

## MINUTES – MAY 3, 2021

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 3, 2021 at the Historic Court House.

Members present: David J. Owen, Chairman, Jeremiah Jefferies, Vice Chairman, William E. Carter, John D. Dickerson, Nathaniel Hall, Rick McVey, Steve Oestreicher. Also, present: Bryan Miller, County Manager, Brian Ferrell, County Attorney, Matthew Hoagland, County Planner. Ashley K Powell, Interim Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

### WELCOME MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Owen welcomed everyone to the May 3, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Commissioners and all the guests in the attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### RIVER STREET UPDATE

Mr. Miller opened the floor to Bill Shillito. Mr. Shillito stated that he is with River Street Technologies and that the original recipient of the grant were not able to meet the requirements of the grant and that River Street was able to meet all the requirements. The grant is for two years which doesn't start until the project start date and the main reason that a start date hasn't been chosen is because there is a chance that there could possibly be more funds available from the State. Once a start date is in place, they will release a time line and give the Board monthly updates. Commissioner Hall questioned what is the amount of the grant and what are the terms of the grant. Mr. Shillito stated he would send Mr. Miller the current updated amount he didn't currently have it and the three main terms are the number of houses, the dollar amount, and time limit. Commissioner Hall questioned would River Street collaborate with other companies. Mr. Shillito replied yes.

### BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

Chairman Owen called to order the recessed meeting of the Board of Equalization and Review.

Interim Clerk to the Board, Mrs. Powell swore in Commissioner Jefferies.

Mr. Bernard stated that he had not received any more appeals and that the two appeals that was received would be heard July 1.

Commissioner Hall questioned Mr. Ferrell if he would need to excuse himself from the hearing because, one of the properties was his. Mr. Ferrell replied yes.

Commissioner Jefferies made a motion to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review, seconded by Commissioner McVey. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING-UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS TO  
ARTICLES 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10

Mr. Hoagland gave a brief overview of the proposed changes then read a public comment that he received.

Children's Exposure to Environmental Toxins

Dear Caswell County Commissioners: What is your duty to protect the health and safety of citizens? Please keep in mind: "The physical environment in which children live, including the air they breathe and the water they drink, has a profound influence on their development."

~ Dorothy L. McLeod U.S. Constitution First Amendment Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Thank you, Anita Foust, 2501 Hughes Mill Road

Chairman Owen stated that the Public Hearing will remain open for 24 hours in order to receive additional public comments.

Commissioner McVey made a motion to go out of the public hearing, unified development ordinance amendments to articles 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

My name is John Claggett and I reside at 108 Jaye Lane, Providence, NC. I'm requesting that my statement be recorded verbatim. I'd like to establish that I'm not speaking on behalf of the Caswell County Board of Adjustment of which I am a member. Second, I'd like to establish that

the topic of my statement hasn't anything to do with funding and everything to do with unilateral disregard for appointments made by the Caswell Board of County Commissioners. I watched you appoint the Board of Adjustment on January 4<sup>th</sup> with no discussion of compensation. The appointed Board of Adjustment then attended your required training January 29<sup>th</sup>. I inquired if the Board of Adjustment would be a compensated Board on March 9<sup>th</sup> and was told that the Board of Adjustment would be notified, we weren't. On April 5<sup>th</sup> I watched this Board approve term limits for the Board of Adjustment with no discussion of compensation. On April 6<sup>th</sup>, the day after term limits were approved, I inquired publicly to the Chairman as to whether or not our Board would be compensated. This question was deferred to the County Planner/UDO Administrator by the Chairman, and have heard nothing. I would love to provide minutes for illustration but unfortunately the Board of Adjustment hasn't seen any minutes since its inception, however we've been told there are minutes. I again inquired about compensation April 30<sup>th</sup>, to which the County Manager stated that compensation for the Board of Adjustment isn't addressed in "the ordinance". I can only assume that what used to be called the budget is now called "the ordinance". The quasi-judicial Planning Board is compensated and is regulated by the Caswell Unified Development Ordinance. The quasi-judicial Board of Adjustment is not compensated and regulated by the very same Unified Development Ordinance. Is the UDO "the ordinance" being referred to? I certainly hope not as I can't find anything referring to compensation for either of the quasi-judicial boards. So, if it's the budget why is it now called "the ordinance"? No need to answer that, as I'm pretty sure I know why. Other county boards with Commissioner appointments are compensated, such as, the Health Board, Social Services Board, ABC Board etc. and as previously mentioned the Planning Board. Why then can Commissioners appoint members, approve those members term limits but not address a simple yes or no question such as "WILL THE CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT BE COMPENSATED"? It's not that difficult gentlemen, unless this is the first time all of you are hearing about it. Is it? I would think that our Commissioners would be serious about the new Caswell County Board of Adjustment with all of the concern and expense regarding the required training. Gentlemen, we're entering the month of May. Will the Caswell County Board of Adjustment be compensated, yes, or no?

Robert Simon, 145 Rice Road, Reidsville, NC, 27320

Thank you, Mr. Miller, for responding to my April 27, 2021 letter about Caswell Broadband. I want the Caswell Board of Commissioners to know that I remain deeply disappointed in the continuing lack of Broadband in Caswell. In October 2019 I assisted Commissioner Steve Oestreich of District 5 at a meeting at The Ruritan to try to get Broadband moving in Caswell. I passed out 300 notices for this meeting and more than 100 people attended. The Open Broadband Group from Charlotte that appeared on 10/29/19 soon disappeared. PEMC-Riverside was introduced on 10/29/19 as the way to go for Caswell Broadband, but nothing has happened in Caswell with the Riverside-PEMC program. Despite a reported grant of \$1,541 million the PEMC-Riverside Program has provided Caswell with no Broadband in District 5. At the present time Spectrum has laid cable on Cherry Grove Road and has hooked up some residents and businesses on Cherry Grove. Spectrum has refused to hook me up on Rice Road less than 1000 feet away from Cherry Grove. Spectrum said I would need to pay more than \$6,500 to have them lay their cable along Rice Road. Why did you NOT mention Spectrum in your response to me? I am limping

along with a system to pick up an ATT internet signal from Route 87 via ATT towers in Reidsville and Burlington. I have put up my own roof aerial and had an Internet expert direct the ATT signal to my antennae to get to use the Internet signal from 12 midnight to 0500 on some days. I must go to the Reidsville Library, McDonalds or other locations to use their WIFI. The recent WIFI set up at the PEMC Caswell office and The Ruritan is poor. I cannot get my cell phone to work at my location and must drive several miles away before my cell phone works (this includes ATT, Verizon, iPhone, Sprint and other I have tried). Caswell District 5 remains out of touch with the world of internet.

Sincerely

Robert K. Simon

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Cora Walters and I live at 3462 Culver Blanch, North Carolina 27212.

I was born in this county and for the most part of my 81 years it has been home. I am writing to you regarding the proposed sale of our Home Health Agency. As a matter of background, I am the caregiver for my immediate family, and before our Home Health Agency passes into history, I would like to share with you the important role this agency has in my life, and the wonderful care the staff has given to my family. Here are a few examples: Often it is necessary for the doctor to discharge from the hospital with an order for Home Health Care. My entire family has comfort knowing that a nurse would be checking on our loved one. There have been times during the exam she would detect serious medical issues which required another hospital stay. And if known I am sure a life has been saved because she came by. Currently, we have this help and when the Physical Therapist was needed twice a week this was a tremendous help. It would have been very difficult to go to an outside facility. Also, to have a home health technician help with personal grooming when you are recovering from a sickness is truly a big benefit. Recently, I was amazed to see the staff (after working all day) volunteering to help out at the Senior Center during the COVID vaccination period. Caswell County has an asset of dedicated and loyal people that stand to be unemployed if the sale goes forward. The county as a whole will feel the impact of losing this valuable and essential service. I truly hope you can find a way to keep the agency operating. Thank you for your time and please consider the good and let it out weigh the bad. Respectfully,  
Cora Walters

### RECOGNITIONS

There were no recognitions.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Jefferies made a motion to approve the May 3, 2021 agenda, seconded by Commissioner McVey. The motion carried unanimously.

#### APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of April 19, 2021 Regular Board Minutes
2. Approval of April 26, 2021 Special Board Minutes

There were no amendments to the April 19, 2021 Regular Board Minutes, or the April 26, 2021 Special Board Minutes. Chairman Owen stated that the minutes stand approved.

#### DISCUSSION FOR MAY 10, 2021 PUBLIC HEARING

After a brief discussion the Board kept the May 10, 2021 Public Hearing.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Carter made a motion to enter closed session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(6), seconded by Chairman Owen. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner McVey made a motion to go out of closed session, seconded by Commissioner Oestreich. The motion carried unanimously.

