

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025**

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**HOUSE BILL 807**

Short Title: Strong Public Schools for a Strong NC. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives von Haefen, Baker, Prather, and F. Jackson (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 8, 2025

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO RAISE SALARIES FOR TEACHERS, TO  
3 PROVIDE FUNDS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES, TO PROVIDE BREAKFAST  
4 AND LUNCH IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AT NO COST TO STUDENTS THROUGH AN  
5 ALLOCATION BASED ON SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITY EVALUATIONS, TO  
6 PROVIDE FOR A ONE-TO-ONE DEVICE REFRESH FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND  
7 TO REVISE THE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9  
10 **PART I. RAISE TEACHER SALARIES**

11 **SECTION 1.(a)** The following monthly teacher salary schedule shall apply for the  
12 2025-2026 fiscal year to licensed personnel of the public schools who are classified as teachers.  
13 The salary schedule is based on years of teaching experience.

14 **2025-2026 Teacher Monthly Salary Schedule**

15 <b>Years of Experience</b>	<b>"A" Teachers</b>
16 0	\$4,450
17 1	\$4,530
18 2	\$4,610
19 3	\$4,690
20 4	\$4,770
21 5	\$4,850
22 6	\$4,930
23 7	\$5,010
24 8	\$5,090
25 9	\$5,170
26 10	\$5,250
27 11	\$5,330
28 12	\$5,410
29 13	\$5,490
30 14	\$5,570
31 15-24	\$5,588
32 25+	\$5,795

33 **SECTION 1.(b)** Salary Supplements for Teachers Paid on This Salary Schedule. –



- 1 (1) Licensed teachers who have NBPTS certification shall receive a salary  
2 supplement each month of twelve percent (12%) of their monthly salary on  
3 the "A" salary schedule.
- 4 (2) Licensed teachers who are classified as "M" teachers shall receive a salary  
5 supplement each month of ten percent (10%) of their monthly salary on the  
6 "A" salary schedule.
- 7 (3) Licensed teachers with licensure based on academic preparation at the  
8 six-year degree level shall receive a salary supplement of one hundred  
9 twenty-six dollars (\$126.00) per month in addition to the supplement provided  
10 to them as "M" teachers.
- 11 (4) Licensed teachers with licensure based on academic preparation at the  
12 doctoral degree level shall receive a salary supplement of two hundred  
13 fifty-three dollars (\$253.00) per month in addition to the supplement provided  
14 to them as "M" teachers.
- 15 (5) Certified school nurses shall receive a salary supplement each month of ten  
16 percent (10%) of their monthly salary on the "A" salary schedule.
- 17 (6) School counselors who are licensed as counselors at the master's degree level  
18 or higher shall receive a salary supplement of one hundred dollars (\$100.00)  
19 per month.

20 **SECTION 1.(c)** For school psychologists, school speech pathologists who are  
21 licensed as speech pathologists at the master's degree level or higher, and school audiologists  
22 who are licensed as audiologists at the master's degree level or higher, the following shall apply:

- 23 (1) The first step of the salary schedule shall be equivalent to the sixth step of the  
24 "A" salary schedule.
- 25 (2) These employees shall receive the following salary supplements each month:  
26 a. Ten percent (10%) of their monthly salary, excluding the supplement  
27 provided pursuant to sub-subdivision b. of this subdivision.  
28 b. Five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- 29 (3) These employees are eligible to receive salary supplements equivalent to those  
30 of teachers for academic preparation at the six-year degree level or the  
31 doctoral degree level.
- 32 (4) The twenty-sixth step of the salary schedule shall be seven and one-half  
33 percent (7.5%) higher than the salary received by these same employees on  
34 the twenty-fifth step of the salary schedule.

35 **SECTION 1.(d)** Beginning with the 2014-2015 fiscal year, in lieu of providing  
36 annual longevity payments to teachers paid on the teacher salary schedule, the amounts of those  
37 longevity payments are included in the monthly amounts under the teacher salary schedule.

