K-12 EDUCATION LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

State Board of Education Vision: *Every public school student in North Carolina will be empowered to accept academic challenges, prepared to pursue their chosen path after graduating high school, and encouraged to become lifelong learners with the capacity to engage in a globally-collaborative society.*

State Board of Education Mission: *The mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education is to use its constitutional authority to guard and maintain the right of a sound, basic education for every child in North Carolina Public Schools.*

Tuesday, April 6th, 2021

The March wind is not the only thing gusting. New legislation continues to swirl and committee meetings to consider these bills fill the legislative calendar. So far, over **850** bills have been filed this session with at least **175** of those bills affecting K-12 public education. One of the recent K-12 education bills to be filed is **S387Excellent Public Schools Act of 2021** sponsored by **Senators Berger, Ballard, and Lee**. This act will modify how the NC Read to Achieve program is implemented to ensure statewide reading proficiency by third grade.

Also churning, is the **FY 21-23 budget.** Governor Cooper unveiled his **budget recommendations** and the Senate will take the next step to present their budget in the coming weeks. Before the flurry of budget negotiations, the House and Senate are taking a Spring Break next week to spend time in their districts.

District Visits and Voices continue down the road. These tours demonstrate how the districts are going #beyondnormalcy to make a difference in their schools and communities.

Truly. . .

Freebird McKinney

Director of the Office of Government and Community Affairs

"We Strive and Rise, Together."

Board of Education Highlights

Called SBE meeting on Monday, March 25, 2021 - Agenda

- Legislative Considerations for Reopening K - 12 Public Schools
- ABC Science Collaborative of the Duke School of Medicine

WRAL Article: NC State Board of Education approves contract with Duke to study COVID, schools

Upcoming: April State Board of Education meeting

- **Wednesday, April 7th - Agenda and Thursday, April 8th - Agenda**
- **Live Audio Streaming of SBE meetings are available at this link.**
- **Link to SBE Meetings here.**

State Board 2025 Strategic Plan

- SBE/DPI Joint Resolution to open schools - **here**
- March SBE Legislative Update - **here**

Legislative Update

Happenings at the Legislature

Legislative Calendar - Link to the current NCGA calendar of committee meetings and sessions

Upcoming events:

- May 1, 2021 - 2021 Youth Legislative Assembly

K-12 Public Education Bills

H82 Summer Learning Choice for NC Families.

Useful Information

This section includes details pertaining to acronyms and bill information referenced throughout the *K-12 Education Legislative Update* newsletters.

Biennium- A two-year term of legislative activity

Public Bill- Legislation enacted into law that applies to the public at large

Local Bill- Legislation put into law that has limited application (How many counties)- Local bills

- Primary Sponsors: Moore; Elmore; Torbett; Zenger
- Would require each local school administrative unit (LEA) to offer a school extension learning recovery and enrichment program after the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
- **Bill Summary**
- Passed the House – Enrolled – **Sent to the Governor by special messenger** on 4.01.21

SB 387 Excellent Public Schools Act of 2021.

- Primary Sponsors: Berger; Ballard; Lee
- Modify the Implementation of the North Carolina Read to Achieve Program in Order to Attain Statewide Reading Proficiency by the Third Grade.
- **Bill Summary**
- Passed the House – Enrolled – **Sent to the Governor by special messenger** on 4.01.21

Bills that have Passed Third Reading

Bill	Short Title
H18	Local School Admin. Unit Cash Management.
H53	Educ. Changes for Military-Connected Students.
H70	Historic School Preservation Act.
H78	Report on K-12 Computer Science Data.
H79	Student Digital Learning Access.
H82	Summer Learning Choice for NC Families.
H118	Students, Parents, Community Rights Act.
H128	Increase Access to Sporting Venues in Schools.
H134	2nd Amendment Protection Act.
H136	Encourage Healthy NC Food in Schools.
H159	Education Law Changes.
H193	2020-2021 School Transportation Flexibility.
H205	Abuse & Neglect Resources in Public Schools.
S43	**Protect Religious Meeting Places.**
S52	Sex Offender Residence Restriction/Clarify.
S87	Medicaid Reimbursement/Charter Schools.

do not have to be signed by the governor

Sponsor- The legislator who presents a bill or resolution for consideration

Resolution- A document that expresses the sentiment or intent of the legislature or a chamber. Resolutions, when finalized, go to the Secretary of State

Glossary of Legislative Terms- LINK

DPI = NC **D**epartment of **P**ublic **I**nstruction

LEA = Local **E**ducation **A**gency

NCGA = **N**orth **C**arolina **G**eneral **A**ssembly

LB/LOB = **L**egislative **B**uilding/**L**egislative **O**ffice **B**uilding

SBE = North Carolina **S**tate **B**oard of **E**ducation

HB/SB = **H**ouse **B**ill/**S**enate **B**ill

JR = Joint Resolution

SL = **S**ession **L**aw

GS = **G**eneral **S**tatute

PCS = **P**roposed **C**ommittee **S**ubstitute

S115 Students, Parents, Community Rights Act.

