



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

August 27, 2019

Dear Superintendent:

When I vetoed the General Assembly's conference budget in June, I was in pursuit of a better deal for North Carolinians. I wanted to see Medicaid expanded. I wanted to see better salary increases for teachers and non-certified school personnel. And I wanted to see certainty in rebuilding our public schools.

That's why 50 days ago, I proposed a compromise budget that would better benefit your community. Yes, my compromise proposal would expand Medicaid, but it would also increase teacher pay by an average of 8.5%, including a pay raise for every teacher. It also included at least double and in some instances more than double the pay raises for university, community college, and non-certified public school employees. It would include the first statewide bond referendum to build public schools in nearly a quarter-century, providing at least \$10 million for public school construction to every county. And it would still fund every single local project, including those in your community, included in the General Assembly conference budget.

To date, the General Assembly leadership has not overridden my veto, nor have they sent me a counteroffer.

The bottom line is that your community would gain significantly more under my proposed compromise. I encourage you to reach out to your legislators and tell them how much your community needs this legislature to do its job, and to work with me to negotiate and pass a responsible budget that works for all North Carolinians.

Sincerely,

Roy Cooper