#### RECESS

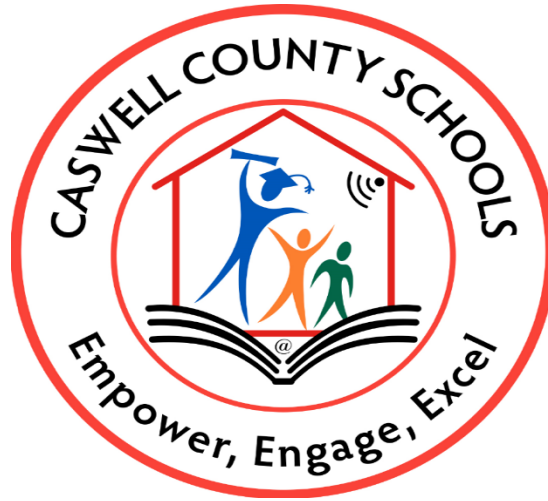
The Board took a brief recess.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET PRESENTATION

The Board met with the Board of Education at CoSquare at 11:00 a.m. Members Present: Dr. Carter, Superintendent, Mr. Terrell, Assistant Superintendent, Amy Chandler, Finance Director, Wayne Owen, Chairman, Gladys Garland, Vice-Chairman, Donna Hudson, Mel Battle, Vennie Beggarly, Trudy Blackwell, Tracy Stanley, Connie Kimrey, Jennifer Hammock, Finance Director, and Melissa Miller, Deputy Finance Director.

Chairman Owen opened the meeting. Dr. Carter gave a brief presentation.

# **Caswell County Board of Education**



## **County Appropriation Funding Request Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

***FINAL APRIL 15, 2021***

## CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET REQUEST MESSAGE

### 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR

To the Members of the Caswell County Board of County Commissioners:

As we embark on planning for another school year, we want to thank the Commissioners for their continued support of our district and students. Our 2021-2022 budget proposal this year is a needs-only based request to maintain all current instructional and operational programs at current levels along with two expansion items to offer much needed support for our students and staff. At the time of development of this request, the Caswell County Board of Education has not received the State planning allotment for the upcoming school year. In addition, we have not received any information to inform planning for federal allocations in the 2021-2022 school year. As a result, planning for federal and state funding are best guess estimates at this time and are subject to change once the state and federal legislative actions are taken. The Board of Education continues to work through aligning its priorities for the 2021-2022 school year with all available resources.

### LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND BUDGET REQUEST - \$3,123,000

The Local Current Expense Fund is the primary operating fund of the Caswell County Board of Education. These funds are used to **supplement**, not supplant, the State Public School Fund revenues. In an effort to continue our current level of educational and operational services, we respectfully request approximately a 17% increase over the current appropriation of \$1,150 per pupil funding to an appropriation of \$1,344 per pupil funding, resulting in an appropriation of \$3,123,000 for the 2021-2022 school year based on projected Average Daily Membership (ADM) provided by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) of 2,324. (A chart of estimated expenses is included on page 14). As a result, we will maintain our current service model to students and provide much needed support for our students and staff. While we recognize the economic difficulties facing small districts like ours, we also understand the need to improve our school system as an asset for long-term economic development.

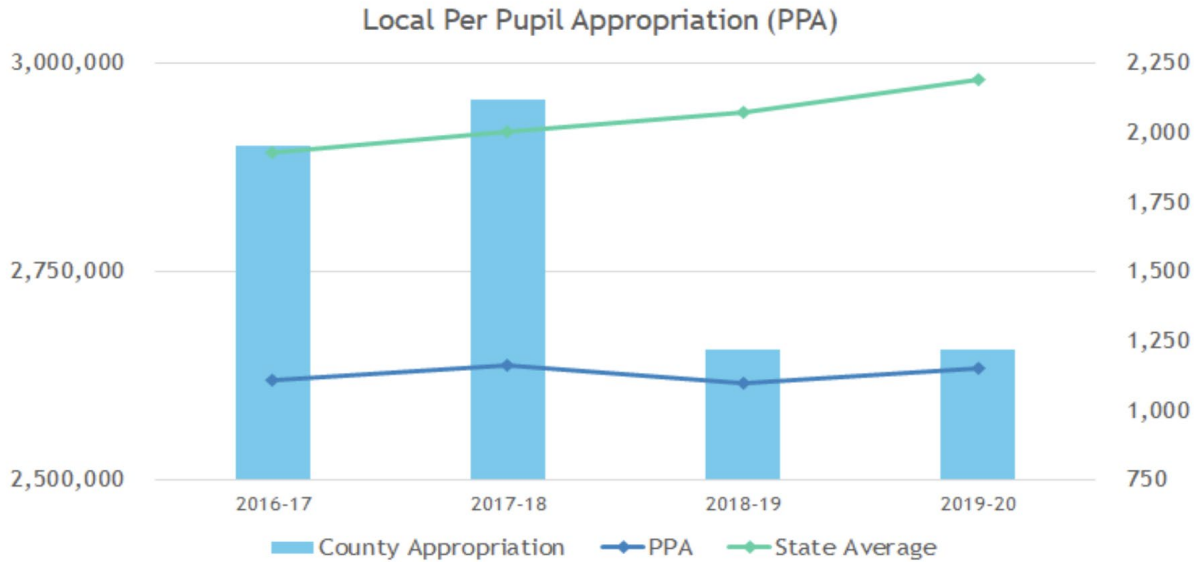
### PER PUPIL APPROPRIATION RANKING (2019-20 SY)

#### PER PUPIL APPROPRIATION RANKING (2019-20 SY)

	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Caswell Appropriation</b>	<b>FINAL ADM</b>	<b>Per Pupil</b>	<b>State Average</b>	<b>LEA Rank (1=highest)</b>
Local Current Expense including Supplements	2019-2020	\$2,655,000	2,308	\$1,150 (Local)	\$2,188	104 out of 115

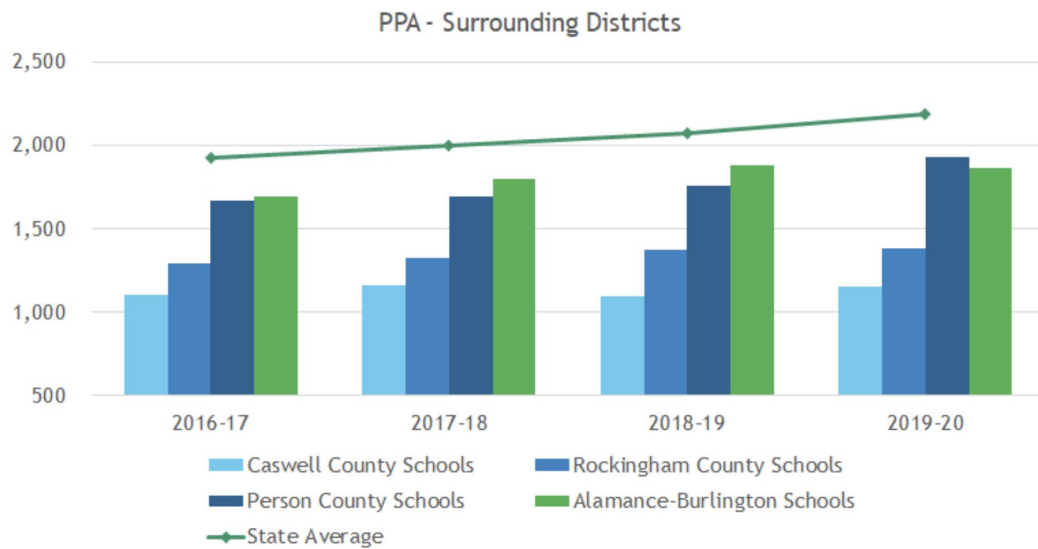
\*Source: Public Schools of North Carolina Statistical Profile (<http://apps.schools.nc.gov/ords/f?p=145:40:::NO::>)

## LOCAL PER PUPIL APPROPRIATION HISTORY



\*Source: Public Schools of North Carolina Statistical Profile  
<http://apps.schools.nc.gov/ords/f?p=145:40:::NO:::>

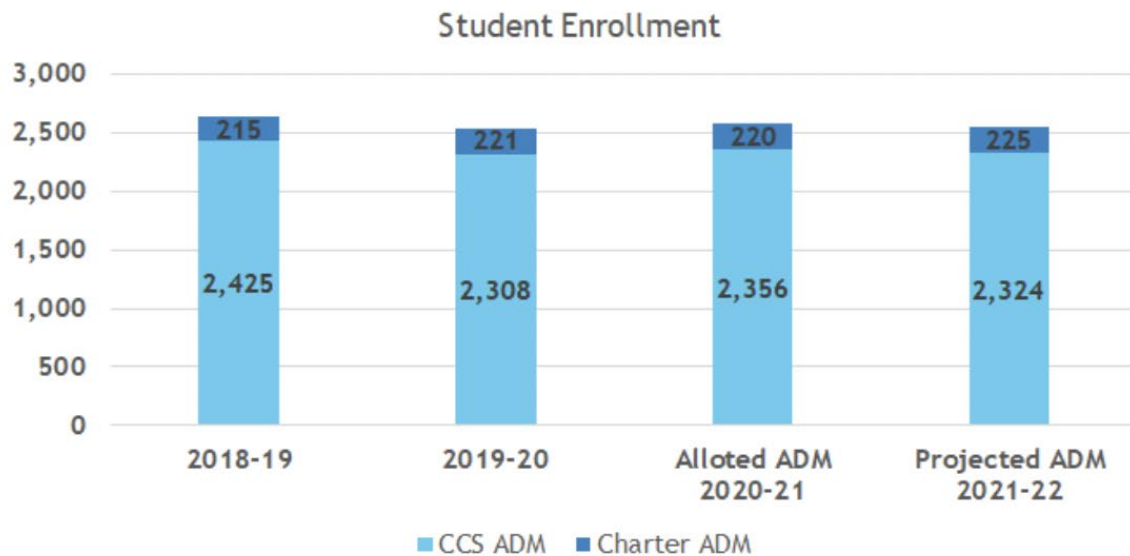
## LOCAL PER PUPIL APPROPRIATION OF SURROUNDING DISTRICTS



\*Source: Public Schools of North Carolina Statistical Profile  
<http://apps.schools.nc.gov/ords/f?p=145:40:::NO:::>



Caswell County students attending charter schools continue to be a challenge. For the 2020-2021 school year, approximately \$228,000 will be paid by June 30, 2021 to thirteen charter schools (220 Caswell County students) in nearby regions. This amount equates to approximately 9.5% of the student population.