S116 Let Them Play and Let Us Watch.

S170 Students, Parents, Community Rights Act.

S232 Students, Parents, Community Rights Act.

S256 Students, Parents, Community Rights Act.

K-12 Public Education Bills that have become Session Law

- **SL 2021-1** (S36) 2020 COVID Relief Bill Modifications. Bill Summary
- **SL 2021-3** (H196) 2021 COVID-19 Response & Relief
- **SL 2021-4** (S220) The Reopen Our Schools Act of 2021. Bill Summary
- **SL 2021-6** (H356) Speaker/PPT Appointments 2021

NCGA 2021-22 Session Chaptered Bills - HERE

Budget

Governor Unveils Budget Proposal

- FY 2021-23 Budget Recommendations
- Governor's Budget Recommendations for FY 2021-23

EdNC Article: Here is what the governor wants for education over the next two years

Information on bills impacting K-12 education

- **2019-20 Legislation with Effective Dates of July 1, 2020**
- **All 2020 summaries for Education** - NCGA
- **Summary of 2020-21 Legislation** - DPI

Federal Legislation

H.R.1319 —American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)

- Sponsor: Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]
- **Summary**
- House Budget Committee Report: H. Rept. 117-7

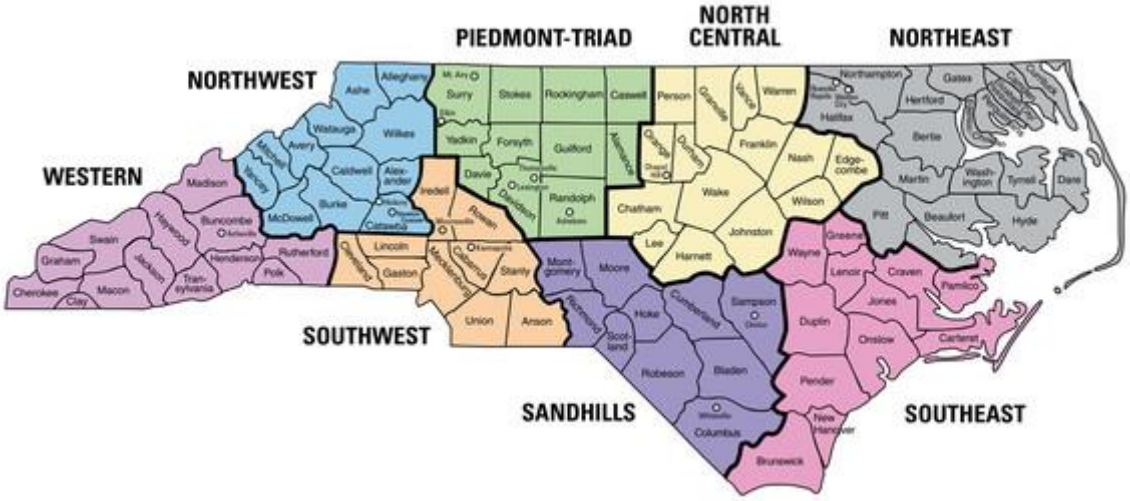
- Latest Action**:** 03/11/2021 Became Public Law No: 117-2. (All Actions)
- ARP provides **$1.9T** in additional relief for COVID-19. **$4T** relief was provided in 2020.

FACT SHEET: Elementary And Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II

Office of Elementary & Secondary Education – ESSER Fund

2019-2022 ALLOTMENT POLICY MANUAL Funds Related to Coronavirus/COVID-19

"State of the Shire"— Community Affairs Update



District Visits and Voices

"We Strive and Rise, Together."

Follow Freebird McKinney on Twitter | Facebook

On the road again🎤🎶🎸🎵! NC Superintendent Catherine Truitt's team of advisors and senior leaders visited Union County Public Schools, Catawba County Schools, Cherokee County Schools, Currituck County Schools, Macon County Schools, Vance County Schools, Pamlico County Schools, Polk County Schools, Mt. Airy City Schools, and Elkin City Schools as part of the agency "District and Voices" Tour to learn about innovative programs, success stories and opportunities to support our North Carolina Public Schools.

