028 school year.
- ◆ Funded a pilot program in three LEAs (Hickory Public Schools, Newton-Conover City, and Rutherford County), to change the dropout age from 16 to 18.

NCAE WORKED TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE PROGRAMS FOR STUDENT AND SCHOOL SAFETY

- ◆ Maintained permanent funding for the driver's education program through the collection of fines and forfeitures. LEAs may charge fees.
- ◆ Ensured that some funding still maintained for school panic alarms.