\*Sources CCS ADM: 2018-19 through 2019-20 NC Statistical Profile of Final ADM (<http://apps.schools.nc.gov/ords/f?p=145:39:::NO::>)  
 2020-21 Allotted ADM per LEA Budget Planning from DPI (<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/financial-and-business-services/allotments-funding-public-school-units/state-allotments#2020-21>)  
 2021-22 Projected ADM per State Planning Allotment from DPI (<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/financial-and-business-services/allotments-funding-public-school-units/state-allotments#2020-21>)

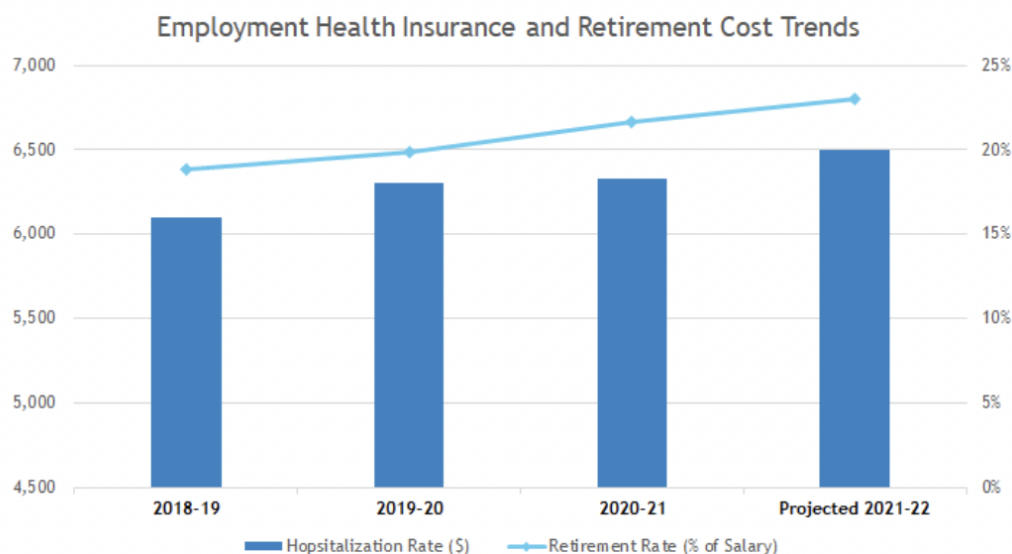
Sources Charter ADM: Caswell County Schools Finance Department

#### CONTINUATION BUDGET REQUEST:

Budget Request	Amount
Benefit Increases for locally funded employees - retirement and health increases mandated by the State	\$18,000
Additional Loss for Civic Center	20,000
Additional funding for current Social Worker	13,000
Elementary SRO	<u>49,000</u>
<b>Total Continuation Budget Request</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

### **BENEFIT INCREASE - \$18,000:**

The continual rise in statutory operating expenses outside of our control continues to hamper our ability to direct funds towards improving instruction and innovation in the classroom. We also find ourselves facing continued state mandates which must be met with no additional funding. Furthermore, we anticipate an increase in the amount of employee benefit expenses, meaning an increase in the amount of funding needed for the employer matching rates. Since 2016-17, the retirement rate has increased 5.4% and is expected to increase again in 2021-22 **1.32%** from **21.68%** to **23%**. Likewise, since 2016-17 the hospitalization rate has increased approximately 12% and is again expected to increase in 2021-22 **\$174** per employee from **\$6,326** to **\$6,500 per employee**. **Both of these trends place ever increasing pressure on the local budget.**



\*Sources: 2018-19 - SL 2018-5, 2019-20 - HB 226, 2020-21 - SL 2020-41, 2021-22 - Projection

### **CIVIC CENTER LOSS - \$20,000:**

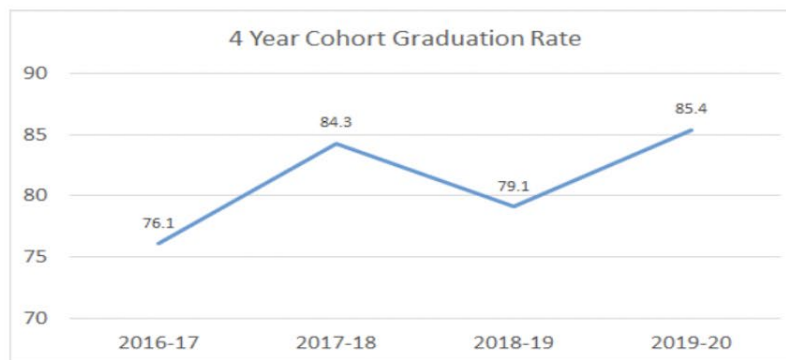
The Civic Center is, under normal circumstances, rented out to earn income to offset the operational costs. However, due to COVID-19 along with the construction at Bartlett Yancey Senior High School, the Civic Center has not been rented out and the future use of the Civic Center continues to be limited. Operating expenses, including utilities, continue regardless of whether the building is rented out or not. Thus, included in this request is the additional funds needed to cover the operating expenses in regards to the Civic Center. In years past, the Board of Education has included a \$30,000 operating loss for the Civic Center, the additional \$20,000 would cover the entire amount of operating expenses if rental income is not earned. Below is a breakdown of normal operating expenses:

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Description	Amount
Utilities - Electric	\$38,500
Utilities - Water/Sewer	7,500
Utilities - Garbage Services	2,000
Cleaning Supplies	<u>2,000</u>
Total Civic Center Operating Costs	\$50,000

#### **SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL/AT-RISK SUPPORT - \$13,000:**

The Caswell County Board of Education is also requesting to continue the recurring funding of our one Social Worker in addition to an increase of \$13,000 to the \$55,000 we currently receive. Although we are grateful for the \$55,000 we receive for the social worker, it does not fully cover the salary and benefits. The average certified salary for Caswell County Schools employees including benefits is \$68,000. Thus, the additional \$13,000 will fully fund our current Social Worker salary and benefits. Since inception of our first Social Worker in 2017, along with additional programs for at-risk students, the graduation rate has increased 9.3 points from 76.1 to 85.4 as referenced in the graph below.



\*Source: NCDPI Cohort Graduation Rates <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/testing-and-school-accountability/school-accountability-and-reporting/cohort-graduation-rates#additional-information>

#### **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER - \$49,000**

The Caswell County Board of Education is also requesting funding for a School Resource Officer (SRO). Caswell County Schools received a grant from the Department of Public Instruction in 2020 for one fiscal year to fund an additional SRO. The grant will expire June 30, 2021. At development of this request, we are continuing to seek additional grant funds, however at this time none have been secured. This SRO currently serves all four elementary schools and has been an instrumental part in keeping schools safe, building relationships, as well as providing resources for school safety.

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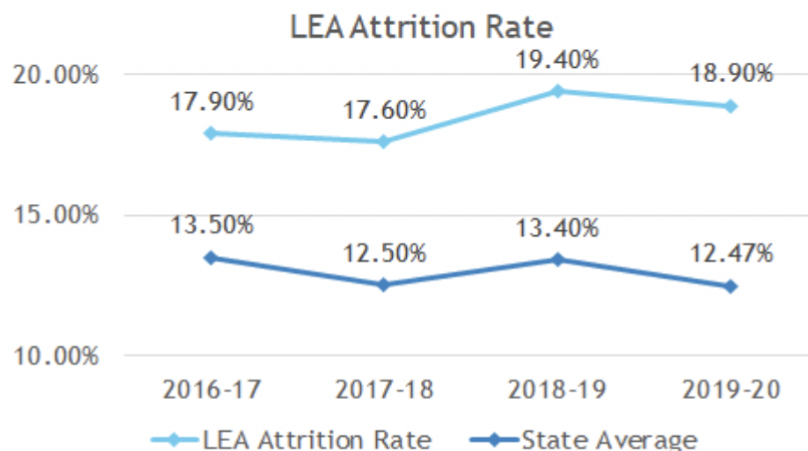
#### EXPANSION BUDGET REQUEST:

Budget Request	Amount
Teacher Supplements	\$300,000
Additional Social Worker	<u>68,000</u>
Total Expansion Budget Request	\$368,000

#### TEACHER SUPPLEMENTS - \$300,000

For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Caswell County Board of Education is requesting funding for **teacher supplements** be reinstated in the amount of **\$300,000**. (The County Commissioners appropriated \$300,000 in 2017-2018, but did not appropriate any in 2018-2019, 2019-2020, or 2020-2021).