38 **SECTION 1.(e)** A teacher compensated in accordance with this salary schedule for  
39 the 2025-2026 school year shall receive an amount equal to the greater of the following:

- 40 (1) The applicable amount on the salary schedule for the applicable school year.
- 41 (2) For teachers who were eligible for longevity for the 2013-2014 school year,  
42 the sum of the following:
  - 43 a. The salary the teacher received in the 2013-2014 school year pursuant  
44 to Section 35.11 of S.L. 2013-360.
  - 45 b. The longevity that the teacher would have received under the longevity  
46 system in effect for the 2013-2014 school year provided in Section  
47 35.11 of S.L. 2013-360 based on the teacher's current years of service.
  - 48 c. The annual bonus provided in Section 9.1(e) of S.L. 2014-100.
- 49 (3) For teachers who were not eligible for longevity for the 2013-2014 school  
50 year, the sum of the salary and annual bonus the teacher received in the  
51 2014-2015 school year pursuant to Section 9.1 of S.L. 2014-100.

1           **SECTION 1.(f)** As used in this section, the term "teacher" shall also include  
2 instructional support personnel.

3           **SECTION 1.(g)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
4 Public Instruction for the 2025-2026 fiscal year the sum of four hundred six million three hundred  
5 thousand dollars (\$406,300,000) in recurring funds to implement the teacher raises provided in  
6 this section.

7  
8 **PART II. FUNDS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

9           **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-111.05 reads as rewritten:

10 **"§ 115C-111.05. Funding for children with disabilities.**

11           To the extent funds are made available for this purpose, the State Board shall allocate funds  
12 for children with disabilities to each local school administrative unit on a per child basis. Each  
13 local school administrative unit shall receive funds for the lesser of (i) all children who are  
14 identified as children with disabilities or (ii) thirteen percent (13%) of its allocated average daily  
15 membership in the local school administrative unit for the current school ~~year~~ year on the basis  
16 of the reported cost of the services provided."

17           **SECTION 2.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
18 Public Instruction the sum of eighty-nine million four hundred thousand dollars (\$89,400,000)  
19 in recurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and one hundred nine million two hundred  
20 thousand dollars (\$109,200,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to  
21 implement the plan for weighted funding for children with disabilities on the basis of the reported  
22 cost of services provided developed by the Department of Public Instruction pursuant to Section  
23 7.7 of S.L. 2023-134. The Department shall begin distributing funds for children with disabilities  
24 based on this model beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. The nonrecurring funds  
25 appropriated to the Department by this section shall not revert but shall remain available until the  
26 end of the 2027-2028 fiscal year.

27  
28 **PART III. PROVIDE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AT NO COST**  
29 **TO STUDENTS THROUGH AN ALLOCATION BASED ON SCHOOL FOOD**  
30 **AUTHORITY EVALUATIONS**

31           **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 115C-263 reads as rewritten:

32 **"§ 115C-263. School nutrition services.**

33           (a) As a part of the function of the public school system, ~~local boards of education public~~  
34 ~~school units shall have a school food authority to provide to the extent practicable school nutrition~~  
35 services in the schools under their jurisdiction. The school food authority shall offer students two  
36 meals per day, breakfast and lunch, at no cost to the student. All school nutrition services made  
37 available under this authority shall be provided in accordance with federal guidelines established  
38 by the Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

39           (b) ~~The~~ To the extent that funds are made available for the purpose, the State Board of  
40 Education shall allocate funds to school food authorities at public school units for the purpose of  
41 providing healthy nutrition services at no cost to students. In issuing the allocation, the Board  
42 shall do the following:

43           (1) Determine the amount to allocate to each school food authority based on an  
44 evaluation of the authority's nutrition services. The Board shall develop the  
45 method and criteria for the evaluation, which, at a minimum, shall account for  
46 the following:

47           a. The size of the schools served by the school food authority as  
48 determined by Average Daily Membership.

49           b. The number of students that are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch  
50 and the estimated receipts from the National School Lunch Program.

- 1           c.     The funds actually expended in the prior year, which may be waived  
 2                 if the school food authority was not in operation in the year prior.  
 3           d.     The extent to which the nutrition services promote health and wellness  
 4                 by providing food that is of high quality and nutrient content.  
 5           e.     The extent to which the school food authority uses locally sourced  
 6                 food and products.  
 7           f.     Any other information the Board deems relevant to the cost and  
 8                 operation of the nutrition services.

9           (2)    Ensure the funds are distributed on a fair and equitable basis.

