

Government and Community Affairs Updates

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NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Key Legislative Dates

- *April 21, 2026 – Short Session convened*
- **April 30, 2026** – Bill filing deadline for regular bills
 - 206 total bills have been filed in the House as of 5/5
 - 299 total bills have been filed in the Senate as of 5/5



K-12 Education Bills with Recent Action

Senate Bill 840 - Teacher Licensure Modifications

- Bill passed Senate Education/Higher Education Committee with amendment on 4/29
- Repeals the pre-professional skills test requirement for admission to an EPP
- Repeals requirement for beginning teachers to attempt licensure exam in the first year of licensure
- Clarifies requirements for licensure reciprocity for out-of-state licensed teachers
- Allows SBE to grant a CPL to a teacher with a Limited License if they have positive growth data for at least two of the three most recent years



K-12 Education Bills with Recent Action

House Bill 301 - Social Media & AI Safety

- Passed Senate Education/Higher Education with amendment on 4/29
- Provides social media protections for minors under 16 years of age
- Requires the State Board to update the computer science standards by adopting content standards for instruction on AI
- Requires DPI to develop a "model AI policy" for PSUs and requires PSUs to adopt an AI policy
- Requires DPI to develop a framework for evaluating AI tools for use in schools
- Requires DPI to partner with the Friday Institute on producing professional development modules on AI for teachers



State Budget Update

- **Governor Stein released his proposed budget on April 21**
- **Proposed budget includes:**
 - 11% average teacher and instructional support salary increase, raising beginning teacher pay to first in the Southeast (\$53,120 before local supplements) and removing the mid-career (15-24 years) salary schedule plateaus
 - Restores masters pay
 - 5% average salary increase for principals
 - 5% average salary increase for central office administrators and non-certified staff
 - \$1,000 bonus for all public school employees and state employees, plus an additional \$500 (\$1,500 total) for employees with salaries below \$75,000
 - Moratorium on Opportunity Scholarship expansion and elimination of scholarships for top income tiers



Short Session Priorities

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2026-27)
Expand DIBELS Diagnostic to Grades 4-5	\$1,427,000 (R) \$966,508 (NR)	\$1,427,000 (R) \$966,508 (NR)
Expand Literacy Professional Development and Support to Grades 6-8 (9 FTE)	\$15,380,000 (R) \$25,002,000 (NR)	\$15,380,000 (R) \$23,600,000 (NR)
Implement Exceptional Children Weighted Funding Formula	\$92,600,000 (R) \$27,200,000 (NR)	\$63,450,653 (R) \$33,434,785 (NR)
Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) Salary Supplements	\$38,000,000 (R)	\$38,003,000 (R)
Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) Grants Expansion	\$2,000,000 (R)	\$2,000,000 (R)
Increase in School Health Personnel Allotment	\$64,269,353 (R)	\$32,135,000 (R)



Short Session Priorities

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2026-27)
Additional State Funds for Federal E-Rate Match	\$2,500,000 (R)	\$2,587,500 (R)
Beginning Teacher Support Program	\$500,000 (R)	\$500,000 (R)
	\$750,000 (NR)	\$750,000 (NR)
Revised Limited English Proficient (LEP) Funding Formula	\$142,000 (NR)	\$142,000 (NR)
Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund (NBPSCF)	\$117,000,000 (R)	
Public School Repair and Renovation Fund (PSBRRF)	\$25,000,000 (NR)	\$115,000,000 (NR)
New Cooperative Innovative High Schools	\$655,000 (R)	\$655,000 (R)



Ongoing Priorities

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2026-27)
Student Transportation Information Management (TIMS)	\$140,500 (R)	\$120,200 (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)	\$50,000,000 (R)
Support for Low Performing Districts	\$4,500,000 (R)	\$4,500,000 (R)
K-8 Math Screener	\$44,000,000 (R)	
High-impact tutoring support for school districts	\$23,200,000 (R) \$875,000 (NR)	\$3,000,000 (R)
Professional Misconduct Investigator and Rulemaking Coordinator (2 FTE)	\$240,630 (R)	



Ongoing Priorities

Request	DPI/SBE Request	Governor's Budget (FY 2026-27)
One-to-One Device Refresh for all K-12 students (over 4 years)	\$150,678,300 (R)	\$100,000,000 (NR)
School Cybersecurity Support	\$3,350,000 (R)	
School Business Systems Modernization	\$45,000,000 (NR)	<i>Funding included in IT Reserve</i>
Single Sign-On Upgrades for Infinite Campus and other Shared IT Services	\$8,100,000 (R)	\$8,100,000 (R)
State Dept. of Information Technology (DIT) Billing Requirements	\$1,140,000 (R)	\$1,140,000 (R)
M365/Google Backup Server Requirements for State DIT Policy	\$520,000 (R)	\$520,000 (R)



Additional Proposals in Governor's Budget

- **Teacher Supply Stipend - \$30,000,000 (NR)**
- **Virtual Charter School Transportation Funding Elimination – (\$5,000,000 R)**
- **Establishes a School Performance Grade Redesign Pilot Program**



***Non-Budget* Legislative Requests Included in Governor's Budget**

- Revise provisions for the CEP Meal Program Incentive program
- Sunset the Textbook Commission
- Revise the Limited English Proficient (LEP) funding formula
- Fund statewide virtual charter schools at the statewide average per pupil expenditure and not per pupil expenditure for where the office is located
- Allow for mid-year adjustment in supplemental funding for students with disabilities based on December 1 headcount.
- Increase share of administrative funds retained by DPI from the Public School Building Capital Fund (PSBCF) from 2.0% to 2.5%
- Expand the definition of a qualifying school for the Principal Recruitment Supplement to include bottom 10% of all schools.



Questions and Discussion





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