In fiscal year 2018-2019, the Board of Education voted to fund the \$300,000 for teacher supplements from fund balance, which resulted in a 2.38%, or an average of \$1,108 per teacher, supplement for all certified staff. This supplement is critical for our ability to recruit and retain quality staff. We are requesting an annual contribution of \$300,000. With an annual commitment in place, we will be able to compete with other surrounding districts when recruiting qualified teachers. **Caswell County Schools continually loses teachers to surrounding districts due to higher compensation.** In the NCDPI report to the NC General Assembly for North Carolina, Caswell County Schools' Teacher Turnover (Attrition) Rate was 18.9%, 6% higher than the state average of 12.47%, with 61% of teachers resigning to teach in another LEA, as shown in the charts below.

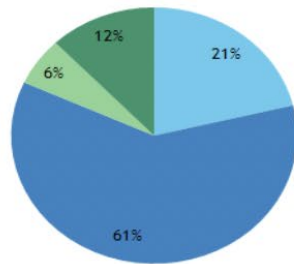


\*Source: 2019-2020 Report to the NC General Assembly: State of the Teaching Profession in NC  
<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/district-human-capital/surveys-and-reports>



### 2019-2020 Teacher Turnover

- Retired
- Resigned to Teach in another LEA
- Non-Renewal
- Resigned Other Reasons



2019-2020 Teacher Turnover	
Retired	7
Resigned to Teach in another LEA	20
Non-Renewal	2
Resigned Other Reasons	4
Total	33

\*Source: CCS Human Resources Department

District	# of Employees	Average Supplement
Alamance-Burlington	1	\$5,142
Guilford County	3	\$4,927
Moore County	1	\$3,806
Person County	3	\$4,815
Rockingham County	4	\$2,231
Virginia	1	Higher Pay Scale
Florida	1	TBD

### Teacher Supplements of Other Districts:

AVERAGE TEACHER SUPPLEMENT:			
Surrounding Districts		ADM Comparable Districts	
Alamance-Burlington	\$5,142	Halifax County (ADM 2,181)	\$2,377
Caswell County	\$0	Madison County (ADM 2,252)	\$1,000
Chapel/Hill-Carrboro City	\$8,441	Polk County (ADM 2,113)	\$2,274
Chatham County	\$6,413	Thomasville City (ADM 2,249)	\$3,389
Durham County	\$7,375	Warren County (ADM 1,785)	\$2,900
Granville County	\$4,578		
Guilford County	\$4,927		
Orange County	\$6,649		
Person County	\$4,815		
Randolph County	\$3,318		
Rockingham County	\$2,231		
Wake County	\$8,873		

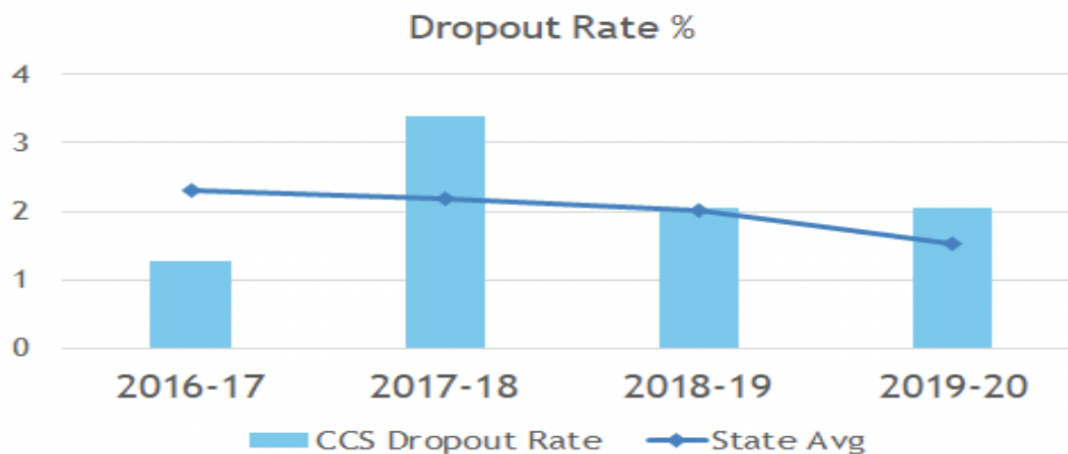
\*Source: Public Schools of North Carolina

Statistical Profile

(<http://apps.schools.nc.gov/ords/f?p=145:25:::NO::>)

### **SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL/AT-RISK SUPPORT - \$68,000**

As part of the expansion budget request, Caswell County Board of Education is requesting funding for an additional school Social Worker. Our first Social Worker has been a strong advocate in assisting families with services supporting student learning including medical needs and financial issues. Our Social Worker has also been a strong influence in keeping students in school and addressing barriers with families in regard to school attendance, while emphasizing the value of an education as it relates to career readiness and postsecondary opportunities. The second social worker would provide support for drop-out prevention, establishing and implementing processes for school attendance along with promoting a safe, healthy, caring school climate that fosters academic success. Although our dropout rate has remained steady, it is still above the state average of 1.53. It is no surprise that COVID-19 has impacted our children's mental health, with suicide rates increasing across the state as well. Suicide is now the second-leading cause of death of children from age 10 to 17, topped only by motor vehicle deaths, according to the joint annual report card on health of North Carolina children. Mental health is an important factor in creating a healthy learning environment. Nevertheless, students' needs are greater than what one district social worker can support.



Source: NCDPI Discipline, ALP, and Dropout Annual Reports <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/data-reports/dropout-and-discipline-data/discipline-alp-and-dropout-annual-reports#2019-20>

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**CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST - \$770,000**

While we are grateful for the support of the Bartlett Yancey Senior High School initiative, we recognize that continued maintenance and repair of our other facilities remains a crucial issue. The Board of Education desires our schools to be a welcoming and safe place for our students to learn. To that end, we are committed to using these resources to create that atmosphere for our students and staff. Below is a chart of the numerous items, which are in the greatest need for the upcoming school year.

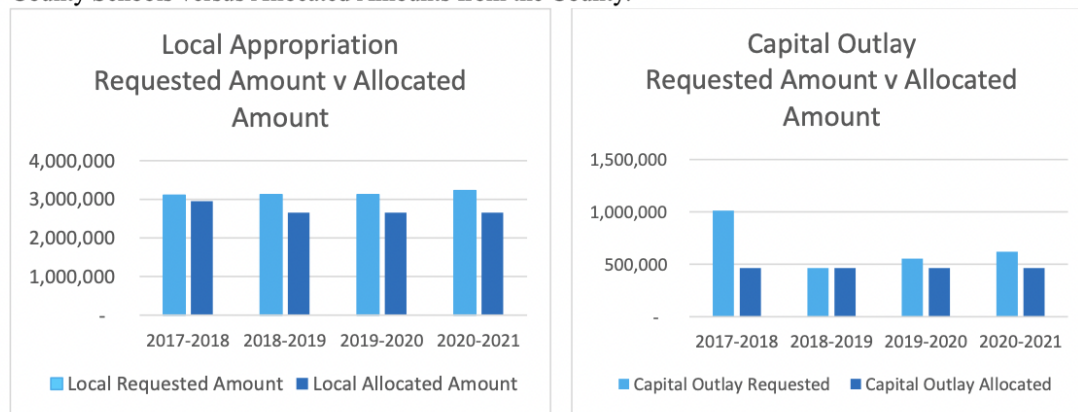
Description	Estimated Amount
School Repairs/Weatherization-district wide	\$120,000
HVAC Upgrades-Including East Wing and Stoney Creek Elementary	100,000
Electrical Upgrades-to include ongoing lighting upgrades to LED to be code compliant	40,000
Old Gym Repairs-to include plumbing replacements for functional bathrooms and other repairs as needed	300,000
School Grounds-Landscaping, Paving, etc. - district wide	120,000
New Activity Bus	<u>90,000</u>
Total	\$770,000

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**TOTAL LOCAL REQUEST SUMMARY:**

Budget Request	Allocated Amount for 2020-2021 SY	Increase	Requested Amount 2021-2022 SY
Local Operating Continuation Budget Request	\$2,655,000	\$100,000	\$2,755,000
Local Operating Expansion Budget Request	0	368,000	368,000
Capital Outlay Request	<u>465,000</u>	<u>305,000</u>	<u>770,000</u>
Total Local Request	\$3,120,000	\$773,000	\$3,893,000

Below are bar graphs displaying the history of Local and Capital Outlay Requested Amount from Caswell County Schools versus Allocated Amounts from the County.



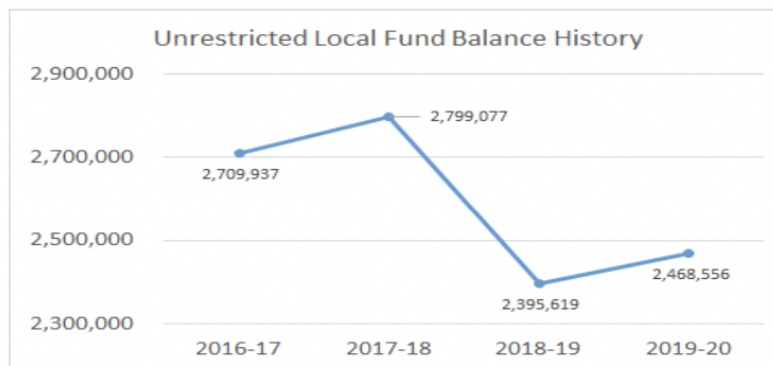
In closing, we recognize the funding challenges of the county and the balancing act the Board of Commissioners must take to ensure critical services and infrastructure remain at acceptable levels for all county agencies and residents. **However, we ask that you see the funds you provide the public schools as an investment in the future of Caswell County.** The Board of Education has an obligation to ensure the county is made aware annually of the needs of its students and our schools. With your support, we believe that providing the requested resources coupled with our strong and growing partnership we will be able to offset any economic challenges while continuing to meet the needs of our students by offering high-quality instructional programs and a school system we can all be **PROUD** of.



## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GENERAL INFORMATION  
FUND BALANCE – CURRENT STATUS  
As of March 31, 2021**

Fund Balance	Amount
Unrestricted Fund Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$2,468,556
Less: Appropriations to date	<u>(172,000)</u>
Total Estimated Unrestricted Fund Balance as of March 31, 2021	\$2,296,556



\*Source: Caswell County Schools Audited Financial Statements

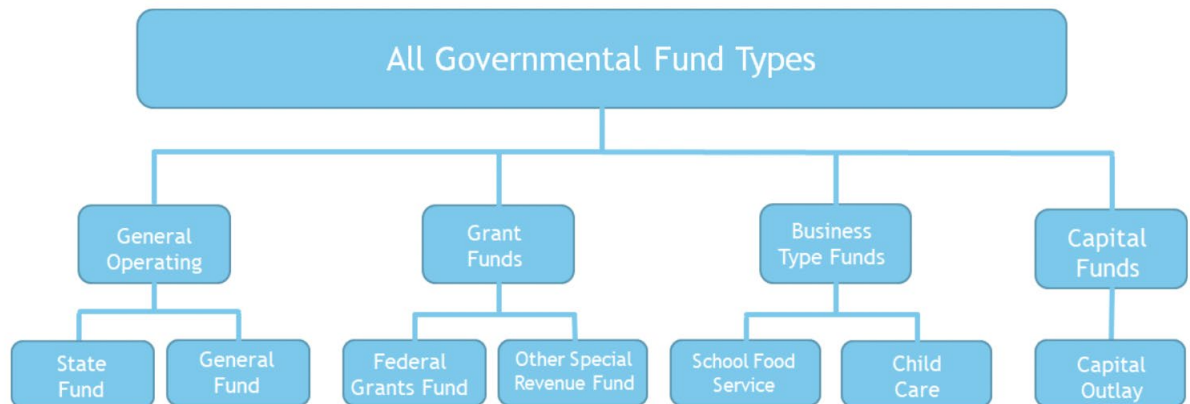
As a rule of thumb, Caswell County Schools strives to reach an operating fund balance equal to three months of operating expenses, which equates to approximately \$6,600,000. In a recent article published by EdNC, Philip Price, former long-time CFO for the State Department of Public Instruction said that good practice is to keep a **minimum** of 8% of yearly expenditures in a school district's available fund balance, which also aligns with guidance provided by the Local Government Commission (LGC). Caswell County Schools total Governmental expenditures along with Enterprise Fund expenditures in 2019-2020 was \$31,297,879, 8% of this would equate to \$2,503,830, slightly above our local unrestricted fund balance as of June 30, 2020. Fund balance is used for a variety of purposes including cash flow coverage during timing lags between state and federal budgets and allotments. It also provides flexibility to cover unexpected costs and unexpected opportunities, especially when unanticipated budget cuts are made at the state level. This flexibility allows districts the opportunity to adjust and adapt without causing a sudden lapse in service.

Fund Balance	Amount
Capital Outlay Fund Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$754,278
Less: Appropriations to date	<u>(165,120)</u>
Total Estimated Capital Outlay Fund Balance as of March 31, 2021	589,158

**CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GENERAL INFORMATION  
LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND  
PROJECTED EXPENSES BY PROGRAM  
2021-2022**

Purpose Code	Description	21-22 Requested Amount
5100	Regular Instruction Services (Teacher Supplements)	\$300,000
5300	Alternative Programs & Services (Social Worker Salary & Benefits)	136,000
5500	Co-Curricular Services (Athletic Supplies and Coaching Supplements)	125,000
5800	School-Based Support Services (SRO)	49,000
6100	Support & Development Services (Spelling Bee, NC Scholars, and Accreditation)	7,000
6400	Technology Support Services (Technology Technician and Coordinator Salary & Benefits)	125,000
6500	Operational Support Services (Utilities, Maintenance Agreements, Maintenance Personnel Salaries & Benefits, Maintenance Supplies)	1,533,000
6600	Financial & Human Resources Services (Finance Officer Salary & Benefits, Finance Office Professional Development, Supplies, Bank Fees, Insurance Costs, Teacher of the Year, Personnel Supplies, Recruiting Expenses, Beginning Teacher Support)	356,000
6900	Policy, Leadership & Public Relations Services (Legal Fees, Audit Fees, Asst. Superintendent Salary & Benefits, Asst. Superintendent Professional Development and Supplies)	212,000
7100	Community Services (Civic Center Loss)	50,000
8100	Payments to Other Governmental Units (Charter Schools)	<u>230,000</u>
	<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$3,123,000</b>

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



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Caswell County Schools has five major governmental funds. They include the following:

**General Fund:** The general fund is the operating fund of the Board. The General Fund accounts for all financial resources except those that are accounted for in another fund. This fund is the “Local Current Expense Fund,” which is mandated by State law (G.S. 115C-426).

**State Public School Fund:** The State Public School Fund includes appropriations from the Department of Public Instruction for the current operating expenditures of the public school system.

**Federal Grants Fund:** The Federal Grants Fund includes appropriations from the U.S. Government for the current operating expenditures of the public school system.

**Other Special Revenue Fund:** The Other Special Revenue Fund is used to account for revenues from grants restricted as to use, trust funds, federal grants restricted as to use, federal appropriations made directly to local school administrative units, funds received from prekindergarten programs and other special programs. The Other Special Revenue Fund for Caswell County Schools houses funds received for prekindergarten, school nurses, the Danville Regional Foundation Technology Grant, the Golden Leaf STEM grant, the Danville Regional Arts Grant, and several other small grants restricted as to use.

**Capital Outlay Fund:** The Capital Outlay Fund accounts for financial resources to be used for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary funds and trust funds). It is mandated by State law (G.S. 115C-426). Capital projects are funded by Caswell County appropriations, restricted sales tax moneys, proceeds of Caswell County bonds issued for public school construction as well as certain State assistance.

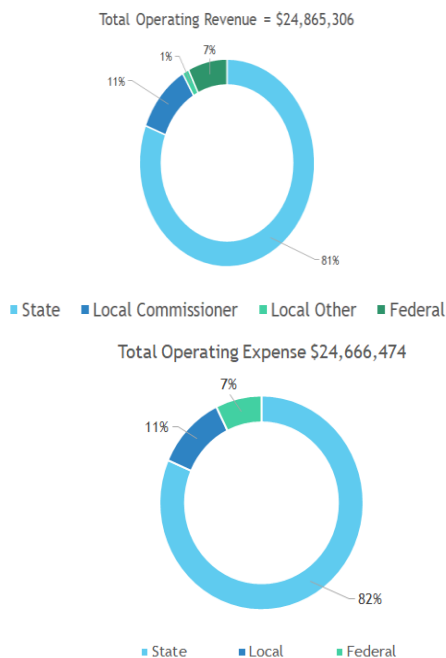
Caswell County Schools has two enterprise funds, which are self-supporting governmental funds that sell goods and services to the public for a fee, also referred to as business type activities. The two enterprise funds are as follows:

**School Food Service Fund:** The School Food Service Fund is used to account for the food service program within the school system.

**Child Care Fund:** The Child Care Fund is used to account for the after-school care program at three of the elementary schools within the school system. The costs associated with these programs are recovered by user charges.

In the presentation made to the Board of Education and the County Commissioners on February 22, 2021 only the general operating and federal grants revenues and expenditures were presented as this was the area of discussion. Capital Outlay Fund, Other Special Revenue Fund, and the Enterprise Funds were **NOT** presented because they are restricted as to use. The chart below shows what was presented as “Operating Revenues and Expenditures” of the General Fund (Local Fund), State Fund, and Federal Fund.

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## STATE FUNDING

The State Public School Fund, being the largest portion of revenue, comes to us through Allotments from the Department of Public Instruction. The Allotments are distributed based on funding formulas that typically utilize ADM and other targeted factors. There are three types of allotments: Position, Dollar, and Categorical.

**Position** – Local Education Agencies (LEA) are allotted positions or months of employment (MOE) for specific personnel, including Classroom Teachers, Principals, Instructional Support and Career and Technical Education (CTE). The positions are allotted at the dollar equivalent of average state salary plus benefits. The LEA must utilize all of the positions or MOE's, not necessarily the dollars or they are reverted back to the state.

**Dollar** – LEA's receive a set amount of dollars, typically based on formulas that provide dollars per ADM, to be used for allowable purposes. The formulas are set by legislature. Dollar allotments from the State include Central Office Administration, Teacher Assistants, Instructional Supplies, Textbooks, Non-Instructional Support Personnel, CTE Program Support, Driver Training, Low Wealth, and Small Schools.