10          (3)    Issue the allocation at the beginning of each fiscal year, except that the Board  
 11                 may reserve for future allocation a reasonable amount, not to exceed ten  
 12                 percent (10%) of the total funds available for providing nutrition services.

13          (c)    The State Board of Education may adopt rules regulating the provision of school  
 14                 nutrition that impose additional restrictions that are not inconsistent with the federal guidelines.

15          (d)    Funds allocated pursuant to this section shall supplement and not supplant funds from  
 16                 any other source provided for the same purpose."

17          **SECTION 3.(b)** G.S. 115C-264(a) reads as rewritten:

18          "(a)    Local boards of education operating school nutrition programs shall participate in the  
 19                 federal National School Lunch Program established by the federal government, and, if eligible,  
 20                 the Community Eligibility Provision Program. School nutrition programs shall be under the  
 21                 jurisdiction of the Division of School Nutrition of the Department of Public Instruction."

22          **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 115C-150.14 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

23          "(a1) A school governed by this Article shall provide school nutrition services in  
 24                 accordance with G.S. 115C-263 and G.S. 115C-264."

25          **SECTION 3.(d)** G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

26          "(p)    A charter school shall provide school nutrition services in accordance with  
 27                 G.S. 115C-263 and G.S. 115C-264."

28          **SECTION 3.(e)** G.S. 115C-238.72(b) reads as rewritten:

29          "(b)    ~~Food Nutrition Service.~~ – The local school administrative unit identified by resolution  
 30                 shall provide, to the extent practicable, school food provide school nutrition services to the  
 31                 regional school school in accordance with G.S. 115C-263 and G.S. 115C-264. For purposes of  
 32                 federal funding through the National School Lunch Program or other federally supported food  
 33                 nutrition service programs, the local school administrative unit identified by resolution shall be  
 34                 permitted to include eligible students enrolled in the regional school. Other participating units  
 35                 shall not include students enrolled in the regional school for purposes of federally supported food  
 36                 nutrition service programs."

37          **SECTION 3.(f)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(4)c. reads as rewritten:

- 38                 "3.    ~~Food Nutrition~~ services. – The laboratory school shall strive to ensure  
 39                         that one hundred percent (100%) muscadine grape juice is made  
 40                         available to students as a part of the school's nutrition program or  
 41                         through the operation of the school's vending facilities. Laboratory  
 42                         schools shall provide school nutrition services in accordance with  
 43                         G.S. 115C-263 and G.S. 115C-264. Upon request, the local school  
 44                         administrative unit in which the laboratory school is located shall  
 45                         administer the National School Lunch Program for the laboratory  
 46                         school in accordance with G.S. 115C-264.school."

47          **SECTION 3.(g)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
 48                 Public Instruction the sum of one hundred forty-four million dollars (\$144,000,000) in recurring  
 49                 funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to provide nutrition services to students in public school units  
 50                 at no cost to the students in accordance with this section. Should this appropriation not be

1 sufficient to fulfill the provisions of this section for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the State Board of  
2 Education may use funds appropriated to State Aid for Public Schools for this purpose.

3 **SECTION 3.(h)** The State Board of Education has authority to adopt temporary rules  
4 to enact the provisions of this section until such a time as permanent rules can be adopted.

5 **SECTION 3.(i)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2025, and applies beginning  
6 with the 2025-2026 school year.

#### 7 8 **PART IV. PROVIDE FOR A ONE-TO-ONE DEVICE REFRESH**

9 **SECTION 4.(a)** Part 3A of Article 8 of Chapter 115C is amended by adding a new  
10 section to read:

##### 11 **"§ 115C-102.10. Device refresh and replacement program.**

12 (a) The State Board of Education shall adopt by rule standards for a one-to-one electronic  
13 device refresh and replacement program. The purpose of this program shall be to provide schools  
14 funds to update or replace electronic devices used directly by students and teachers for  
15 instruction. At a minimum, the standards shall include:

16 (1) A statewide schedule for routine replacement of electronic devices, based on  
17 the average operating lifecycle of the devices most commonly used.

18 (2) A description of the lack or impairment of functionality a device must have in  
19 order to be eligible for replacement, including how functionality will be  
20 verified.

