



2024 Legislative Priorities

1. Recruiting and Retaining the Best Public School Employees

- **Support, for all public-school personnel, the most significant state-supported pay increases and benefits deemed affordable** to help reduce staff turnover and counteract inflation and rising costs of living.
- **Make North Carolina an educational leader by raising state-funded principal and teacher pay to the highest in the Southeast by 2026.**
- **Reform the principal pay plan** to increase stability in base salary by: reducing the portion dependent on the school growth formula; adding school complexity factors; and honoring experienced leadership with retention supplements.

2. K-12 Accountability System Reform

- **Modify the state’s calculation of school performance grades by 2026** to include additional factors, such as the percentage of economically disadvantaged students, graduation rates, career credentials, and other factors denoting both school challenges and successes.
- **Modify the new Early Graduate Program** to facilitate the opt-in process proposed by the NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and allow local boards of education to maintain additional requirements for students graduating from high school in four years.

3. Adequate and Equitable Resources for Schools and Districts

- **Revise and enhance state funding for children with disabilities** above the current 13% state funding cap and implement the new weighted funding formula developed by the NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI), reflecting differentiated costs of supporting students with special needs.
- **Revise state funding for assistant principals (APs) to provide at least one per school by 2026**, with an additional AP provided for schools with more than 500 students.
- **Increase accountability and transparency of the recently-expanded Opportunity Scholarship Program** to ensure all private schools receiving funds through this program are improving outcomes for students.
- **Provide all Public School Units needed flexibility like that of “Restart Schools” and Charter Schools** to include increased authority over their calendar, budget, and personnel.

For additional information on these or other public-school priorities, contact:

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