**Categorical** – LEA's receive funding in categorical allotments to provide services necessary to address the needs of a specific population or service. There are different formulas used to calculate the amount received. Categorical Allotments include Children with Disabilities, Academically and Intellectually Gifted, Limited English Proficiency, Transportation, At-Risk, and Disadvantaged Students.

In 2019-2020, Caswell County Schools received a total of 37 allotments from the Department of Public Instruction. Each allotment has its own set of spending parameters. For instance, the classroom teacher allotment can only be spent to pay the salaries and benefits of a classroom teacher and likewise for the teacher assistant allotment, which can only be used to pay for the salaries and benefits of a teacher assistant. Most state funds are reverted back if not spent by June 30, however, a few allotments do carryover. The allotments that carryover are Textbooks, At-Risk (carryover must be spent by August 31 of following year), Summer Reading Camps (carryover must be spent by October 31 of the following year), and school technology.

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When the pandemic hit in March of 2020, the Governor ordered schools to shut down and operate only in a remote status, thus the need to realign the districts spending priorities. However, in response to the pandemic and to allow the continuation of salary and benefits, the state of North Carolina offered paid State of Emergency Leave to all full-time and part-time permanent public school employees for the period covering March 16 – June 15, 2020. All employees were offered work, either remotely or at designated sites. Bus drivers, custodians, and child nutrition employees were offered work to help deliver meals to community sites to feed the children of Caswell County during the pandemic. Those employees who could not work remotely and were at an increased risk for a contagious disease, such as COVID, or who could not work due to childcare or eldercare needs due to COVID-19 related facility closings were able to take the emergency leave offered by the State of North Carolina. Existing Caswell County Schools funding was used to fund the use of the State Emergency Leave. Those employees who

chose to work and assist at the feeding sites were offered time and a half compensation to account for working in the front lines. Again, existing Caswell County Schools funding was used to fund this salary differential up to the state maximum hourly rate. Anything above the state maximum hourly rate was funded through local fund balance.

In a Memo addressed to the State Superintendent dated March 24, 2020, the Governor's office granted budget flexibility through June 30, 2020 to utilize existing allocations to serve the immediate needs of students during the State of Emergency. The following flexibility was granted:

- Textbooks and Digital Resources and School Technology allocations may be used for devices, online subscriptions and training for instructional personnel for digital and remote learning.
- Caswell County Schools was able to utilize this funding flexibility to purchase 1,000 additional Chromebooks to replace those whose license would expire in September 2020.
- Flexibility is granted for the Transportation, At-Risk Student Services, Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funding, and Low-Wealth Supplemental Funding allotments to permit expenditures associated with school nutrition, school and community-based child care, cleaning and sanitizing schools and buses, protective equipment, and remote learning.
- Caswell County Schools was able to utilize the funding sources above to assist the child nutrition department in preparing and delivering meals to the children of Caswell County as well as to allow the continuation of salaries and benefits for our employees.

As stated above, the memo allowed the funding flexibility through June 30, 2020. However, with the pandemic continuing through the summer and into the fall, legislature passed HB 1105 allowing temporary flexibility for the transportation allotment for the 2020-2021 school year for the following additional purposes related to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- ● School nutrition
- ● School and community-based child care
- ● Sanitizing schools and buses
- ● In order to facilitate in-person instruction, personal protective equipment that meets

applicable federal standards and guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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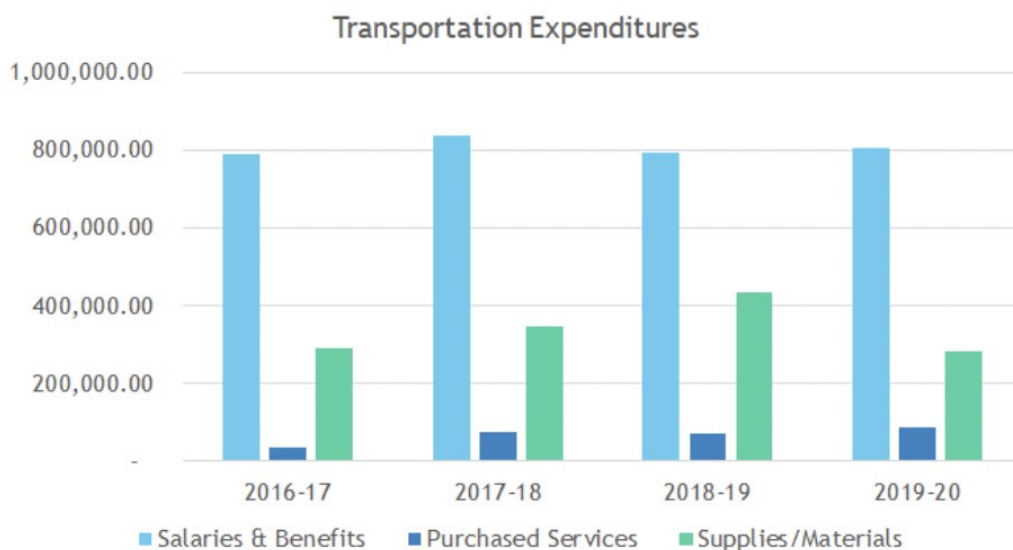
- Remote Instruction

- Thus far this school year, Caswell County Schools has utilized the transportation

allotment to provide support for the Child Nutrition feeding program, provide additional custodial services for our schools as well as cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment.

Transportation funding is allotted based on a budget rating formula using the following factors: pupils transported; total eligible operating expenditures (local and state funds); and number of buses operated. In 2019-2020, our transportation budget rating was 96.31%, which was well above the state average of 91.96%, however it was a decrease from the previous year of 99.76%, which also meant a reduction in funding of approximately \$119,000 from 2018-19 to 2019-20. As mentioned above, any transportation funding not utilized for the purpose of school transportation in the year allotted is reverted back to the State.

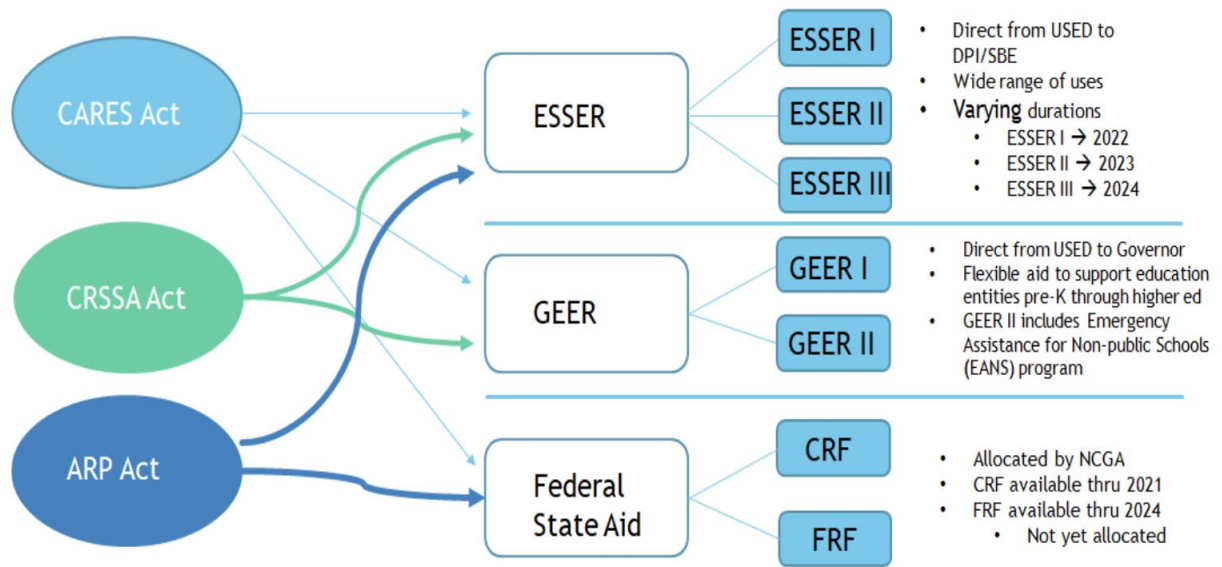
Although schools were closed in March 2020 through the end of the school year, the transportation funds were still utilized as mentioned above to continue salaries and benefits for bus drivers as well as to assist the child nutrition department in providing meals to the children of Caswell County. Below is a graph showing the transportation allotment expenditures over the last four fiscal years. The majority of the expenditures are salaries and benefits, ranging from 61% to 71% of the total allotment. Expenditures for purchased services includes workshop expenses, medical exams for CDL Licenses, drug testing and fingerprinting, mobile communications and utilities. Expenditures for supplies and materials includes supplies, repair parts, fuel, oil, small tools & equipment, and tires.





## CARES ACT FUNDING

In addition to the normal State funding, Caswell County Schools has received several different allocations for expenditures related to COVID-19. The picture below, taken from an presentation from DPI made to the State Board of Education, shows all of the different funding sources of COVID-19 Relief.



Below is a table showing the COVID-19 funds Caswell County Schools has received in Fiscal Year 2020-2021 to date. Since the last update provided, Caswell County Schools has received allotments for PRC's 165 through 170 as well as the planning allotment for ESSER II funding.

