



State Board of Education/NC Department Public Instruction Response to General Assembly's Budget Actions

January 5, 2016

The North Carolina Constitution requires that the State Board of Education administer and supervise the North Carolina public school system with the state superintendent being the chief administrative officer.

Excellent Public Schools Act Requirements

In 2012, the General Assembly passed the Excellent Public Schools Act having the following components:

1. Evaluation
2. Reading Assessment – Devices and Kits
3. Reading Assessment – Contracts
4. EPSA Administration
5. Kindergarten Entry Assessment
6. Kindergarten developmental screening
7. Reading Camps – First, Second and Third Grade
8. Alternative Reading Assessments
9. Supplemental tutoring for twice-retained students
10. Monthly progress reports of retained students

Subsequently, in its 2015-17 budget, the General Assembly appropriated funds to the Department of Public Instruction to carry out the provisions of the Excellent Public Schools Act.

SBE Goals Align with General Assembly Requirements

Based on the General Assembly requirements and its commitment to students, the State Board has adopted the following goals. (Each goal has objectives and measures to determine progress in meeting those goals.)

1. Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education and citizenship
2. Every student has a personalized education
3. Every student, every day has excellent educators
4. Every school district has up-to-date financial, business, and technology systems to serve its students, parents and educators
5. Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible

Federal Legislation Responsibilities

In addition to carrying out state law, the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction are responsible for leading, implementing, monitoring and supporting at least 15 pieces of federal legislation, many of which are a part of the Education Student Success Act, the 2015 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

The Department of Public Instruction is organized to be responsible for the following work:

1. Leadership and support for the State Board's Strategic Plan
2. Communication and implementation of state law, including the Excellent Public School Act
3. Leadership, support and oversight of federal law implementation
4. Service and support to local school districts and charters

(See Attachment 1 for revised organization chart.)

Context for NCDPI Reorganization

In organizing the Department to meet these priorities, the following have been considered:

- The loss of 210 state funded positions at NCDPI from 2008-09 to present.
- The abolishment of 165 positions from the project-based, time-limited funding from Race to the Top.
- Voluntary turnover rate of 13.5 percent, including retirements and the preponderance of those leaving receiving substantially higher pay.
- NCDPI and the State Board of Education budget equals one half of one percent of the total funding for public schools in North Carolina.