



Joint Meeting DPS Finance/Budget Update

**Dr. Anthony Lewis
Superintendent**

**Jeremy Teetor
Chief Finance Officer**

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Continuation

CAPITOL REPORT

NC lawmakers still without budget deal three weeks into short session

by: [Shabnam Danesh](#)

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NC lawmakers nearing deal on state-employee raises, clearing key budget hurdle, sources tell WRAL

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Posted 7 minutes ago

Early last week, leaders of the House and Senate were in agreement on raises of about 3% for most state employees and about 8% average increases for teachers, plus possible bonuses for teachers and other state employees based on experience, WRAL has learned. The chambers were also said to be in agreement on other funding levels for certain retirement and healthcare benefits.

Negotiations are ongoing, the people told WRAL, and nothing has been finalized. Multiple people cautioned that the details could change as talks continue and they warned that the deal on salaries could still fall apart entirely. But they were encouraged by the direction of the negotiations.

Compensation & Benefits

Planning for 5% increase for certified and classified employees	\$4,427,308
Planning for retirement contribution rate to increase from 24.67% to 25.67%	\$956,448
Planning for employer health insurance match to increase from \$8,500 to \$9,100	\$772,987
Subtotal	\$6,156,743



Summary of Continuation

Salaries & Benefits Increase	\$6,156,743
Utilities Increases	\$1,171,670
Insurance Increases	\$737,579
Subtotal	\$8,065,992
Required Charter School Increase	\$2,833,997
Total	\$10,899,989



Current Expense Expansion



Classified Pay

- Request reflects desire to increase DPS minimum wage from \$17.15 per hour to \$19.22 per hour to align with Durham County Government Minimum wage
 - 12.08% increase
- Total Cost to raise the minimum wage to \$19.22 and roll this up through salary schedules is \$13,288,000
- Continuation Budget assumptions already includes \$2,725,126
- Additional \$10,562,874 needed beyond continuation
- Came through Meet & Confer process and public hearings as top priority



Transportation Safety Assistant Supplement-\$100 per month

- Came through the meet and confer process as a priority
- Requested \$200 per month but administration lowered request to \$100 per month to differentiate from bus drivers
- Cost of \$86,658 assumes peak level of safety assistant staffing at 63 employees



Occupational & Physical Therapist salary scale reclassifications

- Significant feedback concerning degree of vacancies and turnover in this space
- Critical to the health and safety of our students
- Developed a scale that models most attractive public school system model in the state (Charlotte-Mecklenburg)
 - Also competitive with the UNC Health System
- **Total Cost \$302,596**
 - \$269,730 needed for Occupational & Physical Therapists
 - \$ 32,866 needed for Occupational Therapy Assistants



Charter Share of Expansion

- Funding needed to sure up for Charter School share of expansion request = \$3,848,010



Capital Outlay



Capital Outlay Requests

- Continue current investment of \$5,000,000 for ongoing facility needs
- Funding of \$2,823,488 to support debt service to finance replacement/refresh of:
 - 17,173 Chromebooks (reduced from request of 25,000 and addresses 6-12)
 - 1,786 BrightLink panels that are 13 years old
- Total Capital Outlay request of \$7,823,488

Local Funding Trend

Fiscal Year	Local Appropriation	Capital Outlay Appropriation
2020-2021	\$151,199,638	\$3,370,000
2021-2022	\$159,698,487	\$6,000,000
2022-2023	\$170,643,487	\$6,000,000
2023-2024	\$181,443,487	\$6,000,000
2024-2025	\$206,093,192	\$8,000,000
2025-2026	\$219,020,772	\$5,000,000

Request to County Manager

Fiscal Year	Current Expense	Capital Outlay
2025-2026 Received	\$219,020,772	\$5,000,000
2026-2027 Request	\$244,720,899	\$7,823,488
Increase Requested	\$25,700,127	\$2,823,488



Questions?