**State funded Coronavirus relief funds (CRF provided from Federal State Aid) (PRC 121-137) are directed to be used only for necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 in the PRC Codes listed below. The state did allow flexibility to transfer funds between the various PRCs:**

PRC	Description	Allotted	Notes
121	Summer Jump Start	112,785	Instructional Support for 2020 Summer Reading Intervention Program prioritizing 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> grade students reading below grade level. Remainder of funds to provide reading intervention supplies to promote reading growth during the summer and school year.
122	Mental Health Support	16,203	Part-time personnel to support at-risk students (position ended Dec, 2020) identifying students who are at-risk of dropping out of school and/or failing required courses for graduation. (Transferred to PRC 137 \$6,564 for PPE Supplies)
123	Non-Digital Resources (To provide non-digital remote instruction resources to students with limited connectivity)	4,782	School supplies to support remote learning
124	Student Computers/Devices	59,984	130 Chromebooks purchased, (Transferred to PRC 137 \$219 for PPE Supplies)
125	CN Feeding Program	138,716	Support Child Nutrition feeding program and to assist with meal delivery during remote instruction
126	Personnel Computers/Devices	7,969	Purchase of 22 Document cameras for teachers to assist with remote instruction
128	Home & Community Wi-Fi	33,082	Purchase of 92 Hotspots for students' connectivity during remote instruction (Transferred to PRC 137 apx. \$9,104 for PPE Supplies)
132	EC Support	78,610	Purchase curriculum and learning materials for moderate and service adaptive students on the extensions curriculum, EC supplies, and contracted services to enhance remote instruction for EC students
134	Low Wealth	72,698	Purchase of digital resources (flash drives and digital resources) as well as PPE (Personal Protective Equipment).
135	Cyber Security	6,613	Purchase data loss prevention software as well as adding malware (security)

				software for servers (Transferred to PRC 137 \$48 for PPE Supplies)
137	PPE Supplies		22,560	Purchase of PPE Equipment (hand sanitizers, floor markings, plexiglass, masks, thermometers, gloves, etc. for safety)
163	<b>Federal CARES Act- Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER I)-- funding budgeted below</b>		772,912	
	-2 additional Nurses	167,848		2 additional nurses
	-Mobile Communication	6,600		Purchase of service for Rangers (long range connectivity)
	-Chromebooks/Instructional Technology Equipment	466,675		Purchase Chromebooks that expire Sept. 2021 (apx. 1,321 Chromebooks)
	-Additional custodial support	21,986		Additional custodial support
	-PPE Supplies	66,556		Purchase of PPE Equipment (hand sanitizers, floor markings, plexiglass, masks, etc. for safety)
	-Indirect Costs	43,247		
165	Federal CARES Act-Digital Curricula		17,644	To provide funding for subscriptions to high quality, NC standards aligned digital curriculum packages
166	Federal CARES Act-Learning Management System		5,984	To provide funding for learning management system licenses
167	EC CARES Act Funds		25,964	Grant to support costs associated with providing future services and instructional support due to the impact of COVID-19 for EC students who qualify for these services.
169	Federal GEER (Governor's Education Emergency Relief) Student Health Support		94,087	To provide funding for employment of specialized instructional support personnel to provide physical and mental health support services for students in response to COVID-19. (CCS plans to extend employment of additional nurses)
170	Federal GEER Supplemental Instructional Services		39,968	To provide funding for supplemental instructional services to support the academic needs of at-risk students, students in poverty and students with disabilities through additional in-school instructional support. (CCS to provide after-school/evening remediation programs.)
<b>Total ALLOTMENTS received to date</b>			<b>\$1,510,561</b>	

	<b>The following funds have been communicated to be received in the future; however, this funding has not been received to date:</b>			
TBD	ESSER II		\$3,031,337	ESSER II funding will be used for a variety of purposes, including but not limited to, Summer Learning Program for K-12 students, cleaning and sanitizing supplies, PPE, and Chromebooks.
TBD	ESSER III		TBD	This funding was passed in the federal ARP package, DPI has not provided planning allotments for school districts as of the date of this presentation.

## CHILD NUTRITION FUNDING

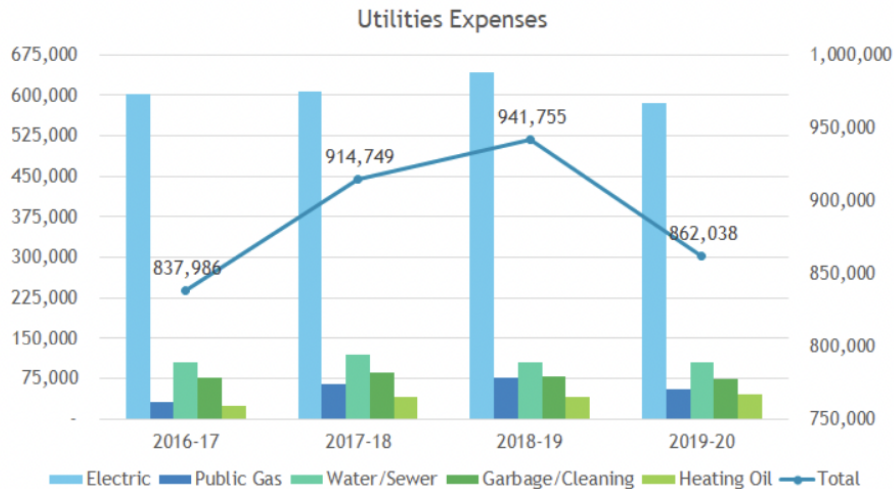
As mentioned earlier, the Child Nutrition Fund is a business-type fund, which is self-supporting from receipts received for the sale of goods, in this case food. The accounting for Child Nutrition can be quite complex as revenues in the Child Nutrition fund are received from a variety of sources, including USDA reimbursement, student payments, adult payments, supplemental sales, interest earnings and miscellaneous revenues. The USDA reimbursement is based on the number of meals served by category: breakfast, lunch, and snack. The reimbursement rates are based on free, reduced and fully paid status.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, one of the ultimate goals was to feed the children in Caswell County. A large percentage of children in this county rely upon school food as their only meal. In response to the global pandemic, the Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) received a waiver from the USDA to enable LEAs with permanent agreements with NCDPI to participate in the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option to offer reimbursable meals to eligible children in households impacted by unanticipated school closures. Caswell County Schools Child Nutrition department seamlessly worked to migrate towards feeding children with community sites. In the Spring of 2020, there were 15 feeding sites in different locations around the county serving meals to children. This meal service plan was possible due to the financial support from Caswell County Schools transportation funds that were made available due to the Governor's budget flexibility, as mentioned earlier. Through the use of transportation funds, student meal access was significantly increased via yellow school buses following agreed upon bus community delivery stops/routes. From the period of March – June 9, 2020, the school district's transportation funds also supported car deliveries and the wages of bus personnel who served as meal delivery drivers to student households who could not access meals at school curbside or meals available at community bus sites. Also, during that time period, there were no opportunities for supplemental sales to be earned. The only source of revenue was through USDA reimbursements for emergency meal service during COVID-19.

When school began in the Fall of 2020, the feeding sites were held at each school except for Bartlett Yancey Senior High School. At the time of school opening, HB 1105 allowing transportation funding flexibility had not passed, therefore the district's transportation funding was not available to support additional meal transportation. With students attending school virtually, based upon a structured daily schedule, meal access became more difficult for household curbside meal pick-up. Thus, the meals were not being served at the rate they were in the Spring of 2020. With the passing of HB 1105, the Child Nutrition department worked to increase meal access and program participation by incorporating additional employment hours for dual employed child nutrition and bus personnel and opened additional meal sites by bus throughout the county. Along with the 5 school sites, 12 additional sites were offered for meal pickup as well as meal kit ordering and pick up, where parents can order meal kits and pick them up once a week. Despite the tremendous effort by our Child Nutrition department, the number of meals being served still does not compare to the number of meals prior to COVID. Revenue through February 2021, reflects a \$596,000 decrease from the prior year, while expenses show only a decrease of \$496,000. As of February 2021, the Child Nutrition Fund shows a net loss of approximately \$155,000, compared to a \$55,000 net loss as of February 2020.

## LOCALLY FUNDED UTILITIES

The Local Fund budget accounts for utility expenditures at each location within the district other than the bus garage, which is funded through the transportation allotment. Utilities consist of Electric, Public Gas, Water/Sewer, Garbage & Cleaning Services, and Heating Oil. Utilities are always a moving target from year to year due to the unique nature of the expense. Below is a graph showing the breakdown of utility expenditures for the past four fiscal years.



As seen above, prior to 2019-2020, utilities were trending upward due to several factors including increasing fuel costs as well as rate increases seen across the board. Due to the pandemic in 2019-2020 along with other factors, including a mild winter and decreasing fuel costs, utilities decreased approximately \$80,000 from the prior year. In 2020-2021 through February, as March bills have not been received yet, utility expenditures show a slight decrease of approximately \$61,000 from the previous year. This can be attributed to numerous factors including school closures and the Bartlett Yancey Senior High School construction.

In closing, Caswell County Schools Board of Education has made every effort to provide as much information as possible regarding the funding status of Caswell County Schools, and, therefore, respectfully submits this budget request for your consideration and approval.