The team continues to travel through March to the state's eight education regions, touring 16 districts. The visits also provide the Superintendent's team with opportunities to share updates about her three key

priorities (literacy, testing and accountability human capital) and explore ways to build better communications with district, school and community stakeholders.

Link to "District Visits and Voices" Presentation at the April SBE Meeting, highlighting all 16 districts and 39 schools. SAWUBONA- "We SEE You!" #OneTeamOneVoice

Catawba County Schools with Superintendent Dr. Matt Stover and Senator Dean Proctor

Senator Dean Proctor, leaders from the State Board of Education, and NC Superintendent Catherine Truitt's team of advisors visited our schools to learn about our district's successes, innovations, and future needs. Our special guests toured Sherrills Ford Elementary, Mill Creek Middle School, and Maiden High School to get a *sampling* of the great things we are doing here. We wish they could have seen ALL of our schools because the excitement inside our school buildings is PALPABLE!

Thank you to our state leaders for truly wanting to listen and learn from some of the greatest educators and students in the state!

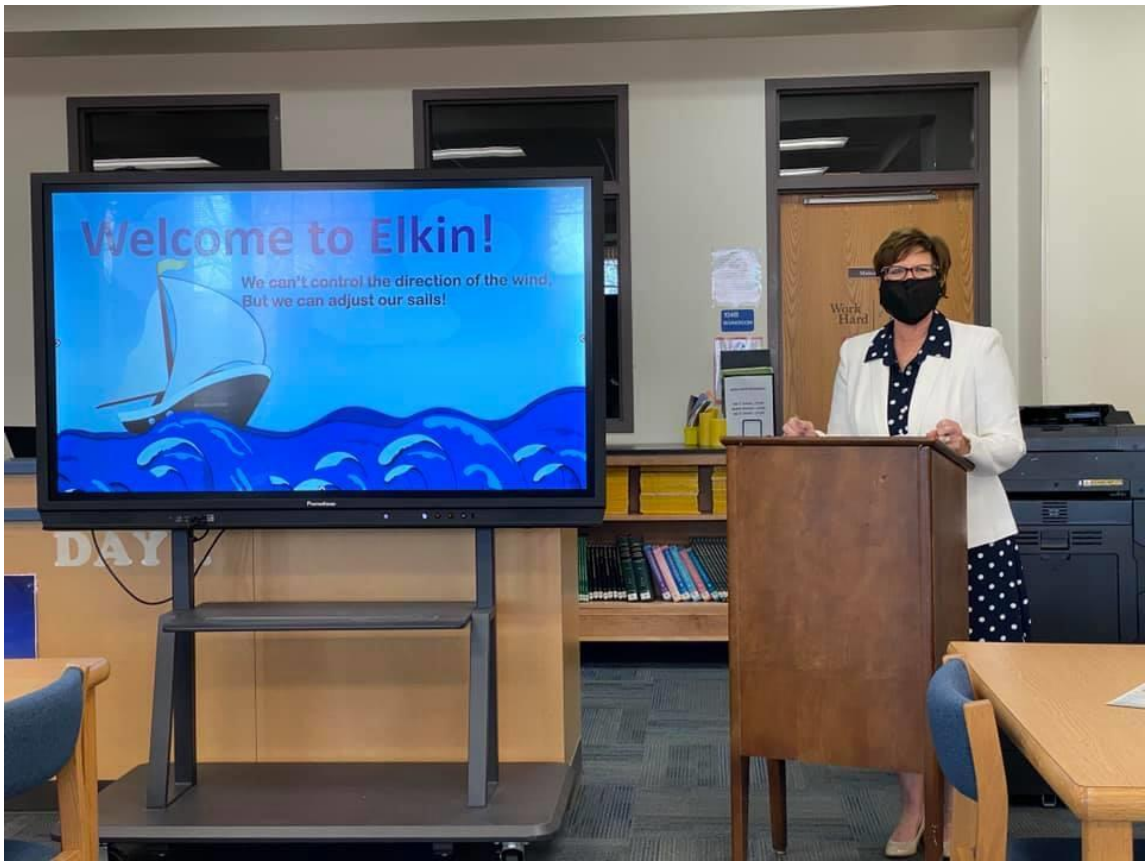
Check out the photos... you'll see some of the Tweets from the leaders who visited us yesterday and how excited they were by the kinds of things we are doing here to #EngageInspireEmpower our students and teachers.... while #MakingEducationBetter for #MyCatawbaCounty!