21 (3) Instructions on how to dispose of devices no longer in use, including whether  
22 those devices should be sold or recycled.

23 (b) Local school administrative units shall administer the one-to-one electronic device  
24 refresh and replacement program in accordance with the standards set by the State Board."

25 **SECTION 4.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
26 Public Instruction the sum of one hundred fifty-two million six hundred twenty thousand dollars  
27 (\$152,620,000) in recurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the Department to establish  
28 the one-to-one device refresh program, as enacted by this act.

#### 29 30 **PART V. REVISE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

31 **SECTION 5.(a)** Beginning with the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the State Education  
32 Assistance Authority shall not award any scholarship grant funds under Part 2A of Article 39 of  
33 Chapter 115C of the General Statutes to new persons who did not receive scholarship grant funds  
34 in the prior school year. It is the intent of the General Assembly to eliminate the program for  
35 awarding scholarship grants under Part 2A of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes  
36 beginning in the 2036-2037 school year or once all current recipients become ineligible for the  
37 receipt of scholarship grants.

38 **SECTION 5.(b)** G.S. 115C-562.1 reads as rewritten:

##### 39 **"§ 115C-562.1. Definitions.**

40 The following definitions apply in this Part:

41 ...

42 (3a) Eligible student. – A student residing in North Carolina who has not yet  
43 received a high school diploma and who meets all of the following  
44 requirements:

45 a. Is eligible to attend a North Carolina public school pursuant to Article  
46 25 of this Chapter. A child who is the age of 4 on or before April 16 is  
47 eligible to attend the following school year if the principal, or  
48 equivalent, of the school in which the child seeks to enroll finds that  
49 the student meets the requirements established by the Authority  
50 pursuant to G.S. 115C-562.2(d) and those findings are submitted to the  
51 Authority.

- 1           b.       Has not been enrolled in a postsecondary institution as a full-time  
2                    student taking at least 12 hours of academic credit.  
3           c.       Has not been placed in a nonpublic school or facility by a public  
4                    agency at public expense.  
5           d.       Received a scholarship grant for the school year prior to the school  
6                    year for which the student is applying.  
7           e.       Resides in a household with an income level between the amount  
8                    required for the student to qualify for the federal free or reduced-price  
9                    lunch program and not in excess of two hundred percent (200%) of  
10                   that amount.

11           ...."

12           **SECTION 5.(c)** G.S. 115C-562.2 reads as rewritten:

13   "**§ 115C-562.2. Scholarship grants.**

14       (a)       The Authority shall make available no later than February 1 annually applications to  
15       eligible students for the award of scholarship grants to attend any nonpublic school on a full- or  
16       part-time basis. Information about scholarship grants and the application process shall be made  
17       available on the Authority's ~~Web site.~~website. Beginning March 15, the Authority shall begin  
18       awarding scholarship grants to students who have applied by ~~March 1 in the following~~  
19       ~~order:~~March 1.

- 20           (1)       ~~Eligible students who received a scholarship grant for the school year prior to~~  
21                    ~~the school year for which the students are applying.~~  
22           (2)       ~~Eligible students qualifying for a scholarship grant in the amount provided~~  
23                    ~~under subdivision (1) of subsection (b2) of this section.~~  
24           (3)       ~~Eligible students qualifying for a scholarship grant in the amount provided~~  
25                    ~~under subdivision (2) of subsection (b2) of this section.~~  
26           (4)       ~~Eligible students qualifying for a scholarship grant in the amount provided~~  
27                    ~~under subdivision (3) of subsection (b2) of this section.~~  
28           (5)       ~~All other students.~~

29       ...

30       (b2)       Scholarship grants shall be awarded to eligible students as follows:

