



**A Publication for Members of the  
N.C. Association of School Administrators**

March 1, 2018

*The State Board of Education (SBE) met February 28<sup>th</sup>-March 1<sup>st</sup> in Raleigh. The pages that follow summarize the Board's actions for this month. For complete SBE information, visit their website:  
<http://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/>*

## **SCHOOL SAFETY AND STUDENT RESOURCES**

On Wednesday, February 28, the State Board of Education held a lengthy discussion following a report regarding collected, consolidated data from 2016-2017 by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) regarding school crime, violence, suspensions, expulsions, corporal punishment, reassignments for disciplinary reasons, alternative learning placements, and dropout rates. The number of reportable crimes committed by high school students in North Carolina has decreased by 231 from school years 2015-16 and 2016-17. While this was certainly an uplifting moment for the Board, the conversation, preceding the consecutive report, turned to school safety and violence.

Board members, including North Carolina's Teacher of the Year, Lisa Godwin, stressed the importance of taking another look at how we support our schools in terms of psychological resources for our students. While our student crime rate is down, our need to protect and engage in emotional support for our students is higher than ever. Due to recent events regarding school violence, much of the education conversation has centered around gun violence, arming teachers and administration with not only resources such as counselors, but also with weapons, and what steps we can take towards safety both infrastructurally and psychologically.

However, the conversation of arming teachers has been met simultaneously with the argument that arming them with other resources, such as knowledge on how to protect their kids and emotionally aid them, is the correct course of action. North Carolina State Superintendent Mark Johnson stated Monday via Twitter, "We already ask so much of our educators. I do not believe we should ask them to take on another massive responsibility of having firearms in the classroom." He also issued a statement on his monthly video stating that he wants to hear specifically from teachers and administrators regarding their opinions on arming teachers. To view the video, click [here](#). To take the survey, click [here](#).

In contrast to conversation about arming teachers, the Board reacted to one another and with Mr. Johnson with stark agreement on Tuesday that something needs to be done in North Carolina to ensure that students are given more mental health resources, particularly with counselors and school psychologists, stating that they are in a position to ensure that these measures are taken.

Members discussed the extremely low numbers of school counselors, with Lisa Godwin stating that her school has only two counselors but more than 1,000 students. She stated, "This is where we are failing. We need to provide resources and funding to have more psychologists, social workers, counselors on sight to help our students." She went on to exclaim, "We need to be a body that wants to heal our students, and in order to do that, we need to provide the resources."

## BONUSES TO GO TO THIRD GRADE READING TEACHERS

On Wednesday, board members voted to approve action BSOP – 3 regarding third grade teacher bonuses. The bonuses will be dispersed among the top 25% of third-grade teachers across the state. These teachers were determined based on the student growth index by EVAAS (Education Value-Added Assessment System), a customized software system available to all districts in NC. Any funds that are not used toward the bonuses will revert back to the state. Although the award allotment will include the award plus social security, the award is not subject to retired teachers still working in the field.

To view the report that will be made to the General Assembly regarding these bonuses, including a breakdown of how funds will be dispersed, click [here](#). To view the third grade teacher bonus allotment by county, click [here](#).

## ACTION ITEMS

### BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

#### *Action*

#### **BSOP 1 – 2018-19 Supplemental Budget Recommendations**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the supplemental budget request allowable under OSBM's instructions, as presented.*

**APPROVED**

#### *Action On First Reading*

#### **BSOP 2 – Study Financial Costs of Federal Mandates**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the attached report .*

**APPROVED**

#### **BSOP 3 – Third Grade Teacher Reading Bonus Allotments**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the attached report.*

**APPROVED**

### EDUCATION INNOVATION AND CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

#### *Action*

#### **EICS 1 – Second Year Delay Request for Discovery Charter School**

*Recommendations: The Charter Schools Advisory Board recommends that the State Board of Education approve this two-year delay for Discovery Charter School with the above stipulations.*

**APPROVED**

#### **EICS 2 – Joint Legislative Education Oversight Report: Charter Schools Pilot Transportation Grant**

*Recommendations: The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this Annual Report.*

**APPROVED**

## **Action On First Reading**

### **EICS 3 – Montcross Charter Academy Request to Surrender its Charter**

*Recommendations: The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board accept the voluntary charter relinquishment for Montcross Charter Academy.*

**APPROVED**

### **EICS 4 – Bertie County Rescinding Restart Application**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board approve the Bertie County request to rescind this application.*

**APPROVED**

## **STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Action**

#### **SLA 1- Process for the Review, Revision, and Implementation of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study**

*Recommendations: It is requested that the State Board accept the proposed changes and approve SCOS-12 as presented.*

**APPROVED**

### **ESSA Update**

*The State Board of Education voted to comply with the U.S. Department of Education on three issues found within the proposed NC ESSA plan, including an amendment made to one of NC's proposed plans for senior testing. The updated plan, per request of the USDE, will be submitted.*

**APPROVED**

## **HEALTHY RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS**

### **Action On First Reading**

#### **HRS 1 – Consolidated Data Report: Crime and Violence, Suspension and Expulsions, Reassignments for Disciplinary Purposes, Alternative Learning Program Placements, Use of Corporal Punishment, and Dropouts**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education accept the Consolidated Report as presented.*

**APPROVED**

---

**To view the agendas for the State Board of Education's meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>, including links to all handouts and PowerPoint presentations presented to the Board, and which may include discussion and informational items not discussed above, please click [here](#).**

**To view the monthly State Board of Education newsletter archive, including this month's newsletter, please click [here](#).**

---

*Members of the NCASA staff represent NCASA at all meetings of the State Board of Education. If you have questions about the issues discussed in this State Board Review, please contact Executive Director Katherine Joyce at [kjoyce@ncasa.net](mailto:kjoyce@ncasa.net) or Jacqueline Wyatt, Government Affairs & Communications Specialist, at [jwyatt@ncasa.net](mailto:jwyatt@ncasa.net).*