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**Dr. Sandra Carter**  
Superintendent

**Date**

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**Mrs. Amy Chandler**  
Finance Officer

**Date**

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**Caswell County Schools**

**Summary of**

**PER PUPIL ALLOCATION (PPA)**

**And**

**PER PUPIL EXPENDITURES (PPE)**

For School Year 2019-2020  
(Most Current Data available on NCDPI Statistical Profile)

May 3, 2021



## Per Pupil Expenditure (PPE)

**What is PPE?** The number of current expenditures over the entire academic year for K-12 grades divided by the number of students in those grades.

**PPE for Caswell County Schools is as follows:**

### Per Pupil Expenditure Ranking 2019-2020

	State	State	Federal	Federal	Local	Local	Total	Total
	PPE	Rank	PPE	Rank	PPE	Rank	PPE	Rank
Caswell County Schools	8,921.91	13	696.54	51	1,347.92	102	10,966.37	27

Per Pupil Funding is received from three sources:  
Federal, State and Local funding

\*Rank is based on 115 School Districts in NC: Highest funding #1 to lowest funding #115

Source: Feb 22, 2021 PowerPoint presentation at Joint meeting of CCS BOE and CCC.

## Per Pupil Appropriation (PPA)

**What is PPA?** The amount of local appropriation funding received for the entire academic year for K-12 grades divided by the number of students in those grades.

**PPA Local Appropriations for Caswell County Schools is as follows:**

### PER PUPIL APPROPRIATION RANKING (2019-20 SY)

	Fiscal Year	Caswell Appropriation	FINAL ADM	Per Pupil	State Average	LEA Rank (1=highest)
Local Current Expense including Supplements	2019-2020	\$2,655,000	2,308	\$1,150 (Local)	\$2,188	104 out of 115

\*Source: Public Schools of North Carolina Statistical Profile (<http://apps.schools.nc.gov/ords/f?p=145:40:::NO::>)

Source: May 3, 2021 Funding Request at Joint meeting of CCS BOE and CCC.

**The importance of INCREASED PER PUPIL FUNDING is**



## imperative for low-wealth districts

### **The Facts on Rural Schools** (Jan. 12, 2021 article excerpt):

One challenge for rural schools is the high level of poverty found in many rural communities. Nationwide, 64 percent of rural counties have high rates of child poverty compared with 47 percent of urban counties. Here in North Carolina, 62 percent of rural students qualify for free or reduced lunch compared to 46 percent of urban students. Children living in poverty face a number of educational disadvantages. Children from low-income homes are more likely to experience food, housing and energy insecurity. They are more likely to suffer from poor nutrition and inadequate healthcare. When they do become ill, it takes longer for them to recover. In North Carolina, nearly one in six of rural students live below the poverty line, and one in nine has changed residence in the previous 12 months. **They are less likely to have adequate resources at home, and they have less access to enriching activities outside of school. These children enter school with a readiness gap that grows as they get older.** Additionally, students living in poverty are more likely to drop out of college or never attend college.

Source: *Public Schools First NC*

<https://www.publicschoolsfirstnc.org/resources/fact-sheets/the-facts-on-rural-schools/>

**Caswell County Schools**

**Summary of**

**COVID RELIEF FUNDS**

as of

May 3, 2021

As of May 3, 2021, the following COVID-19 Relief Funds have been designated for Caswell County Schools:

<b>COVID-19 Funds Allocated to Caswell County</b>	<b>Amount</b>
*Coronavirus Relief Funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CRF (through 2020)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$ 554,002</li> </ul>
*GEER (Governor's Education Emergency Relief) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● GEER I</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$ 134,055</li> </ul>
ESSER (Emergency Relief Funds) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● *ESSER I</li> <li>● ESSER II</li> <li>● ESSER III</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$ 822,504●</li> <li>\$ 3,031,337</li> <li>● \$ 6,783,810</li> </ul>
<b>Total COVID-19 Relief Funds allocated (received &amp; anticipated) as of May 3, 2021</b>	<b>● <u>\$ 11,325,708</u></b>

\*See CCS County Appropriation Funding Request Fiscal Year 2021-22 (page 21-22) for itemized summary of **CRF, GEER, and ESSER I.**

**ESSER II and ESSER III FUNDING:**

FEDERAL ESSER II & ESSER III  
DRAFT OVERVIEW OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES FROM FEDERAL FUNDING

**ESSER II - \$3,031,337 (Spending deadline Sept. 2023)**

	<u>Projected Cost*</u>
K-12 Summer Learning Program (2021)	\$1,000,000
School Tutoring Plans school/afterschool) (2021-22)	94,000
Facility HVAC Needs Assessment	50,000
Facility HVAC Repair/Replace/Upgrade (per Needs Assessment)	500,000
Social Worker (1 yr: 2021-22)	68,000
Dropout Prevention Specialist (1 yr: 2021-22)	68,000
Psychologist/MTSS Student Support (1 yr: 2021-22)	75,000
Partial funding Nurse (1 yr: 2021-22)	40,000
2 nurses (1 yr: 2022-23)	150,000
Chromebooks (1,103) 330 (Sept. 2021 + 773 (Sept. 2022)	502,000
Sanitation/PPE Equipment and Supplies	259,337
Federal Funding Program Oversight (1 yr: 2021-22)	<u>45,000</u>
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,851,337</u></b>
Plus: Indirect Costs	<u>180,000</u>
<b>Total ESSER II Funding</b>	<b>\$3,031,337</b>

**ESSER III - \$6,783,810 (Spending deadline Sept. 2024)**

	<u>Projected Cost*</u>
K-12 Summer Learning Program (2022 & 2023)	\$2,000,000
Facility HVAC Repair/Replace/Upgrade (per Needs Assessment)	1,000,000
2 nurses (1 yr: 2023-24)	150,000
Social Worker (2 yrs: 2022-23; 2023-24)	136,000
Dropout Prevention Specialist (2 yrs: 2022-23; 2023-24)	136,000
Psychologist/MTSS Student Support (2 yrs: 2022-23; 2023-24)	150,000
Federal Funding Program Oversight (2 yrs: 2022-23; 2023-24)	90,000
School Tutoring Plans school/afterschool) (2 yrs: 2022-23; 2023-24)	194,810
Sanitation/PPE Equipment and Supplies	400,000
Teacher Retention/Turnover Supplements (3 yrs)	2,000,000
Teacher Laptops/Technology (not Chromebooks)	75,000
Staff Professional Development	50,000
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>\$6,381,810</u></b>
Plus: Indirect Costs	<u>402,000</u>
<b>Total ESSER III Funding</b>	<b>\$6,783,810</b>

\*The figures provided are estimated and are subject to change.

May 3, 2021

**Federal Maintenance of Effort and Maintenance of Equity  
for use of COVID Relief Funding**

*“The law also prohibits states and local governments from cutting taxes or supplanting their own education funding with the new federal funds. In its maintenance of effort requirements, the law is especially focused on protecting schools with large enrollments of economically disadvantaged students.” - Ferrel Guillory (EdNc)*

Source: [ednc.org/perspective-north-carolina-schools-in-federal-rescue-plan-and-beyond/](https://ednc.org/perspective-north-carolina-schools-in-federal-rescue-plan-and-beyond/)

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**The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 enacted by U.S  
Congress on March 10, 2021 states, in part:**

**SEC. 2004. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY.**

(c) Local Educational Agency Maintenance Of Equity For High-Poverty Schools.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving funds under section 2001, a local educational agency shall not, in fiscal year 2022 or 2023—

(A) reduce per-pupil funding (from combined State and local funding) for any high-poverty school served by such local educational agency by an amount that exceeds—

(i) the total reduction in local educational agency funding (from combined State and local funding) for all schools served by the local educational agency in such fiscal year (if any); divided by

(ii) the number of children enrolled in all schools served by the local educational agency in such fiscal year; or

(B) reduce per-pupil, full-time equivalent staff in any high-poverty school by an amount that exceeds—

(i) the total reduction in full-time equivalent staff in all schools served by such local educational agency in such fiscal year (if any); divided by

(ii) the number of children enrolled in all schools served by the local educational agency in such fiscal year.

Commissioner Carter questioned Dr. Carter about expenditures using localized funds and what is the deadline for grants. Mr. Terrell replied the grants are due May 7, 2021 and once those grants are approved, they should receive them by July 1. Commissioner Carter questioned Dr. Carter on when are they requesting the teachers supplements to begin and the length of time that they are requesting them. Dr. Carter replied the supplements would begin right away and they are requesting it for three years. The goal is to lower the turn over rates for teachers, and this can be used for the social worker as well. Commissioner Carter questioned Dr. Carter if they would still offer summer meal programs. Dr. Carter replied yes. Commissioner McVey questioned Dr. Carter if the reason the County is losing teachers is because the County doesn't offer supplements or is there another reason. Dr. Carter replied the number one reason is because of supplements, it is hard to recruit teachers when other counties offer supplements. Commissioner Dickerson asked Dr. Carter to explain per pupil funding. Dr. Carter gave an overview.

#### COUNTY MANAGER'S UPDATES

- Home Health Operational Options Public Hearing.
- Convenience Center Usage is still increasing.
- Opioid Litigation Agreement

#### COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

There were none.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

There were none.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Carter made a motion to adjourn the May 3, 2021 at 12:02 p.m., seconded by Commissioner McVey. The motion carried.