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SPECIAL EDITION: North Carolina Educators in Action

Representative Nasif Majeed [majeedla@ncleg.net]

Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2019 6:39 PM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)

PEACE. North Carolina Association of Educators Deems May 1st as a Day of Action

That meant that thousands of public school employees from all across our state came here to the legislature to push lawmakers to address their five key legislative issues.

1. **Provide enough school librarians, psychologists, social workers, counselors, nurses, and other health professionals to meet national standards**
2. **Provide a \$15 minimum wage for all school personnel, 5% raise for all support staff, teachers, admins, and a 5% cost of living adjustment for retirees**
3. **Expand Medicaid to improve the health of our students and families**
4. **Reinstate state retiree health benefits eliminated by the General Assembly in 2017**
5. **Restore advanced degree compensation stripped by the General Assembly in 2013**

Overview

- North Carolina lags behind the rest of the country with public school investments.
- Year after year our leaders have prioritized tax cuts for wealthy and out-of-state corporations over public schools.
- Every student in North Carolina deserves access to a quality education.
- Budgets are about priorities. If we prioritize schools, we can find the money to invest.
- Teachers and parents know what is going on in our schools.
- As the state has failed to do its part, local taxpayers have had to step in to fill part of the shortfalls. Also, individual school fundraising demands increase every year.
- Good schools lead to more jobs and better jobs in our communities.
- Money invested in public schools stays in our communities as school employees live locally and spend that money locally.

Per Pupil Spending Facts

- Budget leaders boast about increases in one part of the school while quietly cutting somewhere else. Just look at the proposal this year of giving every teacher \$200 to spend on supplies by taking that money from the school's overall supply budget.
- What matters is how much we are investing per student.
- NC: \$9,528 per student. US: \$11,934 per student. 2017/2018 school year numbers.
- We are 39th in the country in per pupil investment.
- North Carolina used to do much better. Adjusted for inflation, per pupil investment

FELL from \$10,483 to \$9,528 from school year 2007/2008 to school year 2017/2018.

Teacher Compensation and Respect

- Governor Cooper's budget proposes \$569 million for pay increases – an average 9.1% increase over two years, with no teacher getting less than 3% both years.
- Eliminates salary plateaus for experienced teachers.
- Restores master's pay.
- Eliminates requirement that teachers pay \$50 a day for subs when using personal leave.
- Restore funds to pay for National Board certification.

Early Child Pre-K Investments

- Governor Cooper's budget funds 3,200 additional pre-k slots.
- 10% increase in Smart Start.

School Resources

- Governor Cooper's budget increases textbooks and digital resources by \$29 million.
- \$40 million for schools to hire nurses, counselors, psychologists, and social workers.

Mecklenburg County was well represented and I was proud to stand along side so many of you that made the trip here to Raleigh. I pledge to do what I can to move legislation forward that will help give you what you need and deserve as educators. Unfortunately, since I am in the minority party much of what I say falls on deaf ears, however I will still say it and fight for it.

I encourage you to also keep fighting! Continue to write your legislators, both in the House and Senate, to let them know that educators deserve to be treated with much more respect than they are currently seeing.



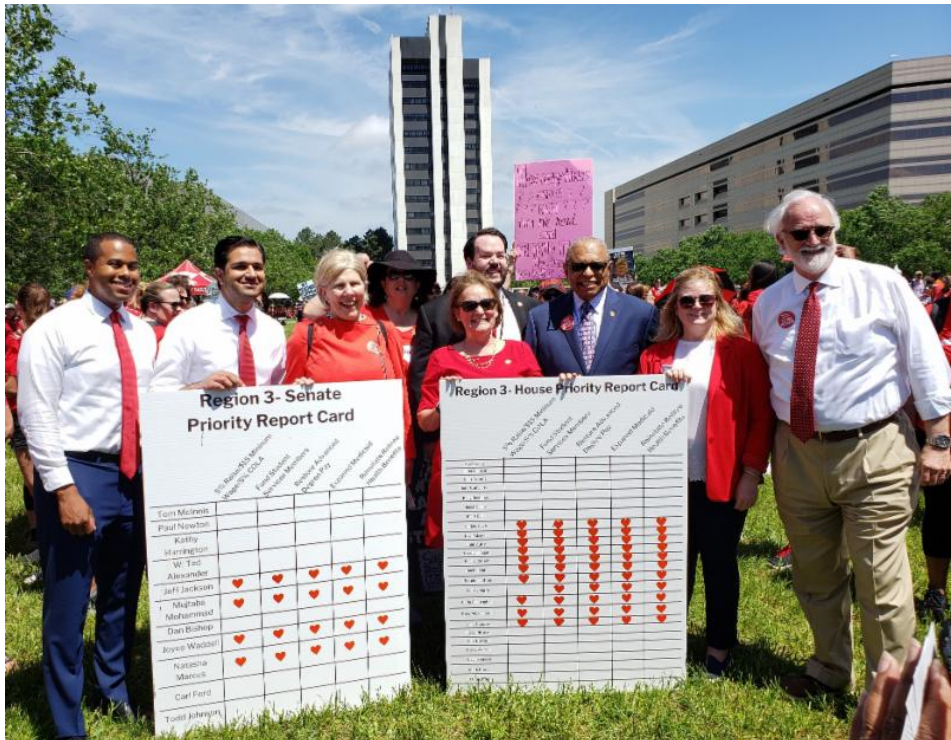






Several members of the Mecklenburg County Delegation were able to speak to a group of constituents from Charlotte.

(Left to Right) Rep. Chaz Beasley, Sen. Mujtaba Mohammed, Rep. Becky Carney, Rep. Mary Belk, Rep. Wesley Harris, Rep. Nasif Majeed, Rep. Christy Clark, Rep. John Autry









A few more DEMOCRATS showing SUPPORT FOR EDUCATORS

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