

Senate Budget Education Provision Summaries

Part IV. OTHER AVAILABILITY AND APPROPRIATIONS

Section 4.3.(a) Education Lottery Funds *pg. 16*

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25
Noninstructional Support Personnel	\$385,914,455	\$385,914,455
Pre-K Program	\$78,252,110	\$78,252,110
Public School Building Capital Fund	\$100,000,000	\$100,000,000
Needs-Based Public-School Capital Fund	\$254,252,612	\$258,252,612
Public School Repair & Renovation	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000
LEA Transportation	\$21,386,090	\$21,386,090
TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$931,000,000	\$935,000,000

Section 4.3.(b) Needs-Based Changes *pgs. 16-19*

Needs-Based Public-School Capital Fund

- Increases the maximum grant awards as follows:
 - Up to \$40 million for an elementary school (was \$30 million)
 - Up to \$50 million for a middle school or a combination of an elementary and middle school (was \$40 million)
 - Up to \$60 million for a high school (was \$50 million)
- Beginning July 1, 2024, maximum grant awards shall be reviewed and updated annually by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for the cost of construction of an elementary school, a middle school or a combination of an elementary and middle school, and a high school based upon the most recent Producer Price Index for New School Building Construction, as published by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics under NAICS code 236222
- If a county declines or otherwise forfeits a grant awarded under this section, DPI shall not award additional grants to that county for 24 months from the date the grant award was declined or forfeited
- Requires project construction to be initiated within 24 months of award of grant funds
- Allows the State Superintendent to grant a 12-month extension under extraordinary circumstances
- Allows DPI to award additional grant funds for new construction, up to the maximum amounts, to a county that received an award for new construction during the 2022-23 fiscal year, provided the county has not yet begun construction on the project

Section 4.4 Indian Gaming Education Revenue Fund Appropriations *pg. 19*

- Allocates \$10 million from the Indian Gaming Education Revenue Fund for Textbooks and Digital Resources Allotment in each year of the biennium
- Allocates \$11 million from the Indian Gaming Education Revenue Fund for classroom materials in year one and \$1 million in year two

Section 4.5 Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund *pg. 19*

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25
School Technology Fund	\$18,000,000	\$18,000,000
Drivers Education	\$30,193,768	\$30,193,768
State Public School Fund	\$226,041,640	\$166,041,640
Total	\$274,235,408	\$214,235,408

- Requires DPI to fund drivers education using the clear proceeds of the late fee for motor vehicle registration, as outlined in G.S. 20-88.03. The Department shall not spend more than the lesser of: (i) \$30,193,768 or (ii) the proceeds of the late fee for motor vehicle registration in each year of the biennium
- The Department may use up to two percent of the funds allocated pursuant to this section for statewide administration of the drivers education program.

Part V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 5.8 Medical Freedom/COVID-19 Vaccinations *pgs. 53-56*

- Prohibits public school units (PSUs), community colleges, and UNC system institutions from requiring a student to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or to submit to a COVID-19 vaccination unless it is required for participating in a program of study or fulfilling education requirements in a facility certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Prohibits State agencies, local governments, and political subdivisions of the State from discriminating against persons based on their refusal to provide proof of a COVID-19 vaccination or to submit to a COVID-19 vaccination unless it is required as a condition necessary to receive federal funding, is a federal requirement of CMS, or is required by the Department of Health and Human Services Division of State Operated Healthcare Facilities

Part VI. COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Section 6.10 Make Changes to the State Board of Community Colleges and Local Board of Trustees *pgs. 64-65*

- Removes the authority of a local board of education and the Governor to appoint members of the board of trustees of a local community college

- Alters the structure of local boards of trustees of community colleges to be composed as follows:
 - Eight trustees appointed by the General Assembly, four by the House of Representatives and four by the Senate
 - Four trustees elected by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the college is located. If there is more than one county in the service area, the four trustees must be elected jointly. If the college has a satellite campus, the county with the satellite campus may elect an additional two trustees with the approval of the board of trustees
 - The president of the student government or chair of the executive board of the student body may be an ex-officio nonvoting member if the board of trustees agrees
- In transitioning to the new makeup of the local boards of trustees, all current members serving as of the effective date of the bill would serve for the remainder of their terms. As terms expire or vacancies occur, the seats previously appointed by the local board of education or appointed by the Governor would transition to being appointed by the General Assembly

Part VII. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Section 7.7 Weighted Funding for EC Students *pg. 73*

- Requires DPI to develop a model, based on a study required in previous session law, for funding children with disabilities services on the basis of the reported costs of the services provided
- Requires DPI to report to the General Assembly by January 15, 2024, on the model of funding developed pursuant to this section and a comparison by PSUs of funds provided under the existing model and the model developed pursuant to this section

