

Government Affairs and Legislative Update

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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 10:** House Bill *Filing* Deadline
- ❖ **May 8: Bill Crossover Deadline**

Legislative Update: Bill Tracking

- **DPI Government Affairs Team is currently tracking 348 education-related bills including:**
 - **223 House bills with education-related provisions**
 - 30 are school calendar bills
 - **125 Senate bills with education-related provisions**
 - 10 are school calendar bills

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



State Budget Update

- **Senate approved its proposed budget on April 17.**
- **Proposed budget includes:**
 - 2.3% average raise for teachers in 2025-26 and 3.3% average raise in 2026-27
 - 1.25% salary increase for principals, central office administrators, and non-certified staff in 2025-26
 - \$1,500 bonus for all public school employees in each year of the biennium
 - \$30 million increase to Teacher Supplement Assistance Allotment

Student and School Support

| Request | DPI/SBE Request | Governor's Budget (FY 2025-26) | Senate Budget (FY 2025-26) |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Increase in School Health Personnel Allotment | \$65,490,706 (R) | \$32,745,000 (R) | \$13,917,965 (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) | \$1,110,000 (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) | \$82,100 (R) |

Academic Support and Coaching

| Request | DPI/SBE Request | Governor's Budget (FY 2025-26) | Senate 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) | \$1,390,800 (R) \$966,508 (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) | \$110,000 (R) \$1,560,000 (NR) |
| K-8 Math Screener | \$44,000,000 (R) | | |
| 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) | | |
| Beginning Teacher Support Program Evaluation (FY27) | \$750,000 (NR) | | |
| 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) | Senate 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) | \$45,000,000 (NR) |
| Uniform Education Reporting System (UERS) | \$17,500,000 (R) | \$16,400,000 (R) \$1,100,000 (NR) | \$12,711,233 (R – 2026-27) |
| State Dept. of Information Technology (DIT) Billing Requirements | \$1,140,000 (R) | \$1,140,000 (R) | \$303,142 (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) | Senate Budget (FY 2025-26) |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) Salary Supplements | \$14,100,000 (R) | \$14,100,000 (R) | \$16,200,000 (R) |
| Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) Grants Expansion | \$2,000,000 (R) | \$2,000,000 (R) | \$1,000,000 (R) |



Other Items of Note In Senate Budget

- \$39,600,000 (NR) for repair and renovation of school facilities damaged by Helene
- \$5,000,000 (R) in for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Academic Support Grant Program
- \$5,300,000 (NR) for Competency-Based Grant Program
- \$2,000,000 (NR) for Competency-Based High School/Healthcare and High-Tech Pathways Program
- \$850,000 (R) in supplemental funding for districts with lab schools
- \$500,000 (NR) for Lighthouse Math Project
- \$21,867,388 (R) for Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund
- \$20,000,000 (R) for Public School Building R&R Fund
- \$3,450,839 (NR) for SparkNC

Other Items of Note In Senate Budget

- Reduces \$14,000,000 (R) in funding for Advanced Placement Test Fees and \$1,800,000 (R) for International Baccalaureate (IB) Test Fees
- Eliminates \$6,236,038 (R) in funding for MSA internship stipends
- Reduces \$5,524,010 (R) in funding for the Central Office Allotment
- Eliminates \$4,000,000 (R) in funding for Learning.com contract
- Eliminates \$800,000 (R) in funding for Mobile Coding Grant Program
- Eliminates \$1,800,000 (R) in funding for Plasma Games contract
- Eliminates \$980,000 (R) in funding for TeachNC
- Eliminates \$2,225,000 (R) for NC Association of School Business Officers

Other Items of Note In Senate Budget

- Reduces \$2,000,000 (R) in funding for Superintendent's purchased services
- Eliminates four identified positions at DPI (total reduction of \$712,967 R)
- Reduces 15.6 FTE that have been vacant for 6 months or longer (total cut is \$1,848,573 R)

Non-Budget Legislative Requests in Senate Budget

- Portfolio requirement for individuals seeking principal licensure
- Revise provisions for the CEP Meal Program Incentive program
- Sunset the Textbook Commission
- Eliminates or revises several required legislative reports



Other Provisions in Senate Budget

- Fiscal Responsibility and K-12 Tech Planning
- Automatic Enrollment in Advanced ELA Courses
- Highly Effective Limited License Teachers
- Charter School Review Board Amendments
- Student Use of Wireless Communication Devices
- Teacher Apprenticeship Program
- Treasurer to Award Grants from Needs-Based Public School Capital Funds

State Budget Update

2025 State Budget Timeline:

- ✓ Governor Stein will release his proposed FY 2025-27 biennial budget
- ✓ Senate will propose and approve budget
- ❑ 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

House Bills to Watch

- [House Bill 56](#) – Publish Central Office Employment Information
- [House Bill 87](#) – Cell Phone-Free Education
- [House Bill 121](#) – School Calendar Flexibility/Statewide
- [House Bill 414](#) - 1-to-1 Credit for Career and College Promise
- [House Bill 415](#) – Split Math Courses and Change Math Grad. Requirements
- [House Bill 433](#) – Registered Nurses in Schools
- [House Bill 556](#) – 2025 Charter Schools Review Board Omnibus
- [House Bill 573](#) – Remove Testing Requirement for Teacher Licensure
- [House Bill 636](#) – Promoting Wholesome Content for Students
- [House Bill 773](#) – School Performance Grade Changes
- [House Bill 806](#) – Public School Operational Relief
- [House Bill 878](#) – Increased Academic Transparency



Senate Bills to Watch

- [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 579](#) – Transforming the High School Experience
- [Senate Bill 689](#) - 2025 Charter Schools Review Board Omnibus
- [Senate Bill 754](#) - School Calendar Flexibility: A New Alternative



Questions and Discussion





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