

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

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HOUSE BILL 89

Short Title: SEA-Tech CIHS/Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Davis.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Appropriations, Education, if favorable,
Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 19, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO EXPAND THE SOUTHEAST AREA TECHNICAL
HIGH SCHOOL IN NEW HANOVER COUNTY.

Whereas, in the fall of 2017, New Hanover County Schools opened Southeast Area
Technical High School (SEA-Tech), as a choice-based cooperative innovative high school
available to students in the Wilmington Metro region of North Carolina; and

Whereas, in partnership with Cape Fear Community College (CFCC), SEA-Tech
utilizes the cooperative innovative high school model to provide an early college experience to
empower students to be college- and career-ready with options to enter the workforce at an
advanced level or continue into a postsecondary training institution. Students at the school can
earn a traditional high school diploma while having no-cost access to career-based credentials
and certifications offered by CFCC; and

Whereas, the future master plan for the facility includes spaces to further support
many programs on-site, including:

- (1) A culinary arts classroom to allow students to apprentice from a trained chef.
- (2) A carpentry shop to allow students to develop hands-on skills for a career in residential construction.
- (3) A makerspace to allow students to develop other hands-on skills such as 3D printing, soldering, and sewing.
- (4) Public safety spaces to afford students the environment to learn emergency management training skills from trained emergency professionals.
- (5) Computer labs to train students in health-science medical coding, hospitality and tourism, and sports management.
- (6) A coffee bar to allow students to develop skills in entrepreneurship, by fostering planning and financial management, and implementing both production- and service-oriented skills.
- (7) A career center with on-site counselors to help guide students with their path to real-world employment; and

Whereas, in addition to offering on-site academies for their curriculum, the on-site
spaces are designed to further foster career development. Operable walls and mobile furniture
will allow maximum flexibility. Interactive state-of-the-art flat panel display screens will bring
technology to the forefront of learning in each core class; and



1 Whereas, in the fall of 2019, SEA-Tech will be relocating from the North Campus of
2 CFCC to a New Hanover County Schools–owned location that is currently being used as a
3 temporary elementary school one-half mile from the campus; and

4 Whereas, funding is needed to help SEA-Tech continue to grow to serve the
5 employment needs of the surrounding region; Now, therefore,

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
8 Public Instruction the sum of eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to
9 be allocated to New Hanover County Schools to build a facility to support the expansion of the
10 Southeast Area Technical High School's innovative curriculum in partnership with Cape Fear
11 Community College, which will support the growth and development of the Cape Fear region.

12 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.