#OneTeamOneVoice #EdLeadNC #DistrictVisitsVoices #educatordiplomats

Cherokee County Schools with Superintendent Dr. Jeana Conley

Cherokee County Schools visit to Andrews Middle School with Principal Ruby Cutshaw, Director Julie Higdon, the DPI Western Regional Case Manager, Julie Pittman, Special Advisor to the Superintendent for Educator Engagement, Maureen Stover, the 2020 NC Teacher of the Year, and Freebird McKinney, the Director of Government and Community Affairs for DPI/SBE. We participate din a very insightful discussion about Cherokee County Schools' initiative "The Collaborative", a dynamic teacher leadership program.

Elkin City Schools with Dr. Myra Cox, Superintendent



When **Dr. Myra Cox**, Superintendent of Elkin City Schools began the #districtvisitsvoices team's day with "we cannot control the direction of the wind, but we can adjust our sails," we knew right away it was a #GDTBABE (Great Day to Be a Bucking Elk.) This leadership team, and the multitude of exceptional educators we listened and learned from, had truly "charted a course" of team-focused, student and family centered, collaborative, and intentional learning opportunities for the Elkin community reflected by #ecsgoingplaces and this district's STORY!

Thank you, Dr. Cox, to you and your team for TEACHING us the value of our smaller, rural districts, and the mighty force they are in your community, and across North Carolina. We are eternally grateful and will return, as this is just the beginning of our "friendship" with Elkin City. Our team, Superintendent Truitt, and the State Board sees YOU, all of YOU- Sawubona... it is ALWAYS a "Great Day to Be Bucking Elk!"

#OneTeamOneVoice #EdLeadNC #educatordiplomats NC Public Schools Facebook

Macon County Schools with Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin

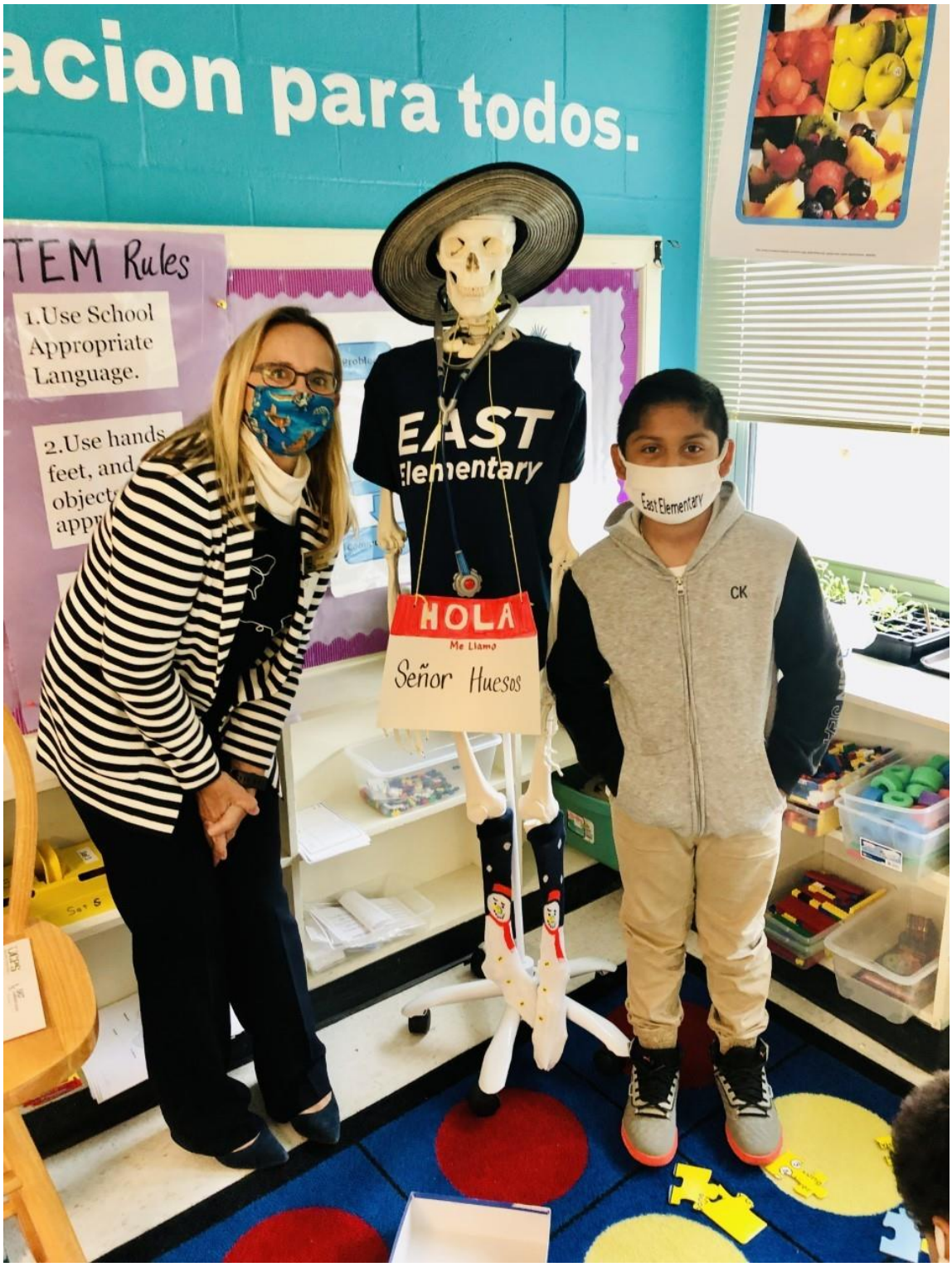
Touring The Nantahala School with Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin, the DPI Western Regional Case Manager, Dr. Jeremy Gibbs, the Special Advisor to the Superintendent for Educator Engagement, Julie Pittman, and Maureen Stover, the 2020 North Carolina Teacher of the Year. Here, Dr. Baldwin is showing us the same exact classroom where he took "Shop" and where students of the school had just finished a beautiful table that sold within 20 minutes for $500.

