



Last week, the North Carolina House Officially passed their version of the state budget. We did have three successes in the state budget which included two of our four priorities. There is more work to do, and I am now putting most of my focus on the North Carolina Senate since they are beginning to prepare their budget. Three items of note for CTE are the following:

- 1) The House budget did include a school bond for public schools. The individual bill passed as reported earlier, but it was also included in the budget document.
- 2) Rep. Ashton Clemmons bill to authorize the North Carolina Career and Technical Education Foundation to collaborate in administering certain grants was also included in the budget. This was the fourth priority on our list that was distributed to members of the North Carolina General Assembly.
- 3) The legislation requiring personal finance for our schools was included in the budget. However, it was amended from its original form, and will now be part of the social studies curriculum as opposed to CTE. Having this be a part of the CTE program was a concern to many members.

The House Budget Bill: [HB 966](#)

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookUp/2019/H966>

Budget Highlights

The House budget adds an additional \$700 million dollars over the last biennium budget. That is an increase of just over 3 per cent.

Included in the budget is a teacher pay raise of an average of 4.6% (beginning Jan. 2020).

The House budget re-instates the popular Teaching Fellows program for candidates seeking to teach in Special Education or Stem.

The House budget re-instates masters pay for qualifying teachers.

Regarding principal and assistant principal pay, the House budget re-instates experience as a component of the formula for principal pay and ties principal pay raises to future teacher pay raises moving forward. The adjusted averages for salary increases for Jan. 2020 would be around 6.3% for Assistant Principals and 10% for Principals.

The House budget gives teachers \$145 for school supplies in year one of the biennium. Legislators indicated that it would increase to \$400 in year two when they return for short session next year. The entire appropriation was funded with new money, and did not transfer funds from the current supply allotment.

The House budget proposal allocates \$60 million dollars for school safety, resources, personnel, and mental health services.

Below is a link to the budget breakdown site developed by the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction. This site will provide base category expenditures and at the bottom of the expense summary of shows the proposed teacher salary adjustments from the House Budget.

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Meetings/Attachment.aspx?S=10399&AID=176648&MID=5325>

In addition, several special provisions were included. Some of those included in the budget bill are listed below.

1. School Safety Grant Programs
2. 15 point grading scale for school assessments under the NC School Report Card
3. Financial Literacy and Economics course requirements (to be determined by the State Board)

The crossover deadline is set for May 9th which usually means that non-finance related bills that have not received approval from either the House or Senate, will likely not move forward. However, even those provisions are often subject to change. We will update you on which education related bills met the crossover deadline in the next update.