

OCS

ONSLOW
COUNTY
SCHOOLS



NC General Assembly

Joint Legislative Task Force

on

Education Finance Reform

Presented by Jeff Hollamon, Chief Financial Officer
Onslow County Schools

January 31, 2018

200 Broadhurst Road
Jacksonville, NC 28540
onslow.k12.nc.us
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Onslow County Schools

- 12th largest school district
- 26,000+ students with average growth of over 300 per year
- Schools – 20 elementary, 8 middle, 8 high
- Approximately 40% of students are federally connected
- Onslow County is proud to serve as the home of:
 - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune
 - Marine Corps Air Station New River

Existing Funding System - Likes

- Position Allotments
 - Allow every district to hire most qualified candidate available
 - Teachers, Instructional Support Personnel, Assistant Principals, Principals
 - Provide funding to cover State mandated salaries and benefits
 - Ensure stability in planning staffing levels
- Flexibility
 - Maximizes resources for best student outcomes

Existing Funding System - Likes

- Current resource allocation approach
 - Attempts to address adequacy in funding of common educational needs through a series of funding formulas to reflect costs of services
 - Utilizes a variety of formulas
 - Base allotments
 - Student-based populations
 - District characteristics
 - Programs

Existing Funding System - Dislikes

- Allotment cap & lack of differentiation for Children with Special Needs
 - Results in lack of State funding necessary to provide optimal level of service
- Calculation changes by BEA of per capita income data for Low Wealth
 - Negatively effects heavily impacted military communities
- Funding formulas are no longer included as continuation budget items
 - Eliminates automatic adjustments for ADM growth
 - Reduces certainty in planning process
- Reduction in flexibility
 - Restricts opportunity to address district/school specific student needs

Existing Funding System - Recommendations

- Modify current funding formulas to address highlighted issues in need of improvement
- Utilize professional judgement from educators and administrators in developing goals for sufficient resources
 - Enable every school district to provide each student with opportunities for successful career and college readiness
- Update existing resource allocation formulas to address emerging needs and adequacy of funding on a regular ongoing basis
 - Engage experts to estimate costs of adequate funding
- Continue to allow Superintendents and Finance Officers to serve as a resource in your endeavor to best meet the needs of the State's students

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