



Food For Thought

"Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.

~ Abigail Adams (1744 - 1818)

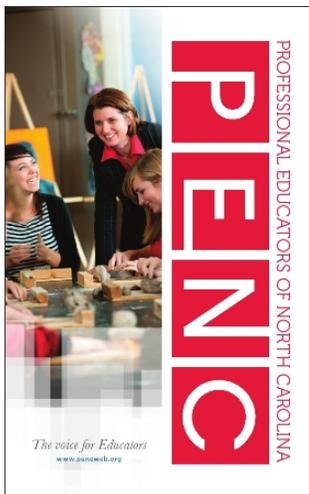
Our Mission

Our mission is to promote education reform for the benefit of all North Carolina children while ensuring the recruitment, development and retention of qualified educators.

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Who We Are

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PENC Legislative Update

General Assembly Approves CTE Access Bill

The House approved [S 14, Increase Access to Career/Technical Education](#), on Feb. 13. The bill is a recommendation of a panel that studied career and technical education during the interim between the Short and Long sessions and would enable high school diploma endorsements for college and career. The bill would also increase access to career and technical education teachers in public schools. Gov. Pat McCrory received the bill on Feb. 14 and signed it on the morning of February 18, making it the first bill he signed into law.

Education Budget Review – Master's and NBCT Differentials Questioned

The General Assembly's budget process is underway. Budget subcommittees of both the Senate and the House are meeting together at present as members hear presentations on subject areas, including education. Eventually the subcommittees will cease meeting jointly when the budget writing begins in earnest. This session, the State Senate will develop budget legislation and act upon it first and then send it to the House for consideration.

During the joint meeting of the Education Appropriations Subcommittee this week, Legislative Fiscal Staff presented briefings on the three areas in the Education budget: public schools, the NC Community College System and the UNC System. Feb. 14's briefing was packed with data about public schools and LEAs. The differentials for Master's prepared teachers and NBCT educators was a topic of significant questioning during the Feb. 14 meeting, not only about the costs but also about whether student performance improved as a result of teachers with those credentials. Materials from the Feb. 14 meeting can be seen [here](#).

Fiscal staff indicated that further information on performance pay and differentials for Master's prepared teachers and NBCT educators would be shared during an upcoming meeting.

To see information about the General Assembly including committee assignments and to look up your legislators, please visit www.ncleg.net.

What do you think?

If you have questions or concerns, please share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Contact us at penc@pencweb.org.

Submitted by Evelyn Hawthorne

For more information about the North Carolina General Assembly, [click here](#).

To identify and contact your legislator, [click here](#).

For information about specific issues, please contact PENC government relations consultant Evelyn Hawthorne at lobbyist@pencweb.org.