Section 7.13 Career Exploration and Development Plans *pg. 74*

- Identical to [SB 193: Career Development Plans](#) (*primary sponsors: Senators Amy Galey, R-Alamance; Michael Lee, R-New Hanover*)
- Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, requires all middle and high school students enrolled in a LEA to create a career development plan (CDP) by the end of 7th grade and revise the plan by the end of 10th grade, otherwise those students will not be promoted beyond those grades.
- Requires local boards of education to ensure that CDPs are easily accessible to students and parents
- Requires the SBE to adopt rules to establish the minimum requirements for CDPs and sets out specific requirements to be included
- Requires the SBE to establish a pilot of at least 20 local school administrative units during the 2023-2024 school year
- Prior to the start of the 2024-25 school year, requires DPI and the local boards of education, as appropriate, to provide curriculum content for the course required in this section and professional development

Section 7.20 DPI Funding in Arrears *pg. 75*

- Requires DPI to develop a model to fund PSUs whose funding is based on average daily membership (ADM) to be based on actual ADM from the prior school year instead of projections for the upcoming school year
- New model goes into effect beginning with the 2024-25 school year

Section 7.27 School Health Personnel Allotment *pgs. 76-77*

- Removes the requirement for local boards of education to provide at least one school psychologist and requires local boards of education to instead provide school health support services in accordance with G.S. 115C-316.5
- Reflects the transfer of school nurse, counselor, and social worker positions from the Instructional Support Allotment to the School Psychologist Allotment, which will be redesignated as the School Health Personnel Allotment
- Encourages school districts to fill these positions with full-time, permanent employees but allows the allocation to be converted to a dollar equivalent to contract with a third party to provide relevant services
- Prohibits the SBE from requiring that a school nurse obtain a four-year degree as a condition of employment
- Lists the duties of school counselors and career development coordinators

Section 7.36 School Safety Grants *pgs. 79-81*

- Continues the School Safety Grants Program, which is used to improve safety in PSUs by providing grants for (i) services for students in crisis, (ii) school safety training, (iii) safety equipment in schools, and (iv) subsidizing the School Resource Officer Grants Program

Section 7.47 Revise School Transportation Fund Requirements *pg. 81*

- Requires the SBE to allocate transportation funds based on the efficiency of the local school administrative units in transporting pupils
- Sets out the way in which efficiency of the units is calculated
- Requires the SBE to allocate transportation funds at the beginning of each fiscal year based on the most recently available data from a prior school year
- Reduces the amount of school transportation funds DPI may reserve from 10% to 5%
- Prior to April 1 of the fiscal year in which the funds are reserved, requires the reserved funds to be allocated only in the event of an emergency
- If reserved funds remain by April 1 of the fiscal year, requires the SBE to allocate the remaining funds to all school districts based on the efficiency of the units in transporting students

Section 7.53 Special Needs Pilot Program *pgs. 82-83*

- Of the funds appropriated to DPI, \$975,000 in nonrecurring funds for each year of the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium shall be used to contract with Amplio Learning Technologies, Inc., to create a new pilot program for a special education digital intervention software platform in Alamance County Schools, Catawba County Schools, and Nash County

Schools to increase opportunities for students with special needs focusing primarily on speech and reading development

Section 7.55 CTE Modernization & Expansion *pg. 83*

- Of the funds appropriated to DPI, up to \$200,000 in nonrecurring funds for each year of the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium shall be used to create a grant program for modernization of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming, materials, training, and professional development for courses conducted in grades six through 12

Section 7.57 Enhanced School Bus Stop Arm Grants *pg. 84*

- Requires the State Superintendent to establish the Enhanced School Bus Stop Arm Grant Program for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to administer funds to public school units to add, upgrade, or replace mechanical stop signals on school buses with either illuminated mechanical stop signals or extended mechanical stop signals to increase the safety of students when disembarking or boarding the bus
- Requires the State Superintendent to develop the application process for the Program and sets out reporting requirements

Section 7.58 Eliminate Student Copay for Reduced-Price Meals *pgs. 84-85*

- Funds appropriated from the General Fund to DPI for reduced-price school meal copays shall be used to provide school breakfasts and lunches at no cost to students of all grade levels that qualify for reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program in the current school year
- If the funds are insufficient to provide school meals at no cost to students qualifying for reduced-price meals, allows DPI to use funds appropriated to the State Aid for Public School fund

Section 7.59 CEP Meal Program Expansion Pilot

- Requires DPI to establish a pilot to expand public school participation in the federal Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program to increase student access to free school breakfast and lunch
- - Requires the pilot to be available for the 2024-25 fiscal year with the intent of continuing the pilot through the 2025-27 biennium

