

## Governor's Budget Includes Teacher Raises

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March 11, 2015 e-Newsletter: Local, State, and National Education News

# MeckEd



Dear Steve,

Last week, Gov. Pat McCrory unveiled his biennial budget proposal, which calls for more money for PreK-12 education, including some for teacher raises. While we are still very early in the budgeting process, the governor's proposal does include several strong provisions upon which the General Assembly can build.

Gov. McCrory calls for spending money to raise teacher salaries, particularly for beginning teachers, a promise he made a year ago. About 35 percent of North Carolina teachers would see a raise under the governor's budget. In a tight budget this is a step in the right direction, especially on top of the raises lawmakers approved a year ago. But our state needs to continue to work toward the national average teacher salary and value teachers, at all levels of their careers.

His plan also includes full funding for the projected growth in public school students over the next two school years. Previously, enrollment growth was automatically included in the continuation budget, essentially "baked-in" to the process before it began. Now, funding for enrollment growth is part of the expansion budget, meaning lawmakers can choose to fund it, but aren't bound to do so as in previous budgets.

MeckEd is troubled by this change, and we are pleased that the governor's budget fully funds enrollment growth. His proposal includes more than \$100 million to pay for 678 new teaching positions next school year, necessitated by a projected increase of 17,333 students in our public school classrooms. Properly funding this growth will keep qualified educators in our classrooms, and will help keep class size down. We encourage the House and Senate to fully fund enrollment growth in their budgets when the time comes.

If you haven't, take a look at MeckEd's full [2015 Public Policy Agenda](#) for a list of priorities during this year's legislative session, including teacher pay and enrollment growth funding.

Thank you for supporting our schools.

Sincerely,  
Bill

### McCrory's Budget Calls for Some Teacher Raises



### In this week's e-Newsletter:

[McCrory Unveils Budget Proposal](#)

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[Governor's Budget Funds Enrollment Gro](#)

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About 35 percent of North Carolina teachers would receive a raise under Gov. Pat McCrory's [budget](#), according to an [analysis](#) from the N.C. Department of Public Instruction. The budget, which McCrory unveiled last week, called for increasing the starting salary for beginning teachers to \$35,000, fulfilling a promise McCrory made last year. Other teachers would receive raises to move up on the salary schedule adopted last year. McCrory's budget spends an additional \$235 million on public education.

-Office of the Governor, *The News & Observer*, WRAL-TV

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### Join MeckEd for 4th Annual Teachers of Excellence



Make plans now to join MeckEd for our fourth annual Teachers of Excellence Awards! This year's event will be held on Wednesday, May 20, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Hilton Charlotte Center City. MeckEd values the profession of teaching and seeks to incite similar enthusiasm across our community. Through Teachers of Excellence, MeckEd seeks to engage the community as we honor and thank exceptional educators in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Tickets are on sale now. Click the link below to learn how you can support these 20 outstanding educators!

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### McCrory's Budget Includes Enrollment Growth Funding



The budget Gov. Pat McCrory introduced last week included funding for enrollment growth, something that, for the first time since the 1930s, was not guaranteed from the start. McCrory's budget calls for more than \$100 million in 2015-16 to pay for 678 new teacher positions in the upcoming school year. Those teachers are necessary because of an increase in what's known as the "average daily membership" in North Carolina public schools. McCrory's budget projects an increase of 17,333 students for the 2015-16 school year.

-EducationNC

*This article is from EducationNC, a nonpartisan news source inviting you to participate in a conversation about public schools, which launched on Monday. EdNC.org is an online platform providing data, research, news, information, and analysis about the major trends, issues, and challenges facing our schools statewide. MeckEd's Adam Rhew will be writing a weekly column for EducationNC about K-12 issues in Mecklenburg County.*

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### Tate Finishes 12-Year Term on State Board

### Tate Finishes 12-Year Term on State School Board

#### Education Briefs

### 2014 Annual Community Breakfast Keynote Speaker: Gov. Jim Hunt



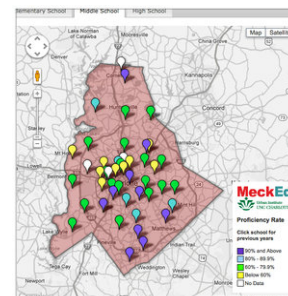
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### 2014 Teachers of Excellence Awards

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[View Interactive Data Maps of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools](#)

#### Education Briefs

**Scholarships Available for Educators**  
Northeastern University Charlotte offers \$10,000 scholarships to CMS educators who are committed to transforming education in underserved areas. The [MacFarland Scholarship](#) supports educators seeking a Master of Education degree from Northeastern's Charlotte campus.

#### Get Engaged

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John Tate, who has represented our area on the State Board of Education for more than a decade, attended his final meeting last week. In his departing comments, Tate encouraged the board members to "remain committed to serving the best interests of children" throughout North Carolina.

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Thank you for your support of MeckEd as we champion for excellent public schools for all children in Charlotte-Meckler Schools.

Bill Anderson, Ed. D. | Executive Director

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