About the NC SBE

— Wake County Superintendent William R. McNeal Jr.

Supporting Student Learning

coach and mentor for student learning. Where learning is more self-directed and where the teacher serves more as a guide, the student is encouraged to explore their own interests and passions. This approach has proven successful in creating a more engaged and motivated student body.

The Communities in Schools program, with over 1,000 sites across the state, has shown a significant increase in graduation rates for students receiving special education services. The program's focus on reinstating the 2003-04 legislated budget reduction to vocational education appears to be a key factor in improving student outcomes.

Promising Reform Initiatives in Career Technical Education (HSP 6)

Students from the program benefit from the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as specialized training in fields such as manufacturing, design and engineering. Students from Orange County's Furniture and Cabinetmaking Program have demonstrated a strong interest in pursuing careers in these fields, showcasing the program's success in preparing students for the workforce.

School Safety

The increase in short-term suspensions and expulsions is concerning. Males, black males, and Native American students are disproportionately affected. This trend highlights the need for a comprehensive approach to school safety, including cultural competence training for staff and targeted interventions for at-risk students.

Policy Agenda

The committee of stakeholders, the Board granted permission to the Department to lay out a small number of achievable goals in four areas: strengthening teacher licensure, increasing teacher retention, increasing teacher diversity, and improving teacher recruitment. The plan, based on the work of the North Carolina Center for International Education, is expected to improve teacher quality and diversity, which are critical to student success.

Additional Modifications to the NC Accountability Workbook for NCLB (HSP 8)

The North Carolina Accountability Workbook for NCLB has been updated to reflect changes in test-taking policies. The modifications will ensure that the state's accountability system accurately reflects student progress and educational equity.

Other Issues

The Board approved six recommendations regarding Limited English Proficient students. Board members approved an increase in the Special Education budget to $287,810. This increase is intended to support the withdrawal of funds to allow carryover of various funds, and to affect only about 100 schools.

Recommendations of Charter Schools to Become Alternative Charter Schools (EEO 1)

The textbook call letter was approved in the following manner: 4. The Board adopted the special issue session to consider the many facts and issues around student discipline, school safety, and access to services for at-risk students.

Discussion Items

The Board was updated on the report has been completed and was approved this month with findings and recommendations of Charter Schools to Become Alternative Charter Schools. The study found that the current minimum skills competency test standard is not as rigorous as it should be, and recommended increasing the prescribed minimum score on a standard examination appropriate and adequate for that purpose… 

North Carolina’s Action to Prepare for the Year-Round Calendar (DA 6)

The Board reviewed a request also would eliminate the discretionary budget reduction of $44 million. The Board was also informed that the Board of Education is developing an action plan for North Carolina to increase student knowledge and skills about the world. The plan, based on the work of the North Carolina Center for International Education, is expected to improve teacher quality and diversity, which are critical to student success.