Section 7.60 No Administrative Penalty for Unpaid Meal Debt *pg. 86*

- Prohibits governing bodies of public schools from imposing administrative penalties on a student for unpaid school meal debt
- Sets out what constitutes an administrative penalty

Section 7.61 High School Remote Instruction Flexibility Pilot *pg. 86*

- Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-84.3(c), for the 2023-2024 through 2027-2028 school years, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall select 10 local school administrative units to participate in a remote instruction flexibility pilot
- The pilot authorizes local boards of education to establish a school calendar for high schools that uses up to five days or 30 hours of remote instruction to ensure that all final examinations for the fall semester are administered to students prior to December 31 of the school year
- The remote instruction days or hours used as part of the pilot shall be in addition to any days or hours authorized by G.S. 115C-84.3(b)
- Sets out reporting requirements for each participating local board of education

Section 7.62 SparkNC Pilot for High-Tech Learning Accelerator Credit *pgs. 87-88*

- Establishes the SparkNC Pilot Program for the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium, which authorizes SparkNC, in partnership with selected public-school units, to develop a nontraditional, student-driven pathway through which students may select and complete modular learning experiences that will provide a competency-based equivalency to a traditional elective course credit
- Sets out various requirements for the Program
- Lists the 18 LEAs that may partner with SparkNC to participate in the Program

Section 7.63 Extended Learning and Integrated Student Supports Competitive Grant Program *pgs. 88-90*

- Of the funds appropriated for the At-Risk Student Services Alternative School Allotment, DPI shall use up to \$7,000,000 in each year of the biennium for the Extended Learning and Integrated Student Supports Competitive Grant Program.

Section 7.64 Prohibition Against “Three-Cueing” *pgs. 90-91*

- Defines “three-cueing system” as a model of teaching students to read based on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues
- Prohibits local school administrative units from using a three-cueing system or a curriculum with visual memory as the primary basis for teaching word recognition in any instruction or intervention provided to students in grades kindergarten through three

Section 7.65 Professional Development for Holocaust Education Funds Not to Revert *pg. 91*

- Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, funds appropriated to DPI for professional development associated with the Gizella Abramson Holocaust Education Act shall not revert to the General Fund but shall remain available for the purposes for which they were appropriated until June 30, 2024.

Section 7.66 Salary Supplements for Teachers in Advanced Teaching Roles *pgs. 91-92*

- Sets out definitions
- Requires the State Board of Education to award funds to local school administrative units for annual salary supplements for teachers
- Requires Advanced Teaching Roles units to designate:
 - Up to 15% of the teachers in each Advanced Teaching Roles school as adult leadership teachers and
 - 5% of the teachers in each Advanced Teaching Roles school as classroom excellence teachers
- Advanced Teaching Roles units shall provide salary supplements for those teachers as follows: (1) \$10,000 for adult leadership teachers (2) \$3,000 for classroom excellence teachers
- Sets out additional requirements that apply to salary supplements received under this section

Section 7.67 Advanced Teaching Roles/New Hanover County *pg. 92*

- Requires the State Board of Education to authorize New Hanover County Schools to participate in the Advanced Teaching Roles Program

Part VII-A. COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC-SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

Section 7A.1 Teacher Salary Schedule *pgs. 92-94*

- Provides funding to implement a new teacher salary schedule for fiscal year 2023-24 and an intended salary schedule for fiscal year 2024-25.

Years of Experience	Current Monthly Salary Schedule	Senate Proposal 2023-24	Senate Proposal 2024-25
0	\$3,700	\$3,900	\$4,100
1	\$3,800	\$4,000	\$4,175
2	\$3,900	\$4,100	\$4,250
3	\$4,000	\$4,200	\$4,325
4	\$4,100	\$4,300	\$4,400
5	\$4,200	\$4,400	\$4,475
6	\$4,300	\$4,480	\$4,550
7	\$4,400	\$4,560	\$4,625
8	\$4,500	\$4,640	\$4,700
9	\$4,600	\$4,720	\$4,775
10	\$4,700	\$4,800	\$4,850
11	\$4,800	\$4,880	\$4,925
12	\$4,900	\$4,960	\$5,000
13	\$5,000	\$5,040	\$5,075
14	\$5,100	\$5,120	\$5,150
15-24	\$5,200	\$5,220	\$5,225
25+	\$5,400	\$5,420	\$5,425

