



Things have been quite busy since the November elections, and the holiday season has not slowed legislative activities. I have been staying in touch with the Executive Director, Ruth Huff, and Legislative Committee Chair, Allison Dees to have another successful legislative day in February 2019. Also, I have successfully scheduled almost all newly elected legislators for meetings at the first of the year. While I look forward to continuing to work on our priorities in 2019, it appears legislators are not finished with 2018 just yet.

The North Carolina General Assembly reconvened for another session in December, which lasted several weeks. The legislature passed two positive pieces of legislation for public education: The first was another installment of hurricane relief, which included \$25 million dollars for schools in disaster areas. The second measure was included in the technical corrections, Senate Bill 469. This provision held administrator salaries harmless as a result in decreases in ADM because of the storms. The provision protects administrators in disaster counties that missed 10 or more days.

Other measures were included in Senate Bill 469 that also impacted public education. These are not matters we lobbied for, but they were included in the bill. They are the following:

- 1) A restart school model option for Wayne County Board of Education pertaining to the Innovative School District.
- 2) Modifications to the requirements for applications for students with disabilities scholarship grants.
- 3) Moved the principal prep program from NCPAPA to NC State University.

- 4) Allowed the new municipal charters to participate with the State Health Plan.

The most recent information indicates legislators plan to return on Wednesday December 19<sup>th</sup> to override vetoes. The only bill Governor Roy Cooper has vetoed thus far is the Voter Identification Bill. It appears that this is likely the only action for consideration.

I will be back reporting in January 2019 on our issues and as well as successes with our agenda. I hope everyone has a safe holiday season, and a Happy New Year!