Polk County Schools with Superintendent Aaron Greene

Visiting a Polk County Pre-K classroom with Teacher of the Year, Laura Jane Howard, and the DPI Western Regional Case Manager, Dr. Jeremy Gibbs. Engaging, interactive, and memorable, the DPI Office of Early Literacy Team, led by Dr. Amy Rhyne, had a very insightful visit listening and learning to Superintendent Greene's leadership team and their success implementing the Pre-K program in Polk County.

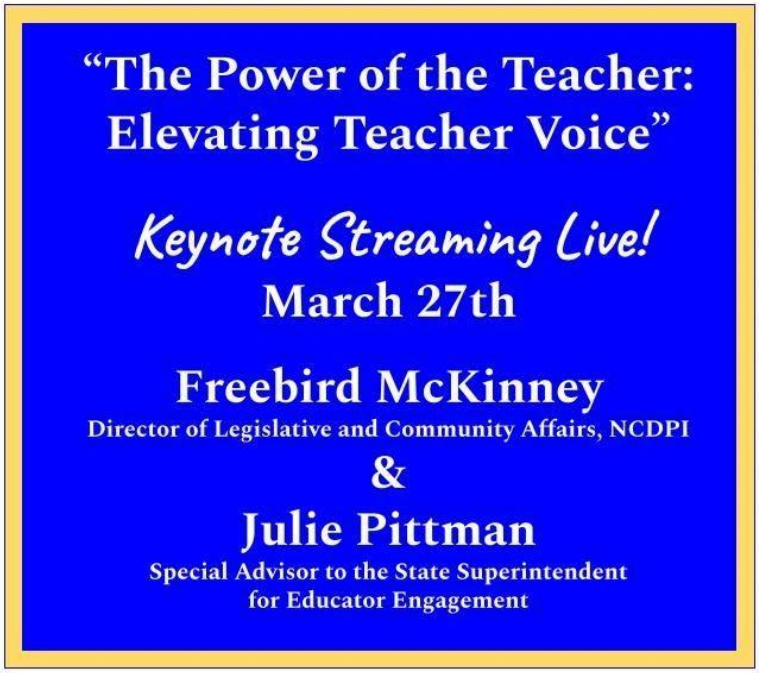
All ABOARD, the learning train, at Polk Central Elementary School, learning about the Pre-K programs available to the Polk County Schools community. Pictured here are members of the DPI Office of Early Learning, Maureen Stover, the 2020 NC Teacher of the Year, and Freebird McKinney, Director of Government and Community Affairs, for DPI/SBE.

Union County Schools with Superintendent Dr. Andrew Houlihan and Representative David Willis


acion para todos.
TEM Rules
1.Use School Appropriate Language.
EAST
Elementary
HOLA
Me Llamo
Señor Huesos
East Elementary
CK

DPI Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Bev Emory, during the "District Visits and Voices" tour of East Elementary School, talking with students, and meeting Senor Huesos.

At Marvin Ridge High School, Representative Willis had the opportunity to hear a live performance from Union County's Teacher of the Year, and Music Program Director, Mr. Dareion Malone.



The Power of the Educator Diplomat - The Community

"The Power of the Teacher: Elevating Teacher Voice"

North Carolina Association for Middle Level Education (ncmle.org)

- Annual Conference: **2021 Virtual Mini-Conference: Lights. Camera. Action!**
  Producing Star Students in the Virtual Learning Environment

#educatordiplomats #LightsCameraAction

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