- Salary supplements for teachers paid on the above salary schedule:
 - 12% monthly supplement for National Board-certified teachers
 - 10% monthly supplement for “M” teachers with advanced degrees
 - \$126 monthly supplement for teachers with academic preparation at the six-year degree level, in addition to the “M” teacher supplement
 - \$253 monthly supplement for teachers with academic preparation at the doctoral degree level, in addition to the “M” teacher supplement
 - 10% monthly supplement for certified school nurses
 - \$100 monthly supplement for school counselors who are licensed as counselors at the master’s degree level or higher
- Continues the \$350 monthly supplement for school psychologists, school speech pathologists, and school audiologists
- Continues salary schedule adjustments for school psychologists, school speech pathologists, and school audiologists, including that the 26th step salary is 7.5% higher than the 25th step salary
- Continues to build longevity payments into the salary schedule
- Maintains the hold harmless for teacher longevity

Section 7A.3 Consolidated Teacher Bonus Program *pgs. 94-99*

- Requires the SBE to establish a consolidated teacher bonus program for the 2023-25 fiscal biennium to award bonuses to qualifying Advanced Course and Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers

Section 7A.4 Supplemental Funds for Teacher Compensation *pgs. 99-101*

- Continues supplemental funding for teachers based on a county’s adjusted market value of taxable real property for the 2023-25 fiscal biennium
- Maintains the supplement cap per teacher at \$5,000

Section 7A.5 Small County and Low-Wealth Signing Bonus for Teacher *pgs. 101-102*

- Provides State-matching recruitment bonus funds for teachers accepting employment in school districts that receive funding from the Small County or Low Wealth allotments
- Match requires \$1 of state funds for every \$1 of local funds up to \$1,000

Section 7A.6 Principal Salary Schedule *pg. 102*

- Provides a 2.5% raise in 2023-24 and a 2.5% raise in 2024-25 for principals
- Continues to use ADM and school growth scores in the calculation of principal pay
- Requires the following school growth scores to be used during the following time periods:
 - Between July 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023, the school growth score from the 2021-22 school year
 - Between January 1, 2023, and June 30, 2023, the school growth scores from the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years

- (Prior to the disruption of school grade calculations that started during the 2019-2020 school year, principal salaries were calculated based on school growth scores from the prior three school years)
- Continues to build longevity payments into the salary schedule
- Includes a hold harmless clause to ensure that for the 2023-24 fiscal year no principal's salary drops below the 2016-2017 level

Section 7A.7 Bonuses for Principals *pg. 104*

- Provides a bonus to principals for being in the top 50% of school growth statewide during the 2022-23 school year
- Bonuses are to be paid out no later than October 31, 2023, as long as qualifying principal remains employed as of October 1, 2023

Statewide Growth Percentage	Bonus
Top 5%	\$15,000
Top 10%	\$10,000
Top 15%	\$5,000
Top 20%	\$2,500
Top 50%	\$1,000

Section 7A.8 Assistant Principal Salaries *pg. 104*

- Maintains the assistant principal salary at 19% of the “A” teacher salary schedule

Section 7A.9 Central Office Salaries *pgs. 105-107*

- Provides a 2.5% raise in 2023-24 and a 2.5% raise in 2024-25 for superintendents, assistant superintendents, associate superintendents, directors/coordinators, supervisors, and finance officers

Section 7A.10 Noncertified Personnel Salaries *pg. 107*

- For the 2023-24 fiscal year and the 2024-25 fiscal year, the annual salary for noncertified public-school employees whose salaries are supported from State funds shall be increased as follows:
 - (1) For permanent, full-time employees on a 12-month contract, by 2.5%
 - (2) For the following employees, by 2.5% outlines above in (1)
 - Permanent, full-time employees on a contract for fewer than 12 months
 - Permanent, part-time employees
 - Temporary and permanent hourly employees

Part VIII. THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM

Section 8.6 Reduce Number of Required UNC Laboratory Schools from Nine to Eight *pg. 110*

- Requires the Board of Governors, upon recommendation by the President, to designate constituent institutions to establish and operate a total of at least eight laboratory schools.

Section 8A.6 Expand Eligibility and Revise Administration for Opportunity Scholarships *pgs. 122-132*

- Makes all NC K-12 students eligible for Opportunity Scholarships
- Replaces opportunity income requirements with a sliding scale based on household income as follows:
 - A family of four with a household income of up to \$55,500 (qualifying amount for free/reduced lunch) is eligible for a maximum voucher award of \$7,213 in FY 2023-24 (100% of the average state per pupil allocation)
 - A family of four with a household income of up to \$111,000 is eligible for a maximum voucher award of \$6,492 in FY 2023-24
 - A family of four with a household income of up to \$249,750 is eligible for a maximum voucher award of \$4,328 in FY 2023-24
 - A family of four with a household income of more than \$249,750 is eligible for a maximum voucher award of \$3,246 in FY 2023-24
- Prohibits local boards of education to require more credits to graduate than what is required by the State Board of Education (currently, 22 credits).
- For the 2032-33 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, \$520.54 million will be appropriated to the Program