- 31           (1)       For students residing in households with an income level not in excess of the  
32                    amount required for the student to qualify for the federal free or reduced-price  
33                    lunch program, per year per eligible student, an amount of up to one hundred  
34                    percent (100%) of the average State per pupil allocation for average daily  
35                    membership in the prior fiscal year.  
36           (2)       For students residing in households with an income level between the amount  
37                    required for the student to qualify for the federal free or reduced-price lunch  
38                    program and not in excess of two hundred percent (200%) of that amount, per  
39                    year per eligible student, an amount of up to ninety percent (90%) of the  
40                    average State per pupil allocation for average daily membership in the prior  
41                    fiscal year.  
42           (3)       ~~For students residing in households with an income level of between two~~  
43                    ~~hundred percent (200%) of the amount required for the student to qualify for~~  
44                    ~~the federal free or reduced-price lunch program and not in excess of four~~  
45                    ~~hundred fifty percent (450%) of that amount, per year per eligible student, an~~  
46                    ~~amount of up to sixty percent (60%) of the average State per pupil allocation~~  
47                    ~~for average daily membership in the prior fiscal year.~~  
48           (4)       ~~For all students, per year per eligible student, an amount of up to forty five~~  
49                    ~~percent (45%) of the average State per pupil allocation for average daily~~  
50                    ~~membership in the prior fiscal year, unless the student qualifies for a higher~~  
51                    ~~amount under this subsection.~~

(b3) Tuition and fees for a nonpublic school may include tuition and fees for books, transportation, equipment, or other items required by the nonpublic school.

(b4) No scholarship grant shall exceed, per year per eligible student, an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the average State per pupil allocation for average daily membership in the prior fiscal year, and no scholarship grant shall exceed the required tuition and fees for the nonpublic school the eligible student will attend.

(b5) In addition to the amount of the scholarship grant, for any student receiving a scholarship grant in grades three, eight, or 11, the Authority shall provide to the nonpublic school an amount equal to the cost of the nationally standardized test required to be administered as provided in G.S. 115C-562.5.

...."

**SECTION 5.(d)** G.S. 115C-562.8 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 115C-562.8. The Opportunity Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve.**

...

(b) ~~The General Assembly finds that, due to the critical need in this State to provide opportunity for school choice for North Carolina students, it is imperative that the State provide an increase of funds for 15 years to the Opportunity Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve. Therefore, there~~ There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Reserve the following amounts for each fiscal year to be used for the purposes set forth in this section:

Fiscal Year	Appropriation
...	
2027-2028	\$700,000,000\$193,664,793
2028-2029	\$725,000,000\$168,730,451
2029-2030	\$750,000,000\$147,006,405
2030-2031	\$775,000,000\$128,079,330
2031-2032	\$800,000,000\$111,589,117
<u>2032-2033</u>	<u>\$97,222,018</u>
<u>2033-2034</u>	<u>\$84,704,683</u>
<u>2034-2035</u>	<u>\$73,798,955</u>
<u>2035-2036</u>	<u>\$64,297,340</u>

For the ~~2032-2033-2036-2037~~ fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, ~~there is appropriated from the General Fund to the Reserve the sum of eight hundred twenty five million dollars (\$825,000,000) to be used for the purposes set forth in this section. no funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to the Reserve, and it is the intention of the General Assembly to sunset this award of scholarship funds pursuant to this Part.~~ When developing the base budget, as defined by G.S. 143C-1-1, for each fiscal year specified in this ~~subsection, subsection until the 2036-2037~~ fiscal year, the Director of the Budget shall include the appropriated amount specified in this subsection for that fiscal year.

...."

**SECTION 5.(e)** Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, funds appropriated for the award of opportunity scholarship grants pursuant to Part 2A of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes are reduced as follows:

- (1) Of the recurring funds appropriated to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina for the opportunity scholarship program pursuant to S.L. 2021-180, by the sum of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- (2) Of the funds appropriated to the Opportunity Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and allocated from the Reserve for the award of scholarship grants in the 2025-2026 fiscal year, by the sum of two hundred seventy-seven million one hundred sixty-five thousand four hundred

- 1 fifty-nine dollars (\$277,165,459) in nonrecurring funds for the 2025-2026
- 2 fiscal year.
- 3 (3) Of the funds appropriated to the Opportunity Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve,
- 4 as follows:
- 5 a. By the sum of three hundred sixty-nine million eight hundred
- 6 sixty-seven thousand nine hundred six dollars (\$369,867,906) in
- 7 recurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- 8 b. By the sum of an additional eighty-two million eight hundred
- 9 forty-eight thousand two hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$82,848,257) in
- 10 recurring funds for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

11 **SECTION 5.(f)** This section applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

12  
13 **PART VI. EFFECTIVE DATE**

14 **SECTION 6.** Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective July 1, 2025.